

## **Board of Education Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, August 13, 2019 6:00 PM

Board Room  
520 East 9th Street  
Imperial, NE 69033

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IV. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

**V. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

1. ACTIVITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2. PRINCIPALS' REPORT

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

## VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

## VII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to hiring Sheryl Curtis for a teaching position as directed by the superintendent.
2. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to approve the Pom Pom's and PTO lease agreement.
3. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with to approve the use of local substitutes.
4. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to selling school surplus on the Labor Day auction.
5. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to Portrait of a Graduate.
6. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to second and final reading to board policies 1120, 3130, 3131, 4030, 4071, 5001, 5012, 5101, 5103, 5104, 5305, 6211, 6410, 8151, 8153.
7. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to Handbooks.

## VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discuss Board Policy 5306 "Student Drug Testing".

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION- The Board of Education reserves the right to enter into Closed/Executive Session for 1) the protection of the public interest, or 2) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual, and/or the individual has not requested a public meeting.

X. ADJOURN

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Board President

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Board Secretary

**Board of Education Regular Meeting** Tuesday, July 9, 2019 6:15 PM Chase County Schools Board Room, 520 East 9<sup>th</sup>, Imperial, NE 69033

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** President Jeff Olsen called the meeting to order at 6:17 pm, led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and duly noted the posted Nebraska Public Meetings Act. Roll was called at 6:29 pm:

Cindy Arterburn-present Josh Fries-absent Karl Meeske-present Steve Wallin-present Sheila Stromberger-present  
Jeff Olsen-present Willy O'Neil-present Carrie Terryberry-present Dan Reeves-present

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CHANGES TO AGENDA** Motion by O'Neil, second by Meeske to approve the agenda. Willy O'Neil: yea, Carrie Terryberry: yea, Jeff Olsen: yea, Sheila Stromberger: yea, Dan Reeves: yea, Meeske: yea, Arterburn: yea, Wallin: yea, Fries: absent. Motion passed 8-0-1.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Motion by Stromberger, second by Arterburn to approve the minutes as presented. Terryberry: yea, Olsen: yea, Stromberger: yea, Reeves: yea, Meeske: yea, Arterburn: yea, Fries: absent. Motion passed 8-0-1.

**IV. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS** Motion by Meeske, second by Wallin to approve the financial report as of June 30, 2019 and expenditures as presented. Olsen: yea, Stromberger: yea, Reeves: yea, Meeske: yea, Arterburn: yea, Wallin: yea, O'Neil: yea, O'Neil: yea, Terryberry: yea, Fries: absent. Motion passed 8-0-1.

**V. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

**Activity Director:** Troy Hauxwell reported that the Longhorn & Shorthorn gym floors have been refinished, 13 coaches are attending clinic 7/23-25. Hauxwell completed a coaching Specialist Course at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. First Fall practice is Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Principals' Report:** Becky Odens and Jon Lechtenberg stated that para interviews are ongoing and a few have accepted offers tendered. Professional development day for staff Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>. No FCS instructor has yet been hired.

**Superintendent:** Mr. Klooz reported work continues on the website, the new CCS app and employee handbooks are being aligned w/ the negotiated agreement. Printers & copiers install on July 10. Walking track flooring needs more prep but still hoping for a July 15 install. Old flooring will go to batting cage for softball. Concrete work on circle drive looks excellent with condolences to family of Clayton Giesbrecht for their loss. Bus drivers needed.

**Board**

**Committees:** The Superintendent Evaluation Committee met and is ready to meet with and convey results to Mr. Klooz.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT** There was no public comment.

**VII. ACTION ITEMS**

**VII.1. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to appointing Randall Klooz as the district non-compliance officer, non-discrimination officer and Title IX coordinator for 2019-20.**

Moved by Meeske, second by O'Neil to appoint Randall Klooz as the district non-compliance officer, non-discrimination officer and Title IX coordinator for 2019-20. Stromberger: yea, Reeves: yea, Meeske: yea, Arterburn: yea, Wallin: yea, O'Neil: yea, Terryberry: yea, Olsen: yea, Fries: absent. Motion passed 8-0-1.

**VII.2. Consider, discuss & take all necessary action to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a written agreement with Apple, Inc. for the District's use and potential purchase of Apple iPads/laptops for students in the classroom.**

Motion by Stromberger, second by O'Neil to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a written agreement with Apple, Inc. to purchase iPads for grades 2-8 student use in the classroom per quote #164. Reeves: yea, Meeske: yea, Arterburn: yea, Wallin: yea, Terryberry: yea, Olsen: yea, Stromberger: yea, O'Neil: nay, Fries: absent. Motion passed 7-1-1.

**VII.3. Consider, discuss & take all necessary action to appoint Randall Klooz as District Representative for local, state and federal programs for the 2019-20 school year.**

Moved by Stromberger, second by Meeske to appoint Randall Klooz as District Representative for local, state and federal programs for the 2019-20 school year. Meeske: yea, Arterburn: yea, Wallin: yea, O'Neil: yea, Terryberry: yea, Olsen: yea, Stromberger: yea, Reeves: yea, Fries: absent. Motion passed 8-0-1.

**VII.4. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to First Reading of Board Policies 1120, 3130, 3131, 4030, 5001, 5012, 5101, 5103, 5104, 5305, 6211, 6410, 8151, and 8153.** No action taken. First Reading noted.

**VII.5. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to first reading of Board Policy 5306 "Student Drug Testing".** No action taken. First Reading noted.

**VII.6. Consider, discuss and take necessary action with regard to first reading of Board Policy 4071 "Sick Leave Bank"** No action taken. First Reading noted.

**VIII.1. Discuss limiting open campus for lunch Grades 10-12** No action taken.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT** Next meeting set for August 12, 2019. Meeting adjourned 8:24 pm.

Board President \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Board Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Chase County Schools Board of Education**, five Special Hearings, Tuesday, July 9, 2019

At 6:00 PM President Olsen gave the intent & purpose of the hearings which is to review, discuss, consider, receive input, and hear support or opposition regarding the District's specified policies.

Roll was called:

Cindy Arterburn-present, Josh Fries-absent, Karl Meeske-present, Jeff Olsen-present, Willy O'Neil-present,  
Dan Reeves-arrived 6:04 PM Sheila Stromberger-present, Carrie Terryberry-present, Steve Wallin-present

**I. Special Hearing: Parent Involvement hearing.**

President Olsen called the hearing to order at 6:01 PM. Olsen adjourned the Special Hearing at 6:02 PM.

**II. Special Hearing: Children's Internet Protection Policy.**

President Olsen called the hearing to order at 6:02 PM. Olsen adjourned the Special Hearing at 6:03 PM.

**III. Special Hearing: Student Fees Policy and 2018-19 Report.**

President Olsen called the hearing to order at 6:03 PM. After much discussion by the board, Olsen adjourned the Special Hearing at 6:15 PM.

**IV. Special Hearing: School Wellness Policy Review.**

President Olsen called the hearing to order at 6:15 PM. Olsen adjourned the Special Hearing at 6:16 PM.

**V. Special Hearing: District Anti-Bullying Policy Review.**

President Olsen called the hearing to order at 6:16 PM. Olsen adjourned the Special Hearing at 6:17 PM

Board President \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Board Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Cash Report - For the Year

Printed: 08/09/2019 10:58:15AM

Chase County Schools - Activity Accounting

Activities 1							
Group	1	Academic Clubs					
Account Number	Description		Balance Forward	Cash In (Receipts)	Cash Out (Payments)	Adjustments	Balance
<b>Academic Clubs</b>							
300	Show Choir		0.00	3,912.37	(8,301.66)	0.00	(4,389.29)
302	Musical		0.00	5,632.36	(1,459.91)	0.00	4,172.45
303	CCES Music Resale		0.00	419.00	0.00	0.00	419.00
304	Band Instrument Rental		0.00	248.00	0.00	0.00	248.00
305	Band Resale		0.00	11,683.63	(7,181.00)	0.00	4,502.63
308	Drama		0.00	1,188.00	(38.13)	0.00	1,149.87
309	Fine Arts		0.00	5,507.00	0.00	0.00	5,507.00
310	Young Americans		0.00	270.00	0.00	0.00	270.00
311	Tri-M		0.00	1,266.00	0.00	0.00	1,266.00
400	Alumni Clearing		0.00	700.99	0.00	0.00	700.99
402	CCES Activity Fund		0.00	2,053.77	(1,929.67)	0.00	124.10
<b>1</b>	<b>Academic Clubs</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>32,881.12</b>	<b>(18,910.37)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13,970.75</b>
							* Group
<b>Athletics</b>							
001	CCHS Athletics		0.00	(932.56)	(6,932.67)	0.00	(7,865.23)
05-1-09804	CCHS Athletics		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1-2-001	CCHS Athletics		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
002	CCHS Softball		0.00	(2,775.28)	(6.79)	0.00	(2,782.07)
003	CCHS Football		0.00	(1,095.47)	(4,600.92)	0.00	(5,696.39)
004	CCHS Volleyball		0.00	1,728.88	(661.61)	0.00	1,067.27
005	CCHS X-Country		0.00	659.50	(15.78)	0.00	643.72
006	CCHS Basketball - Girls		0.00	2,771.69	(5,724.15)	0.00	(2,952.46)
007	CCHS Basketball - Boys		0.00	3,636.90	(5,077.86)	0.00	(1,440.96)
008	CCHS Wrestling		0.00	2,279.11	(4,999.12)	0.00	(2,720.01)
009	CCHS Track - Girls		0.00	931.18	(12,502.10)	0.00	(11,570.92)
010	CCHS Track - Boys		0.00	901.20	(13,624.43)	0.00	(12,723.23)
011	CCHS Golf		0.00	(37.89)	(708.72)	0.00	(746.61)
013	JH Football		0.00	(549.90)	0.00	0.00	(549.90)
014	JH Volleyball		0.00	(1,304.00)	(4.46)	0.00	(1,308.46)
015	JH Basketball - Girls		0.00	(490.00)	(396.22)	0.00	(886.22)
016	JH Basketball - Boys		0.00	(147.27)	(893.47)	0.00	(1,040.74)
017	JH Wrestling		0.00	(125.00)	(50.00)	0.00	(175.00)
018	JH Girls Track		0.00	(25.00)	(6,142.00)	0.00	(6,167.00)
019	JH Boys Track		0.00	155.00	(6,142.00)	0.00	(5,987.00)
020	PE Uniform Resale		0.00	(527.76)	0.00	0.00	(527.76)
021	HS Milner Benefit Fund		0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
023	AD Savings		0.00	63,520.63	(4,632.30)	0.00	58,888.33
100	Cheerleaders		0.00	9,263.65	(7,927.25)	0.00	1,336.40
<b>2</b>	<b>Athletics</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>78,087.61</b>	<b>(81,041.85)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(2,954.24)</b>
							* Group
<b>Classes</b>							

# Cash Report - For the Year

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Chase County Schools - Activity Accounting

Activities 1							
Group	3	Classes					
Account Number	Description		Balance Forward	Cash In (Receipts)	Cash Out (Payments)	Adjustments	Balance
804		Alta Heir Scholarship	0.00	0.00	(1,000.00)	0.00	(1,000.00)
508		Class of 2019	0.00	4,597.43	(100.00)	0.00	4,497.43
509		Class of 2020	0.00	9,402.30	(2,039.84)	0.00	7,362.46
510		Class of 2021	0.00	5,896.60	(3,479.00)	0.00	2,417.60
511		Class of 2022	0.00	2,103.66	0.00	0.00	2,103.66
802		Gladys B & Les Smith Scholarship	0.00	(200.00)	(1,000.00)	0.00	(1,200.00)
<b>3 Classes</b>			0.00	21,799.99	(7,618.84)	0.00	14,181.15
							* Group
<b>Clubs and Organizations</b>							
202		FBLA Bank	0.00	0.00	(62.62)	0.00	(62.62)
101		CCHS Annual	0.00	40,714.67	(42.00)	0.00	40,672.67
102		CCES Yearbook	0.00	10,453.25	0.00	0.00	10,453.25
103		Thespians - Speech	0.00	(149.93)	(824.49)	0.00	(974.42)
104		Student Council	0.00	(1,149.74)	(328.28)	0.00	(1,478.02)
106		CCS Flower Fund	0.00	592.00	(49.49)	0.00	542.51
107		Technology	0.00	40,774.00	0.00	0.00	40,774.00
108		Electric Car Project	0.00	568.76	0.00	0.00	568.76
109		Inter Acct	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
200		FBLA	0.00	21,881.36	(3,176.48)	0.00	18,704.88
201		FBLA - Sponsor	0.00	(30.00)	(342.00)	0.00	(372.00)
205		FCCLA	0.00	5,436.25	(5,760.62)	0.00	(324.37)
206		FCCLA - Sponsor	0.00	(13.00)	(959.00)	0.00	(972.00)
210		FFA	0.00	89,890.10	(38,800.46)	0.00	51,089.64
211		FFA - Sponsor	0.00	(784.28)	(499.49)	0.00	(1,283.77)
212		FFA-Farm Account	0.00	3,716.00	(4,608.39)	0.00	(892.39)
213		FFA-Memorial	0.00	3,242.00	0.00	0.00	3,242.00
<b>4 Clubs and Organizations</b>			0.00	215,641.44	(55,453.32)	0.00	160,188.12
							* Group
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
214		I.A Resale	0.00	3,248.00	(1,419.94)	0.00	1,828.06
215		Building Construction	0.00	1,200.58	0.00	0.00	1,200.58
405		Art Resale	0.00	3,294.00	0.00	0.00	3,294.00
408		Library Book Sales	0.00	929.25	0.00	0.00	929.25
409		Defib Training/Flu Vac Fund	0.00	1,001.00	(106.00)	0.00	895.00
412		Special Projects	0.00	25,868.48	0.00	0.00	25,868.48
414		Staff/Student Appreciation	0.00	78.00	0.00	0.00	78.00
415		Monthly Interest	0.00	846.13	0.00	0.00	846.13
<b>9 Miscellaneous</b>			0.00	36,465.44	(1,525.94)	0.00	34,939.50
							* Group
<b>1 Activities</b>			0.00	384,875.60	(164,550.32)	0.00	220,325.28
							Location
<b>Report Total:</b>			0.00	384,875.60	(164,550.32)	0.00	220,325.28

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Vendor_Name</b>
2 tree stumps, NE Parking Lot	\$ 952.50	5 Star Tree Service, LLC
Long Distance service 6/21-7/20	\$ 90.52	A T & T
FSA/Daycare/Benny Card/HRA fees	\$ 528.00	Affiliated Benefits
1Day Prof Learning/3 days Prof Learning	\$ 11,925.00	Apple Incorporated
1day Prof Learning/3Days Prof Learning	\$ 11,925.00	Apple Incorporated
MB AIR 13 (5)	\$ 4,950.00	Apple Incorporated
Mobility Mix Cart	\$ 1,799.95	Apple Incorporated
Gas at 520 E 9th & 1110 Shorthorn St	\$ 2,036.89	Black Hills Energy
Art Supplies for HS	\$ 2,322.75	Blick Art Materials
art supplies-Elem	\$ 1,238.44	Blick Art Materials
remaining balance on CR's art supplyorder	\$ 100.00	Blick Art Materials
regular service	\$ 50.00	Brico Pest Control
Bid to replace conduit & wire SE Corner front lawn	\$ 1,025.00	Brophy Electric
Bulbs	\$ 125.76	Brophy Electric
East parking lot lights/labor	\$ 634.60	Brophy Electric
Wire, red wire nut, self drillers, labor	\$ 199.26	Brophy Electric
National Principal Conf Exp-Hotel (1/2 Cost)	\$ 95.90	Chambers Public School
OT (BW) 5-29-6-05	\$ 130.00	Chase County Hospital
520 E 9th Electric 6/30-7/31	\$ 9,551.69	City Of Imperial
520 E 9th water/sewer 6/30-7/31	\$ 2,260.00	City Of Imperial
520 E 9th watersewer usage (left off July bill)	\$ 2,166.50	City Of Imperial
New Bus Barn-Electric	\$ 291.91	City Of Imperial
New bus barn-water/sewer	\$ 36.20	City Of Imperial
New Track electric	\$ 79.23	City Of Imperial
New Track Water usage	\$ 628.80	City Of Imperial
Water meter East Parking Lot	\$ 14.30	City Of Imperial
AWC51	\$ 16.93	Cornhusker Cleaning Systems
Finalist Interviews	\$ 4,550.00	Crown Global Consulting
DPF Cleaning	\$ 466.69	Cummins Sales & Service
DPF cleaning and gaskets, sensor	\$ 605.15	Cummins Sales & Service
Shredding service	\$ 113.82	DataShield
Foundation Digital Classroom Annual License	\$ 1,000.00	Dave Ramsey/Lampo Group
Supplies for library	\$ 105.68	Demco, Inc.
13 Magazine subscriptions	\$ 236.74	Discount Magazine Subscription Service
Admin Fees/First payment/Security Dep copiers	\$ 1,911.76	Eakes Office Plus
Purchase option on leased equipment	\$ 1.00	Eakes Office Plus
Staples, cartridge	\$ 98.00	Eakes Office Plus
Glass cleaner, toliet tissue	\$ 83.54	Eakes Office Solutions
Fire Alarm Inspection	\$ 90.00	Electronic Systems, Inc
19-20 SNDEN Fees	\$ 23,000.00	ESU #16
Securely Anywhere Filter-1 Yr	\$ 4,999.00	ESU Coordinating Council
Admn fuel 6/22-7/21	\$ 106.87	Frenchman Valley Co-op
Pupil fuel usage 6/22-7/21	\$ 937.22	Frenchman Valley Co-op
phone usage 8/01-8/31	\$ 488.36	Great Plains Communication
reset tire monitors on wheels	\$ 19.95	Harchelroad Motors - Imperial
state placemats	\$ 28.89	Harper Collins Publishers
Payment 1 Copier Lease 2019	\$ 928.38	Hometown Leasing
Puberty Pamphlets	\$ 59.89	Human Relations Media
0955204-shop rags and uniforms	\$ 51.21	Ideal Linen Supply Inc
Bowling for AR	\$ 240.00	Imperial Lanes
maintanence supplies/parts	\$ 129.25	Imperial NAPA
Transportation Repair parts	\$ 462.14	Imperial NAPA
Labor-Clean Water Fountain Drain	\$ 120.00	Jim Pankonin
K-12 site License, Adobe K-12 Lic Renwl	\$ 500.00	JourneyEd.com

Gravel	\$ 240.00	L & L Ready Mix
Flex Space Comfy floor seats	\$ 126.48	Lakeshore Learning
My Word Journal set of 10 KDG	\$ 113.82	Lakeshore Learning
Student Storage Backpack Cart	\$ 688.85	Lakeshore Learning
Student timer set, foam rubber dice	\$ 74.73	Lakeshore Learning
Laminating film	\$ 524.25	Laminator.com
Straight Talk Video -Health	\$ 155.84	Marsh Media
Donald Bear Reading Wonders-2nd G	\$ 309.93	McGraw-Hill
Grease trap/remove/replace sidewalks N & W side	\$ 10,248.00	Mike Jaeger
2019 NAEP Annual Wkshp	\$ 250.00	NASB
Annual coop buy for Central Supplies	\$ 1,426.03	National Art & School Supplies
Coop Annual buy for supplies	\$ 237.03	National Art & School Supplies
Misc Items for Coop Buy Elem	\$ 40.84	National Art & School Supplies
Misc items for Coop buy-HS	\$ 123.87	National Art & School Supplies
Renewal Mbrshp-Randall Klooz	\$ 795.00	NE Council School Administrators
2019-20 NRSCA membership Dues Renewal	\$ 850.00	NE Rural Community Schools
Door frames/lower seats for door frames	\$ 853.37	Nebraska Central Equipment
filters, latch, lights, seat covers	\$ 505.94	Nebraska Central Equipment
Windshield	\$ 327.02	Nebraska Central Equipment
Level 2 Transportation Course	\$ 100.00	Nebraska Safety Center
Yellow 2 pocket folders	\$ 135.00	Nicky's Folders
Advertising-FCS Teacher	\$ 1,558.00	Omaha World-Herald
Classroom supplies/storage caddy	\$ 45.17	Oriental Trading Company
property maintenance supplies	\$ 379.46	Owens True Value
Transportation supplies	\$ 49.83	Owens True Value
parts	\$ 94.02	Parts City Auto Parts
legal fees	\$ 2,823.00	Perry Guthery Haase Gessford
vinyl number for buses	\$ 30.00	Platinum T-Shirt and Embroidery
IEP students -April 2019	\$ 210.00	Rainbow Promise Preschool
IEP Students Feb 2019	\$ 119.00	Rainbow Promise Preschool
IEP Students July 2019	\$ 60.00	Rainbow Promise Preschool
IEP Students-June 2019	\$ 30.00	Rainbow Promise Preschool
IEP Students-March 2019	\$ 196.00	Rainbow Promise Preschool
IEP Students-May 2019	\$ 175.00	Rainbow Promise Preschool
1Yr Renewal	\$ 540.00	Raptor Technologies
SPED textbooks	\$ 231.49	Remedia Publications
Rocket Math Wall Charts	\$ 72.00	Rocket Math
adhesive for flooring	\$ 623.60	Samway Floor Covering
carpet tile, adhesive	\$ 9,435.01	Samway Floor Covering
Mobile Delvac 1 Go 80W140	\$ 185.85	Sapp Bros Petroleum
Classroom materials	\$ 714.36	School Specialty
Classroom Supplies	\$ 157.07	School Specialty
HS Art Supplies	\$ 278.84	School Specialty
Lids-portion cup lid pet small fits	\$ 5.80	School Specialty
Paper notebooks 3 subjects	\$ 43.20	School Specialty
Subscription (8/01/19-7/31/2020)	\$ 4,999.00	Schoology, Inc.
Rhino Skin Balls	\$ 374.10	School-Tech, Inc
North Playground overlay	\$ 9,750.00	ShelCo Asphalt & Paving
Repair of East/North Driveway	\$ 1,350.00	ShelCo Asphalt & Paving
Waste disposal	\$ 10.00	Southwest Nebraska Solid Waste Agency
I Hear Therapy 6/5,7,18,19,26,27	\$ 360.00	St. Joseph Institute For The Deaf
Body Conditioning shirts	\$ 616.00	Team Graphics
Motor for hailway air handlers	\$ 775.53	Trane
floor finsih/floor stripper	\$ 1,437.50	Unitech
Grit Sandscreen	\$ 298.00	Unitech

Longhorn/Shorthorn gym floor refinish	\$ 4,995.00	Unitech
cell phone usage 7/21-7/20	\$ 114.32	Verizon Wireless
HS Science materials for dissection	\$ 490.95	Ward's Science
Hotel room for Transportation Class	\$ 247.48	West Hills Inn
Reading for Today Student Edition Books	\$ 472.73	Wieser Educational
1st GR Handwriting workbooks	\$ 522.76	Zaner-Bloser Educational Publishers
3rd GR handwriting workbooks	\$ 653.46	Zaner-Bloser Educational Publishers
Handwriting books	\$ 650.23	Zaner-Bloser Educational Publishers
<b>Accountability EDUtools-legermania board game</b>	<b>\$ 107.32</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Activity Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 611.00</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom materials</b>	<b>\$ 86.18</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 8.80</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 23.40</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 25.12</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 36.73</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 37.59</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 41.55</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 47.89</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 52.25</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 53.85</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 53.94</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 60.13</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 66.42</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 66.70</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 72.16</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 147.66</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 170.36</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 185.00</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 191.55</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 191.67</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 234.24</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 245.79</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 301.62</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 342.38</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Classroom supplies</b>	<b>\$ 430.35</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Credit for returned Classroom supply</b>	<b>\$ (76.68)</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-external hard drive</b>	<b>\$ 127.78</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-Ipad cleaner</b>	<b>\$ 28.71</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Amazon-laminated tape</b>	<b>\$ 41.49</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Arby's-meal Principal Conf</b>	<b>\$ 12.06</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Best Western -Credit Hotel Room</b>	<b>\$ (56.35)</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Best Western-Hotel Room Conf (MS)</b>	<b>\$ 535.31</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Electric Motor Warehouse-motor for HVAC</b>	<b>\$ 415.90</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Five Guys MA-meal for Principal Conf</b>	<b>\$ 15.49</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Kelly's Roast Beef-meal Principal Conf</b>	<b>\$ 16.77</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Loves Travel-Fuel</b>	<b>\$ 58.60</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Microtel-Hotel for Principal Conf Boston MA</b>	<b>\$ 172.47</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Office of the Principal-General Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 86.94</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Regular Instruction-General Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 134.88</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Restroom Strategic-Hand dryers for bathrooms</b>	<b>\$ 949.00</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Rock Bottom-meal Principal Conf</b>	<b>\$ 15.83</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>SDS University-Accounting Software training</b>	<b>\$ 249.00</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Teachers Pay Teachers-4th grade Sentence unit</b>	<b>\$ 23.26</b>	<b>US Bank</b>
<b>Teachers Pay Teachers-ELA Bell Ringer Material</b>	<b>\$ 39.51</b>	<b>US Bank</b>

The Point- meal for Principal Conf	\$ 28.78	US Bank
Thorton`s Restaurant-meal Principal Conf	\$ 11.76	US Bank
United Airlines-Principal Conf	\$ 60.00	US Bank
Zoogue-Ipad Case	\$ 70.70	US Bank
US Bank Total	\$ 6,852.86	
August General Fund Expenditures	\$ 167,661.29	
August Payroll	\$ 205,280.04	
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$ 372,941.33	
Remaining balance on Pella Windows	\$ 12,000.00	Spady Construction
August 2019 Depreciation Fund Expenditures	\$ 12,000.00	

# Activities Director's Report

The Nebraska School Activities Association held the annual coaching clinic in Lincoln on July 23rd, 24th, and 25th. We had 13 coaches that attended the coaching clinic in Lincoln. Coach Bill Curry, former football coach at Georgia State was the keynote speaker. One of Bill's main finishing quotes. **"There are two pains in life – the pain of discipline and the pain of regret. The first is temporary. The other lasts forever. You alone decide which to endure."** Nebraska has one of the largest attended clinics in the nation. Next year Nebraska will host the Multi-Sports Clinic and the NHSACA National Convention in Lincoln. (National High School Athletic Coaches Association.)

Fall Sports started Monday August 12th. We have 31 out for football (Last Year 30), 19 out for Softball (Last Year 13), 22 out for Volleyball (Last Year 17), and 14 out for Cross Country (4 Boys and 10 Girls) (Last Year 15). The numbers could change a little if anybody else comes out or decides not to participate. (+11 More athletes than last year)

We have been impact testing for the upcoming school year. We have tested football, softball, volleyball, cross country and many of the the Junior High Athletes. The students have done a nice job coming in early to get tested. Thanks to Jill and Jon Anderjaska for their help with testing the students.

Football Timeline: November 30, 2019 is the deadline for schools to submit their declaration for participation in 11-man, 8-man, or 6-man football. December the NSAA will release the classification assignments. January/February the NSAA Staff will work on the football schedules for the 2020 and 2021 seasons. February 12th the schedules will be released at 9:00 AM Central (8:00 AM Mountain Time)

I visited with Brent Kramer from Hudl they are sending out the FOCUS camera with Jill Moline and Allo Communications will install the camera in the Longhorn gym.

If you have any questions please email me at [thauxwell@chasecountyschools.org](mailto:thauxwell@chasecountyschools.org)



# Chase County

**August, 2019**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	8:00am Teacher Inservice-	9	10
11	Fall Practices-	12	13	14	15	16	17
		6:00pm Chase County School Board Meeting- @ Board Room					
18	8:00am Teacher Inservice- 3:00pm-6:00pm Elementary- @ Chase County Schools	19	20	21	22	23	24
		K-12th- @ Chase County Schools		Softball-			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	6:30pm Fall Booster Club Kick Off- @ Chase County Schools	4:30pm Softball-Varsity Southern Valley vs. Multiple Schools 5:15pm 7-8th-		First Contest- 5:00pm Cross Country-Varsity Dundy County Stratton vs. Multiple Schools 6:00pm Volleyball-JV/Varsity Ogallala	4:00pm Softball-JV/Varsity Perry 6:30pm Football-Varsity Gothenburg	12:00pm Softball-Varsity Scottsbluff	

## September, 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	No School-	2	3	4	5	6	7
		<b>4:00pm Softball-Varsity Holyoke</b> <b>4:00pm Volleyball-JV/Varsity McCook vs. Multiple Schools</b>		<b>4:00pm Softball-Varsity Southern Valley</b>	<b>9:30am Cross Country-JH Cambridge vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>9:30am Cross Country-Varsity Cambridge vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>6:00pm Football-Varsity North Platte St. Pats</b>	<b>9:00am Volleyball-Varsity Lexington vs. Multiple Schools</b>	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
<b>6:00pm Football-JV Ogallala</b>		<b>4:00pm Softball-Varsity Wray</b> <b>4:00pm Volleyball-C/JV/Varsity Yuma</b> <b>4:30pm Volleyball-JH Hitchcock County</b>		<b>3:30pm Cross Country-Varsity Chase County vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>3:30pm Cross Country-JH Chase County vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>5:00pm Football-JH North Platte St. Pats</b> <b>6:00pm Band- @ Auditorium</b>	<b>TBD Softball-Varsity Scottsbluff vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>6:00pm Football-Varsity Cozad</b>	<b>TBD Softball-Varsity Scottsbluff vs. Multiple Schools</b>	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Teacher Inservice- <b>4:00pm Volleyball-JH Dundy County Stratton</b> <b>5:30pm Football-JV North Platte St. Pats</b>		<b>4:00pm Volleyball-C/JV/Varsity Sedgwick County</b> <b>4:00pm Cross Country-JH McCook vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>4:00pm Cross Country-Varsity McCook vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>4:30pm Softball-Varsity Gering</b>		<b>5:00pm Football-JH Hershey</b>	<b>4:00pm Softball-Varsity Chadron</b> <b>6:00pm Football-Varsity Holdrege</b>	<b>10:00am Volleyball-Varsity McCook vs. Multiple Schools</b>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
<b>4:00pm Volleyball-JH Hershey</b> <b>5:00pm Football-JV Hershey</b>		<b>4:00pm Softball-JV/Varsity Cozad</b> <b>5:00pm Volleyball-JV/Varsity Sidney</b> <b>5:30pm Football-JH Ogallala</b>		<b>2:00pm Softball-Varsity Ogallala vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>3:00pm Cross Country-JH Ogallala vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>3:00pm Cross Country-Varsity Ogallala vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>4:00pm Volleyball-JV/Varsity Dundy County Stratton vs. Multiple Schools</b>	<b>7:00pm Football-Varsity Alliance</b>	<b>9:00am Volleyball-Varsity Sutherland vs. Multiple Schools</b>	
29	30						
<b>12:00pm Cross Country-Varsity University of NE-Kearney vs. Multiple Schools</b> <b>4:00pm Softball-JV McCook</b> <b>6:00pm Football-JV Holyoke</b>							

## 7-12 Principal Report: August 2019

We are nearly half way through August and the school has been buzzing with staff getting their rooms and plans ready for the year. Math teachers were in the building learning and reviewing the new math curriculum on August 8th. The entire teaching staff was present on Friday, August 9th where the day included reviewing and finalizing the Portrait of a Graduate, reviewing PBIS, planning time with Common Curriculum, learning the new printing system, and learning the new process for requesting leave time and coordinating substitute teachers.

As indicated to families in a letter accompanying Spring report cards, student schedules were available starting last week. Students can log in to Infinite Campus or stop by the school to request a copy of their schedule. Students will be able to request schedule changes up until August 27th but we do ask that students make those requests as soon as possible so that we can be as accurate as possible at the start of the school. Mr. Herbert should be contacted at [therbert@chasecountyschools.org](mailto:therbert@chasecountyschools.org) to review individual schedules and to discuss and request changes.

Staff reports on August 19th and students report on August 20th for the first day of school. On the first day of school we will have a 1:30 dismissal. On this day, and other scheduled early dismissals the 9-12 students will have closed campus lunch. Students should bring their own lunch or bring lunch money to the office. We are also pleased that once again students in grades 9-12 will get to design a class shirt that each student will receive for free thanks to sponsors which include: Farm Credit Services of America, Waypoint Bank, Adams Bank & Trust, Holyoke Community Federal Credit Union, and Pinnacle Bank. Students work as a class to create their designs on the first day of school and then receives shirts as soon as they can be printed.

The back to school Open House will be held on Monday, August 19th from 3:00 - 6:00 PM. Families are encouraged to come out to the open house to receive class schedules, meet teachers, and tour the school. This is also a great opportunity for students to test out their locker combinations, add money to their lunch accounts, and to complete and turn in any needed forms for the year.

Submitted by:

Jon Lechtenberg

Chase County Schools 7-12 Principal

## Mrs. Odens' August, 2019 School Board Report

Mr. Lechtenberg and I have finished interviewing for positions and currently have all certified and classified positions filled. We have been working with the staff, administration, and the school board going over board policies as well as the handbooks. We attended Administrator Days in Lincoln. We also met with the Crown Global team for some goal setting work.

Our K-12 math teachers were here Thursday, August 8th for training on the new Pearson math program. K-5 teachers had a Pearson trainer that helped them work through the program. The rest of the math teachers had webinars to watch.

The staff supper on Thursday night was very well attended. There were about 120 staff and family members present. The meal was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all.

We had our first in-service day with the certified staff on Friday, August 9th. The staff worked on Common curriculum which is our online program we are using for lesson plans and tracking standards. Teachers were introduced to Frontline, which is the absence management system we are using this year. They also worked on revising the Portrait of a Graduate. The PBIS team reviewed our PBIS program and teachers worked on the classroom expectations for the classrooms at the grade school, middle school, and high school level. The teachers were also given some time to work with their grade-level and content area teams.

We will have our open house on August 19th. The PTO is providing ice cream again this year. Students will get their schedules and will have the opportunity to meet their various teachers. The K-4 students will be able to bring their supplies to their classrooms and meet their teachers. Students will report to school on Tuesday, August 20th for their first day of class. There is a 1:30 dismissal the first day.

I-pad issues

## Parents

This sketch of my Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



## School Board

This sketch of my Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



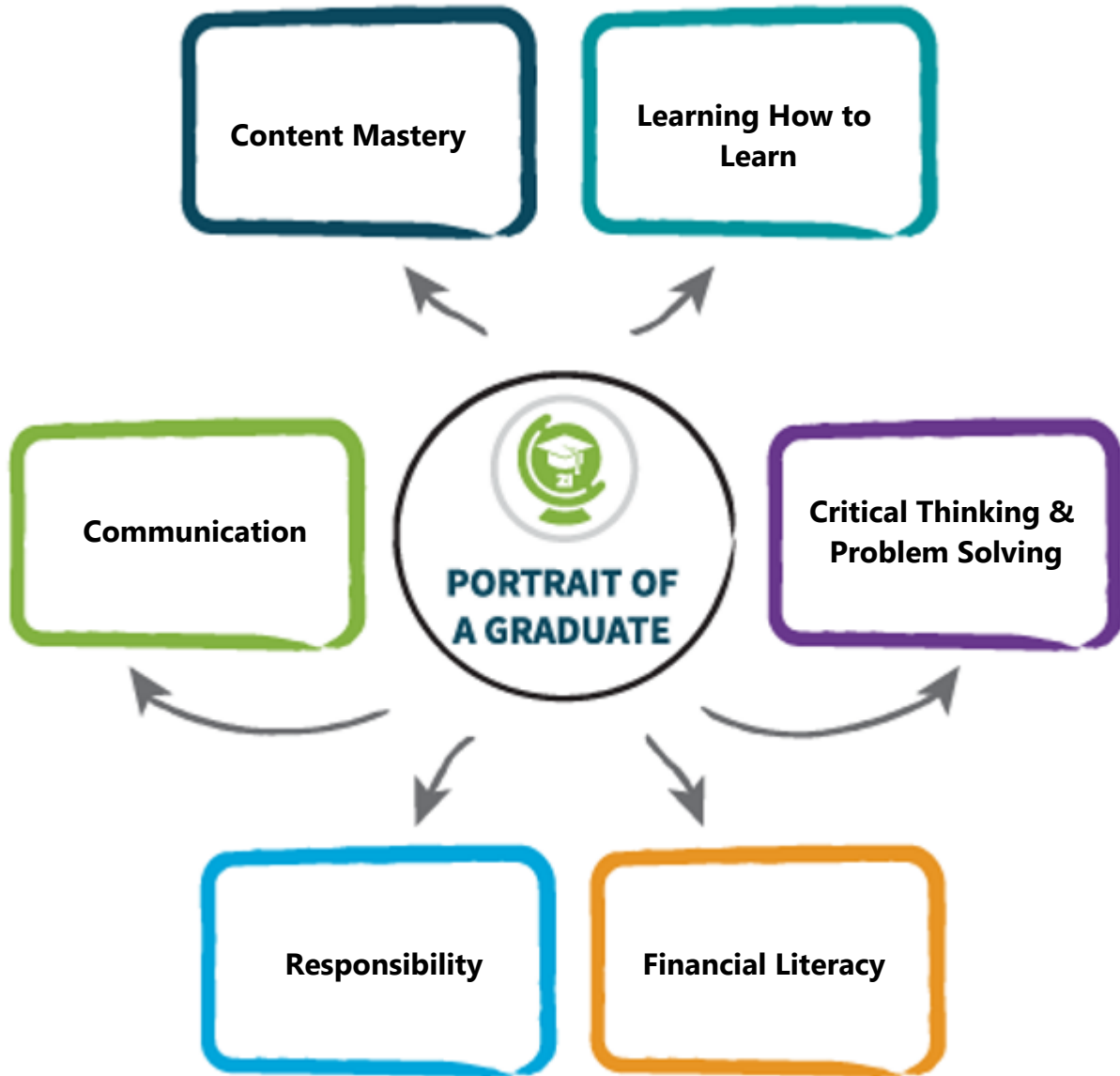
## Steering Committee

This sketch of my Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



## Students

This sketch of my Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



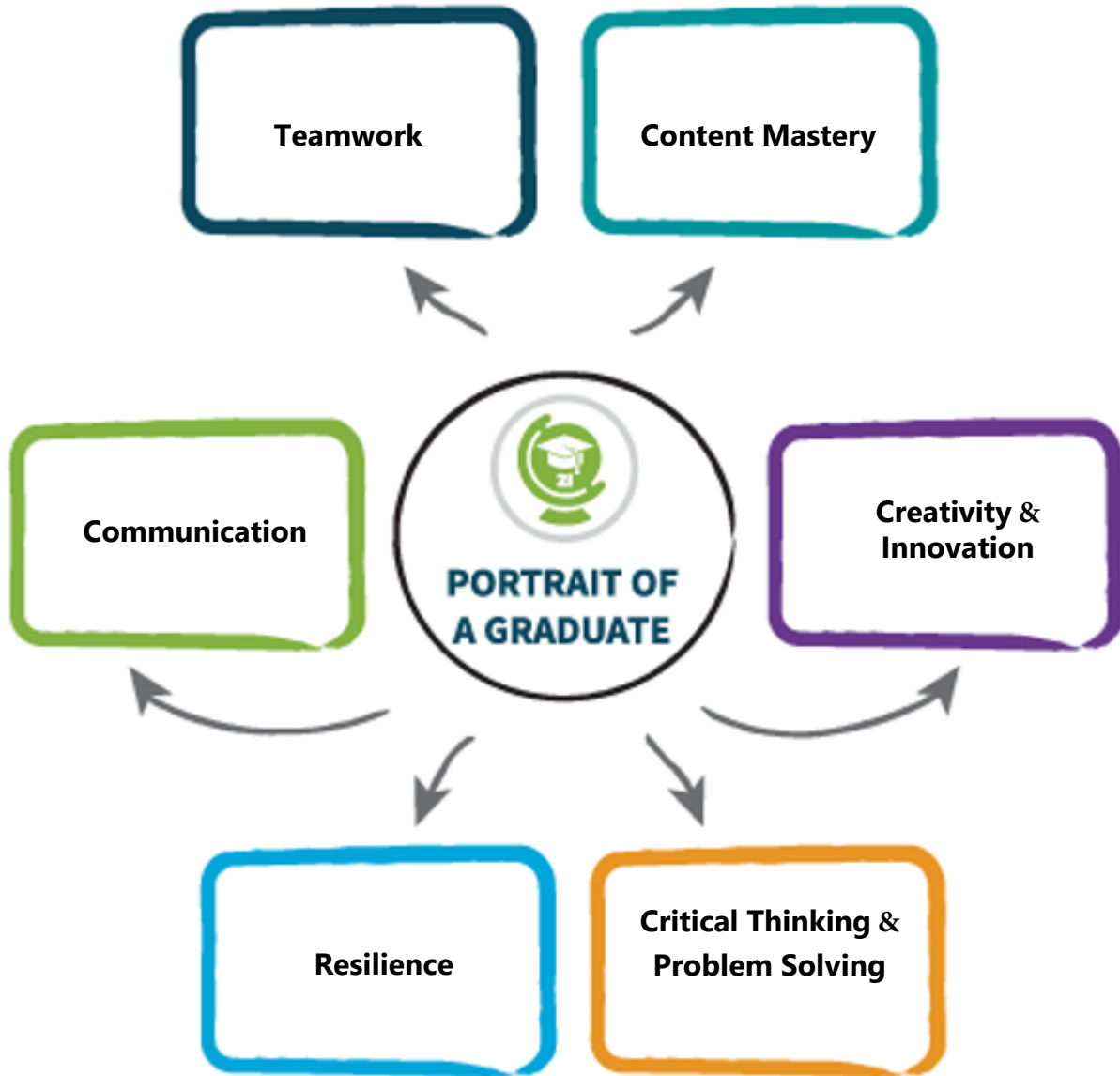
## Business Leaders

This sketch of my Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



## Teachers

This sketch of my Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



## All Stakeholder Meeting Results

CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS

This sketch of our Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



LEASE

THIS LEASE is made and executed on August 13, 2019, by and between School District Number 10 of Chase County, Nebraska, political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as LESSOR, and Pom-Pom Organization of Imperial, Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as LESSEE.

WITNESSETH: Lessor desires to lease the concession facilities at the Chase County Schools in Imperial, Chase County, Nebraska during Chase County Schools athletic events for operation of a concession stand at said events. LESSEE desires to secure such facilities and operate a concession stand during Chase County Schools athletic events. In consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

1. LESSOR leases to LESSEE and LESSEE hires and takes from LESSOR the concession space located in the lunch room area of the Chase County Schools building during boys basketball games, girls basketball games, volleyball games and wrestling meets. Concessions for additional activities may be provided upon mutual agreement of the Lessee and Lessor.
2. The leased premises shall be used for the purpose of operating a concession stand during said activities.
3. This lease shall begin on August 18, 2019 and end May 24, 2020.
4. The rent for the leased premises shall be \$500.00 per year. Rent shall be due and payable **January 1, 2020**.
5. LESSEE shall operate a concession stand at all Chase County Schools athletic events, which shall include all varsity and non-varsity volleyball, and girls and boys basketball games and varsity and non-varsity wrestling meets held at Chase County Schools in Imperial, Nebraska during the 2019-20 school year. LESSEE will provide concessions for all games held in the Longhorn gym. Concessions for additional activities may be provided upon mutual agreement of the Lessee and Lessor.
6. LESSOR shall furnish a set of keys to the leased premises to LESSEE. LESSEE shall have the right to enter the leased premises prior to the commencement of the athletic event for the purpose of setting up the concession stand. LESSEE shall have the right to remain in the leased premises following the athletic event for the purpose of cleaning the leased premises.
7. LESSEE shall have responsibility for the operation of the concession stand and use Pepsi® products only. LESSEE shall set up the concession stand, order and purchase concessions, staff the concession stand and clean up the leased premises.
8. LESSOR shall furnish and maintain the equipment necessary to operate the concession stand including but not limited to a popcorn machine.
9. LESSOR shall furnish electricity, lighting and water adequate and reasonable for the premises.
10. LESSOR shall allow LESSEE to store the equipment and food owned by LESSEE for concession use in the

arising out of the same. LESSOR shall not be liable for damage of any kind to the concession or to any of LESSEE'S employees, agents, members or customers.

13. LESSEE, at its own expense and with a company acceptable to LESSOR shall carry liability insurance in the amount of \$ 12,500 for the demised premises and provide LESSOR a copy of Certificate of Liability within 30 days of commencement of the lease term.
14. LESSOR shall not be liable or responsible to any person or persons whomsoever for any damages to goods, wares, or merchandise or other property in or about said demised premises caused by any reason.
15. LESSEE shall not contract bills in the name of LESSOR, or in any way, directly or indirectly, involve LESSOR in any expense, indebtedness or liability.
16. LESSEE shall not put up any signs or advertisements whatsoever on the inside or outside of the leased premises without the prior written consent of LESSOR.
17. LESSEE shall not assign this lease or sublet the demised premises, or any portion thereof, or permit others to occupy it, without the prior written consent of LESSOR.
18. LESSEE shall deliver the demised premises to LESSOR at the end of this lease term without further demand or notice and in as good order and repair as it is now or may hereafter be, allowing for reasonable wear and tear.
19. In the event that LESSEE fails to perform and carry out any of the terms or conditions of this lease strictly in accordance with the provisions hereof, or for any reason is unable to conduct its business, LESSOR may terminate this lease by giving written notice to LESSEE. On termination, all rights of LESSEE to occupy or use the premises hereby leased shall end on the 10<sup>th</sup> day after delivery of such notice by which time LESSEE and all its officers, agents, and employees shall vacate the premises and surrender the same to LESSOR quietly and peacefully. LESSOR'S termination of this lease hereunder shall not prevent or interfere with the recovery by LESSOR of any rent or other payment due hereunder, or prevent or interfere with LESSEE'S recovery from LESSOR of any damages for breach of this lease.

This Lease agreement shall be binding on the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this lease at Imperial, Chase County, Nebraska on day and year first above written.

LESSOR  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10  
OF CHASE COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
Political Subdivision of the  
State of Nebraska

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

LEASE

THIS LEASE is made and executed on August 13, 2019, by and between School District Number 10 of Chase County, Nebraska, political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as LESSOR, and PTO Organization of Imperial, Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as LESSEE.

WITNESSETH: Lessor desires to lease the concession facilities at the Chase County Schools in Imperial, Chase County, Nebraska during Chase County Schools athletic events for operation of a concession stand at said events. LESSEE desires to secure such facilities and operate a concession stand during Chase County Schools athletic events. In consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

1. LESSOR leases to LESSEE and LESSEE hires and takes from LESSOR the concession building located at the Chase County Schools football field during Chase County Schools football games and track meets. Concessions for additional activities may be provided upon mutual agreement of the Lessee and Lessor.
2. The leased premises shall be used for the purpose of operating a concession stand. LESSOR shall restrict the use of the leased premises to that purpose only.
3. This lease shall begin on August 18, 2019 and end May 24, 2020.
4. The rent for the leased premises shall be \$250.00 per year. Rent shall be due and payable January 1, 2020.
5. LESSEE shall operate a concession stand at all Chase County Schools athletic events, which shall include all varsity and non-varsity football and boys and girls track meets held at Chase County Schools in Imperial, Nebraska during the 2019-20 school. Concessions for additional activities may be provided upon mutual agreement of the Lessee and Lessor.
6. LESSOR shall furnish a set of keys to the leased premises to LESSEE. LESSEE shall have the right to enter the leased premises prior to the commencement of the athletic event for the purpose of setting up the concession stand. LESSEE shall have the right to remain in the leased premises following the athletic event for the purpose of cleaning the leased premises.
7. LESSEE shall have responsibility for the operation of the concession stand and use Pepsi<sup>®</sup> products only. LESSEE shall set up the concession stand, order and purchase concessions, staff the concession stand and clean up the leased premises.
8. LESSOR shall furnish and maintain the equipment necessary to operate the concession stand including but not limited to a popcorn machine.
9. LESSOR shall furnish electricity, lighting and water adequate and reasonable for the premises.
10. LESSOR shall allow LESSEE to store the equipment and food owned by LESSEE for concession use in the Chase County Schools building. LESSOR shall allow LESSEE access to said equipment and food.

13. LESSEE, at its own expense and with a company acceptable to LESSOR shall carry liability insurance in the amount of \$ 12,500 for the demised premises and provide LESSOR a copy of Certificate of Liability within 30 days of commencement of the lease term.
14. LESSOR shall not be liable or responsible to any person or persons whomsoever for any damages to goods, wares, or merchandise or other property in or about said demised premises caused by any reason.
15. LESSEE shall not contract bills in the name of LESSOR, or in any way, directly or indirectly, involve LESSOR in any expense, indebtedness or liability.
16. LESSEE shall not put up any signs or advertisements whatsoever on the inside or outside of the leased premises without the prior written consent of LESSOR.
17. LESSEE shall not assign this lease or sublet the demised premises, or any portion thereof, or permit others to occupy it, without the prior written consent of LESSOR.
18. LESSEE shall deliver the demised premises to LESSOR at the end of this lease term without further demand or notice and in as good order and repair as it is now or may hereafter be, allowing for reasonable wear and tear.
19. In the event that LESSEE fails to perform and carry out any of the terms or conditions of this lease strictly in accordance with the provisions hereof, or for any reason is unable to conduct its business, LESSOR may terminate this lease by giving written notice to LESSEE. On termination, all rights of LESSEE to occupy or use the premises hereby leased shall end on the 10<sup>th</sup> day after delivery of such notice by which time LESSEE and all its officers, agents, and employees shall vacate the premises and surrender the same to LESSOR quietly and peacefully. LESSOR'S termination of this lease hereunder shall not prevent or interfere with the recovery by LESSOR of any rent or other payment due hereunder, or prevent or interfere with LESSEE'S recovery from LESSOR of any damages for breach of this lease.

This Lease agreement shall be binding on the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this lease at Imperial, Chase County, Nebraska on day and year first above written.

LESSOR  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10  
OF CHASE COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
Political Subdivision of the  
State of Nebraska

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DIST. 10

LESSEE

## Final Results

CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS

This sketch of our Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



# Chase County School's

## *Portrait of a Graduate*

Chase County Schools worked with stakeholders to build a collective vision called Portrait of a Graduate. It will serve as a guiding light for our continuous improvement process. This sketch of Portrait of a Graduate is for sharing in ongoing community conversation as one part of our school system's development process.



### *Content Mastery*

#### Our Students...

- Develop and draw from a baseline understanding of knowledge in academic and practical disciplines.
- Reflect on their learning experiences and apply these insights to subsequent situations.

---

### *Communication*

#### Our Students...

- Articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written, and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts.
- Listen effectively to decipher meaning, including knowledge, values, attitudes, and intentions.
- Use communication for a range of purposes and audiences.
- Utilize multiple media and technologies, and know how to judge their effectiveness and assess their impact.
- Communicate effectively in diverse environments.

---

### *Creativity & Innovation*

#### Our Students...

- Demonstrate originality and imagination through brainstorming and other creative thinking techniques.
  - Elaborate, refine, analyze, and evaluate their own ideas in order to improve and maximize creative efforts.
  - View failure as an opportunity to learn and understand that creativity and innovation is a long-term, cyclical process of small successes and frequent mistakes.
  - Act on creative ideas to make useful contributions and understand real-world limitations when adopting viable solutions.
-



---

## *Critical Thinking & Problem Solving*

### Our Students...

- Understand the “bigger picture” when proposing solutions that are mindful to the impact they may have on other parts of a system.
  - Consistently improve the quality of their own thinking by skillfully analyzing, assessing, and reconstructing.
  - Apply disciplined thinking that is clear, rational, open-minded, and informed by evidence.
  - Monitor their comprehension as they learn, recognize when they become confused or encounter obstacles, diagnose barriers to their success, and select appropriate strategies to work through them.
  - Identify, evaluate, and prioritize solutions to difficult or complex situations.
  - Implement and reflect critically on a solution.
- 

## *Teamwork & Leadership*

### Our Students...

- Work with others to accomplish a common goal.
  - Respond open-mindedly to different ideas and values.
  - Prioritize the needs of the group over their individual needs when appropriate.
  - Recognize, invest in, and leverage strengths to build collective ownership and action.
  - Create the environment or the conditions that empower others to grow and succeed.
  - Build relationships with others through trust and compassion.
  - Inspire others to reach their best through positive example and selflessness.
  - Demonstrate additional attributes associated with producing high-quality products including the ability to work positively and ethically, be reliable and punctual, and present themselves professionally and with proper etiquette.
- 

## *Resilience*

### Our Students...

- Persist to accomplish difficult tasks and overcome academic and personal barriers to meet goals.
  - Prioritize, plan and manage work to achieve the intended result.
  - Identify and work toward lifelong learning and academic goals.
  - Delay gratification, refocus after distractions, and maintain momentum until they reach their goals.
  - Respond positively and appropriately to praise, setbacks, and criticism.
-

Community RelationsTobacco Policy

The use of tobacco products is prohibited in all school buildings and all school vehicles. Smoking shall also be prohibited in any area where school staff, students or members of the public may be present or may be affected by smoke, including without limitation the stands and bleachers of outdoor athletic fields and near the entry of school buildings.

For purposes of this policy, tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), electronic nicotine delivery systems, alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. This does not preclude adults from wearing non-visible nicotine patches, or using nicotine gum without displaying the product container, as part of a smoking cessation program.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-5716 to 5734 (Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

## SICK LEAVE BANK

**Purpose:** The sole purpose of the Sick Leave Bank (SLB) is to provide to eligible employees who have exhausted all of their accumulated paid leave and would otherwise be on unpaid leave, by reason of prolonged absence caused by serious medical conditions suffered by either themselves or an immediate family member (An immediate family member only includes the employee's child, step-child or adopted child. Parents or children-in-law are not included in the definition of "immediate family member." A "dependent" only includes those individuals who the employees are eligible to claim as a dependent on the employee's tax return.), the means of obtaining additional sick leave days upon proper approval, thus reducing their financial hardship.

**Eligibility:** Any employee of Chase County Schools with sick leave benefits (hereafter referred to as member) may voluntarily participate in the SLB. Days donated to the SLB may not be withdrawn if the member decides to withdraw membership from the plan at a later date.

**Membership:** Membership will be taken only during the first five working days of the contractual year. Newly hired employees will be eligible to enroll during their first five working days. **THIS WAS EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER FOR THIS INITIAL YEAR.**

**To become an eligible member, an employee must donate one (1) day of sick leave at the beginning of each school year.** Once the SLB reaches 50, and the balance in the SLB falls below 50 days, each member with available days will be required to donate one additional day. The maximum number of days in the bank will be 200 days. Each employee will be required to enroll/waive in writing, at the beginning of each contract year, membership in the SLB.

**Application for SLB Day usage:** Eligibility for an employee to receive sick leave days will be granted by a committee consisting of the Human Resource secretary, the employee's principal, and a representative of the Imperial Education Association. The employee will submit their request, consisting of an explanation of the serious medical condition substantiated by a signed statement from the physician with an estimation of the number of days leave the employee will need. The physician's explanation must be submitted in writing and dated within 14 days of the employee's request for leave. The committee may waive the 14-day requirement upon a showing of good cause.

**Guidelines:** The following are the specific guidelines which the SLB committee will use when determining the merit of an application and the distribution of SLB days.

1. Participation in the SLB is on a voluntary basis. The donating employee may not receive compensation in any form for the donation of sick leave.
2. The applicant's own paid leave accumulation must be exhausted before the applicant is eligible to draw from the SLB.
3. SLB days will only be granted for circumstances which require five or more full school/work

days of consecutive absences.

4. No applicant will be granted more than 30 days per 12-month period.
5. Individuals who use the maximum number of SLB days within a 12-month period are not eligible for SLB day usage for one full calendar year.
6. Maternity leave shall not be included as part of the SLB unless medically necessary and accompanied by physician's documentation.
7. SLB days will not be used in lieu of disability retirement.
8. SLB will not be granted for elective surgery that could be scheduled during designated vacation periods or for treatment plans that could be scheduled outside the normal work hours.
9. Members who are receiving temporary disability payments from the Workers' Compensation Insurance Fund, Short-term Disability, or Long-term Disability are not eligible to receive SLB days.
10. Members who are receiving payments from a third party as a result of an accidental bodily injury or sickness caused by the negligence or wrong doing of a third party shall not be eligible to receive SLB days.
11. Approved SLB days will be granted to the member at their usual daily rate of pay. No member shall receive more than his or her annual salary as a result of SLB assistance.
12. All granted, but unused days must be returned to the SLB. The member will receive written verification from the Human Resource secretary if unused days are returned to the SLB.
13. Employees may not receive SBL for disability incurred in the course of the commission of a felony (including driving while impaired) or assault.

Date of Adoption: August 13, 2019

Business OperationsPurchasing Policies

The Superintendent shall ensure that all purchases are made in the interest of economy and efficiency. Where necessary, standards and procedures shall be established to accomplish the following policies of the Board of Education:

1. Purchases up to \$15,000. For the greatest efficiency in expediting purchases, the administration shall be authorized to purchase any item specifically budgeted which has a sale price within the established limit.
2. Purchases from \$15,000 up to \$100,000. The Superintendent shall request the submission of proposals for purchases which have a sale price within the established limit. The Superintendent shall receive and evaluate all proposals in making a recommendation to the Board of Education for acceptance. The Board of Education may review all proposals submitted relating to the recommended purchase. Since this is a proposal system, not a bidding process, the school district in no way shall be obligated to arbitrarily award the contract to the lowest proposal, but shall reserve the right to reject any and all proposals or to waive any informality in any proposal it deems advisable, and to award to the proposer which, in its opinion, is most desirable.
3. Purchases of \$100,000 and above. The Superintendent shall advertise for sealed bids which shall be opened in conformity with any applicable laws and in compliance with any procedures established by the Superintendent. The Board retains the right to determine the responsibility of the bidders, and shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications, be the bidder a member or apart from the local community.
4. Any school employee who orders any supplies or equipment outside of that which has been included in the annual budget and without written authorization of the principal or superintendent shall be personally liable for payment for the supplies or equipment purchased.
5. School employees or students purchasing supplies and equipment out of an activity account must first secure a purchase order from the principal authorizing the purchase. Failure to do so will cause the person to be personally liable for payment for the supplies or equipment purchased.
6. The District need not comply with the bidding requirements if the District purchases property from the Nebraska State Purchasing Bureau, so long as the Nebraska State Purchasing Bureau competitively bid the purchase of property.

Credit Card Purchasing Program

1. The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent or designee to contract with one or more financial institutions, card-issuing banks, credit card companies, charge card companies, debit card companies, or third-party merchant banks capable of operating a purchasing card program on behalf of the District.
2. The Board of Education delegates to the Superintendent or designee: (a) the determination of the type of purchasing card or cards to be utilized in the District's purchasing card program; and (b) the determination of which employees shall be approved or disapproved to be assigned a purchasing card in the District's purchasing card program. The Superintendent shall submit the approved names to the Board, from time to time.
3. The District's purchasing card program may only be utilized for the purchase of goods and services for and on behalf of the District. No officer or employee of the District shall use a purchasing card for any unauthorized use.
4. An itemized receipt for purposes of tracking expenditures shall accompany all purchasing card purchases. In the event that a receipt does not accompany an authorized cardholder's purchase, the Superintendent or designee shall temporarily or permanently suspend said cardholder's purchasing card privileges.
5. Upon the termination or suspension of employment of an individual using a purchasing card, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately close such individual's purchasing card account and said employee shall immediately return the purchasing card.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-610

Date of Adoption: 09/11/18

Business OperationsProcurement Plan – School Food Authorities

The following procurement policy statement shall govern all purchasing activities that relate to any aspect of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. This statement is meant to provide guidance to our personnel and vendors on acceptable and/or required procurement practices. Our goal is to fully implement all required and recommended procurement rules, regulations and policies set forth in 2 CFR 200, 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and 3019, and by the State Agency.

**Procurement Policy**

The purchasing procedure to be followed shall be determined by the anticipated total annual expenditure on items related to the food service program:

- When the annual total for food service program related items is less than \$250,000 (small purchase threshold) ~~per year~~ per procurement event or in aggregate purchases this organization will follow the informal Small Purchase Procedures.
- When the annual total for food service program related items is greater than \$250,000 (small purchase threshold) per year per procurement event or in aggregate purchases this organization will follow the Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures.

Micro-Purchase Procedures

Micro-Purchases may be used for ~~annual transactions~~ single purchases under \$~~10,000~~<sup>3,500</sup> made with a vendor [2 CFR 200.320(a)].

Prices will be reviewed for reasonableness [2 CFR 200.320(a)].

Purchases will be spread equitably among all qualified sources [2 CFR 200.320(a)].

Small Purchase Procedures

For purchases made below the small purchase threshold, Small Purchase Procedures will be utilized to purchase necessary goods and services. When Small Purchase Procedures are used, this organization will take the following steps:

1. Contact a ~~minimum of three potential vendors~~ reasonable number of qualified vendors.
2. Write specifications for goods and services.
- 2.3. Document each vendor's quoted price. (ex. log sheet)
3. Select the company that provides the lowest, most responsive, and responsible bid.
4. ~~Inform all bidding companies in writing of the final decision made by the sponsor~~ Document supplier who was awarded the quote.
5. ~~Write contract for meal service between the sponsor and the winning bidder.~~ Manage orders by confirming product and prices match quotes.

### Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures

For purchases made in excess of the small purchase threshold, a Formal Competitive Solicitation will be conducted. When Formal Competitive Solicitation Procedures are used, this organization will take the following steps:

1. Prepare an Invitation for Bid (“IFB”) or Request for Proposal (“RFP”) document specifically addressing the items to be procured
  - a. Include detailed specifications
  - b. Ensure price will be most heavily weighted
2. Publicly announce and advertise the bid/proposal at least 21 calendar days prior to bid opening
  - a. Announcements will include the date, time and location in which bids will be opened
3. Determine the most responsive and responsible bid/proposal by using the selection criteria set forth in the bid/proposal document
  - a. Responsible bidders will be those whose bid/proposal conform to all of the terms, conditions and requirements of the IFB/RFP
  - b. Responsible bidders will be those who are capable of performing successfully under the terms and conditions of the contract.**
4. Award the contract
  - a. To the most responsive and responsible bidder based on the criteria set forth in the IFB/RFP
  - b. At least two weeks before program operations begin
  - c. If a protest is received, it must be handled in accordance with 7 CFR 210.21
5. Retain all records pertaining to the formal competitive bid process for a period of five years plus the current year

(Note: If the ~~bid~~ small purchase threshold established in the sponsor’s procurement policy statement is less than \$150,000, the smaller bid threshold will govern.)

### Procurement Summary

This organization incorporates the following elements into the Procurement Policy Statement, as required by 2 CFR 200 and 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and 3019.

- A. Competition: We shall demonstrate our goods and services are procured in an openly competitive manner. Competition will not be unreasonably restricted. [7 CFR 210.21(c)(1)] [2 CFR Part 200.319(a)(1-7)]
- B. Comparability: We recognize for true competition to take place, we must maintain reasonable product specifications to adequately describe the products to be purchased and the volume of planned purchases based upon pre-planned menu cycles. [2 CFR 200.319(a)(6)/7 CFR 3016.36(e)(3)(i)/7 CFR 3019.44(a)(3)(iv)]
- C. Documentation: We shall maintain for the current year and the preceding three years all ~~menus, production records, invitations to bid, bid results, bid tabulations or any other~~

significant materials that will serve to document our policies and procedures. [2 CFR 200.318(i)/7 CFR 3016.36(9)]

- D. Code of Conduct: This program shall be governed by the attached Code of Conduct and it shall apply to all personnel, employees, directors, agents, officers, volunteers or any person(s) acting in any capacity concerning the food service procurement program. [2 CFR 200.318(c)(1)/7 CFR 3016.36(3)(1-1 v)]
- E. ~~Procurement Review Process: This procurement plan shall receive an internal program review on an annual basis by a staff person who is not associated with food service procurement process. This review shall be summarized in written form and kept with the other required program documentation.~~
- F. Contract Administration: Purchases shall be checked or verified by designated staff to assure that all goods and services are received and prices verified. All invoices and receipts shall be signed, dated, and maintained in the documentation file. [2 CFR Part 200.318(b)] [7 CFR Part 3016.36(b)(2)]
- G. General Requirements:
1. Small, minority and women's businesses enterprises and labor surplus firms are used when possible. [2 CFR 200.321]
  2. Ensure compliance with the Buy American Provision when purchasing food 7 CRF 210.21(d).
  - 2-3. A cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of the ~~Simplified Acquisition~~ Small Purchase Threshold including contract modifications. [2 CFR 200.323(a)]
  - 3-4. Documented Procurement Procedures and activities will be maintained. [2 CFR 200.318(a)]
- H. Duties of Food Service Supervisor:
1. ~~To work with staff and clients in developing acceptable menus for breakfast and lunch.~~ Plan the goods or services needed for the school food service program for the school year based on planned menus through needs assessment, forecasting and budgeting.
  2. ~~To compile market orders or requisitions for purchases which accurately reflect the total quantities of required foods to be ordered per (day, week or month).~~ Develop written specifications for food/supplies needed. Include details such as descriptions and product requirements (e.g. packaging, weight, pack size, etc.) for needed goods or services.
  3. ~~To place and confirm orders with vendors, or make plans to purchase the required items.~~ Compare product specifications among all vendors/contractors. Information for prices obtained from grocery stores, farmer's markets, etc.

4. ~~To keep program menus up to date by testing and using new products and seeking feedback from staff and clients.~~  
Make procurement awards based on the lowest and best vendor's response as determined by quality, availability, service, and price.
5. ~~To send out bid quotation forms to vendors who have expressed an interest in doing business with the sponsor.~~  
Place and confirm orders with vendors or make plans to purchase the required items.
6. To make procurement awards based on the lowest and best vendor's response as determined by quality, availability, service and price.
7. To work with vendors on a fair and equal basis.
8. ~~To develop a list of acceptable brands. (Multiple brands per bid item when possible.)~~
9. To conduct an in-house procurement review once per year.

Date of Adoption: July 10, 2017

Personnel - All EmployeesWage Information

The District will not terminate or retaliate against any employee for inquiring about or sharing compensation information for the purpose of determining whether the District gives equal pay for equal work. However, an employee with authorized access to wage information as part of their job function, who discloses the wages of other employees to those who do not have authorized access to other employees' compensation information, may be disciplined for such disclosure, up to and including termination, unless the disclosure is made in response to a complaint or investigation proceeding, hearing or other similar action.

Legal Reference: LB 217 (2019)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsAdmission RequirementsMinimum Age:

A child shall be eligible for admission into kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if the child is five years of age or will be five years of age on or before July 31 of the calendar year in which the school year for which the child is seeking admission begins. The School Board shall admit a child who will reach the age of five years on or after August 1 and on or before October 15 of such school year if the parent or guardian requests such entrance and provides an affidavit stating that (i) the child attended kindergarten in another jurisdiction in the current school year; (ii) the family anticipates a relocation to another jurisdiction that would allow admission within the current year; or (iii) the child is capable of carrying the work of kindergarten which can be demonstrated through a recognized assessment procedure approved by the Board.

Early Admission to Kindergarten:

The following assessment procedure for determining if a child is capable of carrying the work of kindergarten is approved and shall be made available to interested persons:

Early kindergarten enrollment exceptions may be made for younger children who are intellectually advanced. At a minimum, eligibility for the admission shall be based upon an analysis of the child's: (1) mental ability, (2) emotional/social development, (3) pre academic skills, and (4) fine motor skills.

The kindergarten early entrance assessment procedures are designed to identify and place in kindergarten those children who:

- a. will turn 5 years of age between August 1 and October 15;
- b. are deemed by parents or guardians as being intellectually advanced and likely to benefit from advanced grade placement; and
- c. are selected on the basis of testing by professionals trained and certified to administer the assessments that will produce evidence of strength in:
  1. mental ability defined as scoring 84th percentile or above on a standardized assessment of cognitive ability such as the Wechsler Pre Primary Scale of Intelligence III, or the Stanford-Binet V;
  2. a test of emotional/social development such as the Behavior Assessment System for Children, Second Edition (BASC-2);
  3. 75th percentile or greater on a test of pre academic skills such as the Woodcock Johnson III; and
  4. a test of fine motor ability, scoring 75th percentile or above on a standardized measurement such as the Beery VMI.

In the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, the assessments may be administered by the School District's professional staff, or the parents or guardians may be required, at their own expense, to have all or some of the required assessments completed by reputable professionals and to submit the results of such assessments to the School District.

The decision regarding early entrance to kindergarten requires careful consideration of all factors that affect kindergarten success with final determination to be made based on the recommendation of the District Evaluation Team, to be composed of such individuals as the Superintendent or designee determine appropriate. The academic, social, and emotional readiness, as well as the student's physical development and well-being, must be weighed with institutional factors also considered. Sound decision making in the area of early entrance to kindergarten is dependent upon reliable information regarding a student's readiness and a thoughtful balancing of the myriad of factors implicated by the decision. Parents will be notified in writing of the results of the Early Kindergarten Entrance assessment and the determination of the District Evaluation Team in a timely fashion; not to exceed three weeks after the assessments are completed.

Families who seek early admission of their child into kindergarten must obtain an *Early Entrance to Kindergarten Packet* from the School District Administrative.

Parents must fill out the early entrance application forms, which include a parent questionnaire and obtain and attach a reference letter from someone who is well acquainted with the child but not a relative of the child. The person providing this reference should know the child well enough that they can speak with some expertise about the child's attributes and abilities. The reference letter should indicate whether this person recommends the child be schooled with children who will be a year older than the child and, if so, the evidence this person has concerning the child's mental ability, fine and gross motor ability, visual and auditory discrimination, emotional/social development, and communication skills. Suggestions for this reference letter are a preschool teacher, a Sunday school teacher, a day-care provider, or a physician.

The assessment request, reference letter and parent questionnaire must be completed and returned to the District no later than May 25th of the spring before fall enrollment to allow summer assessment to be completed.

Decisions regarding early kindergarten entrance must include consideration of the above and shall not be made based on race, color, gender, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, age, disability, or sexual orientation of the child or the child's parents or guardians. Institutional factors, such as capacity, may also be considered.

Admission to First Grade:

A child may be eligible to enter first grade, even if the child has not attended kindergarten, if the child is six years of age or will be six years of age on or before October 15 of the current school year and school officials determine that first grade is the appropriate placement for the child.

Graduates:

A student who has received a high school diploma or received a General Equivalency Diploma shall not be eligible for admission or continued enrollment.

Age 21:

A student shall not be admitted or continued in enrollment after the end of the school year in which the student reaches the age of 21. The school year for this purpose ends at the last day of instruction for graduating seniors.

Birth Certificate, Physical, Visual Evaluation and Immunization:

The parents or legal guardian shall furnish:

- (1) A certified copy of the student's birth certificate issued by the state in which the child was born, upon admission of a child for the first time, shall be provided within 30 days of enrollment. Other reliable proof of the child's identify and age, accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate, may be used in lieu of a birth certificate. An affidavit is defined as a notarized statement by an individual who can verify the reason a copy of the birth certificate cannot be produced. (Failure to provide the birth certificate does not result in non-enrollment or disenrollment, but does result in a referral to local law enforcement for investigation).
- (2) Evidence of a physical examination by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, within six months prior to the entrance of the child into the beginner grade and the seventh grade or, in the case of a transfer from out of state, to any other grade, unless the parent or legal guardian submits a written statement objecting to a physical examination.
- (3) Evidence of a visual evaluation by a physician, a physician assistant, an advanced practice registered nurse, or an optometrist, within six months prior to the entrance of the child into the beginner grade or, in the case of a transfer from out of state, to any other grade, unless the parent or legal guardian submits a written statement objecting to a visual evaluation. The visual evaluation is to consist of testing for amblyopia, strabismus, and internal and external eye health, with testing sufficient to determine visual acuity.
- (4) Evidence of protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella, Hepatitis B, Varicella (chicken pox), Haemophilus Influenzae type b (Hib), invasive pneumococcal disease and other diseases as required by applicable law, by immunization, prior to enrollment, unless the parent or legal guardian submits a written statement that establishes than an exception to the immunization requirements are met.
- (5) Every student entering the seventh grade shall have a booster immunization containing diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and an acellular pertussis vaccine which meets the standards approved by the United States Public Health Service for such biological products, as such standards existed on January 1, 2009.

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall notify the parent or guardian in writing of the foregoing requirements and of the right to submit affidavits or statements to object to the requirements, as applicable. The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall also provide a

telephone number or other contact information to assist the parent or guardian in receiving information regarding free or reduced-cost visual evaluations for low-income families who qualify.

A student who fails to meet the foregoing requirements shall not be permitted to enroll or to enter school, or if provisionally enrolled or enrolled without compliance, shall not be permitted to continue in school until evidence of compliance or an exemption from compliance is given.

#### Enrollment of Expelled Students

If a student has been expelled from any public school district in any state, or from a private, denominational, or parochial school in any state, and the student has not completed the terms or time period of the expulsion, the student shall not be permitted to enroll in this school district until the expulsion period from such other school has expired, unless the School Board of this school district in its sole and absolute discretion upon a proper application approves by a majority vote the enrollment of such student prior to expiration of the expulsion period. As a condition of enrollment, the School Board may require attendance in an alternative school, class or educational program pursuant to Nebraska law until the terms or time period of the original underlying expulsion are completed. A student expelled from a private, denominational, or parochial school or from any public school in another state, will not be prohibited from enrolling in the public school district in which the student resides or in which the student has been accepted pursuant to the enrollment option program for any period of time beyond the time limits placed on expulsion, pursuant to the Student Discipline Act, or for any expulsion for an offense for which expulsion is not authorized for a public school student under such Act. For purposes of this policy, the term expulsion or expelled includes any removal from any school for a period in excess of twenty (20) school days.

#### Military Families

If a parent presents evidence to the District of military orders that military family will be stationed in the State of Nebraska during the current or following school year, the District will enroll preliminarily the parent's students.

Legal Reference:      Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 43-2001 to 43-2012  
                              Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-214  
                              Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-217 to 79-223  
                              Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-266.01  
                              173 NAC Chapters 3 and 4 (HHS Regulations)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsMilitary Recruiters

The District will provide access to routine directory information to each student in a high school grade upon a request made by a military recruiter, unless the student's parent or guardian has submitted a written request that the student's information not be shared with a military recruiter. The District will provide military recruiters with the same access to a student in a high school grade as the District provides to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

If a parent or guardian does not want his or her student's information to be provided to a military recruiter, the parent must submit a written request to the Superintendent.

Legal Reference: LB 575 (2019)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsStudent Discipline

- A. Development of Uniform Discipline System. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to develop and maintain a system of uniform discipline. The discipline which may be imposed includes actions which are determined to be reasonably necessary to aid the student, to further school purposes, or to prevent interference with the educational process, such as (without limitation) counseling and warning students, parent contacts and parent conferences, 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 upon written consent of the parent or guardian, or in-school suspension. The discipline may also include out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term) and expulsion.
1. Short-Term Suspension: Students may be excluded by the Principal or the Principal's designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:
- a. Conduct that constitutes grounds for expulsion, whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds; or
  - b. 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:

- a. The Principal or the Principal's designee will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. A short-term suspension will be made upon a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
- b. 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 the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
- c. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal or administrator 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.
- d. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal or administrator ordering

the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal or administrator shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian is to attend the conference.

- e. A student who on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal.
2. Long-Term Suspension: A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days. A student who on a long-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends a long-term suspension. The notice will include a description of the procedures for long-term suspension; the procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.
  3. Expulsion:
    - a. 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. A student who has been expelled shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends an expulsion. The notice will include a description of the procedures for expulsion; the procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.
    - b. Suspensions Pending Hearing. 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 no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the superintendent, 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.

- c. 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 in accordance with law.
  - d. Alternative Education: Students who are expelled may be provided an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. In the event an alternative education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent, student, the Principal or another school representative assigned by the Principal, and a representative of a community organization that assists young people or that is involved with juvenile justice to develop a plan for the student in accordance with law.
  - e. 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. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parents will be required to sign a discipline agreement.
  - f. Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation. Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than nineteen years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to the order of the District Court, County Court, or Juvenile Court, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the Principal or the Principal’s designee shall meet with the student’s probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the Principal or the Principal’s designee are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.
4. **Emergency Exclusion**: A student may be excluded from school in the following circumstances:

- a. If the student has a dangerous communicable disease transmissible through normal school contacts and poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of the school community; or
- b. If the student's conduct presents a clear threat to the physical safety of himself, herself, or others, or is so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education.

Any emergency exclusion shall be based upon a clear factual situation warranting it and shall last no longer than is necessary to avoid the dangers described above.

If the emergency exclusion will be for five school days or less, the procedures for a short-term suspension shall be followed. If the Superintendent or his or her designee determines that an emergency exclusion shall extend beyond five days, a hearing is to be held and a final determination made within ten school days after the initial date of exclusion. Such procedures shall substantially comply with the procedures set forth in this policy for a long-term suspension or expulsion, and be modified only to the extent necessary to accomplish the hearing and determination within this shorter time period.

5. Other Forms of Student Discipline: Administrative and teaching personnel may also take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but are not limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, 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. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, 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.
- B. Student Conduct Expectations. Students are not to engage in conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school function, activity or purpose or interfere with the health, safety, well being or rights of other students, staff or visitors.
  - C. Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment. The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, and any other lesser forms of discipline. The conduct is subject to the

consequence of long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes or making any communication that a reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including any school employee, school volunteer, or 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.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks.
7. Engaging in selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), electronic nicotine delivery systems, alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" 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 or illegal substances 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.
8. Public indecency or sexual conduct.
9. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school

- employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.
10. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.
  11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if the conduct creates or had the potential to create a substantial interference with school purposes, such as the use of the telephone or internet off-school grounds to threaten.
  12. A repeated violation of any rules established by the school district or school officials if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes.
  13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
  14. 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, gender, disability, national origin, or religion.
  15. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
  16. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for riding school buses or vehicles.
  17. A student who engages in the following conduct shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, with the condition that such action may be modified or terminated by the school district during the expulsion period on such terms as the administration may establish:
    - a. The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
    - b. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon other than a firearm.

18. Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one calendar year. "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995. That statute includes the following statement: "The term 'firearm' means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device." The Superintendent may modify such one year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Bringing a firearm or other dangerous weapon to school for any reason is discouraged; however, a student will not be subject to disciplinary action if the item is brought or possessed under the following conditions:

- a. Prior written permission to bring the firearm or other dangerous weapon to school is obtained from the student's teacher, building administrator and parent.
- b. The purpose of having the firearm or other dangerous weapon in school is for a legitimate educational function.
- c. A plan for its transportation into and from the school, its storage while in the school building and how it will be displayed must be developed with the prior written approval by the teacher and building administrator. Such plan shall require that such item will be in the possession of an adult staff member at all times except for such limited time as is necessary to fulfill the educational function.
- d. The firearm or other dangerous weapon shall be in an inoperable condition while it is on school grounds.

- D. Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline. The following additional student conduct expectations are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct 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, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

1. Student Appearance: Students are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. Following is a list of examples of attire that will not be considered appropriate, such list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting:

- a. Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or underwear (midriffs, spaghetti straps, sagging pants) or clothing that is too tight, revealing or baggy, or tops and bottoms that do not overlap or any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through, or otherwise of an appropriate size and fit so as to be revealing or drag on the ground.
- b. Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
- c. Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse-play” or that would damage property (e.g. cleats).
- d. Head wear including hats, caps, bandannas, scarves, and headphones.
- e. Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
- f. Clothing or jewelry that is gang related.
- g. Visible body piercing (other than ears).

Consideration will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or to convey a particularized message protected by law. The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the Principal or Superintendent. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school’s guidelines, the student should contact the Principal for approval, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the Principal’s office.

Coaches, sponsors or teachers may have additional requirements for students who are in special lab classes, students who are participants in performing groups or students who are representing the school as part of an extracurricular activity program.

On a first offense of the dress code, the student may call home for proper apparel. If clothes cannot be brought to school, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day. Students will not be allowed to leave campus to change clothes. Continual violations of the dress code will result in more stringent disciplinary actions, up to expulsion. Further, in the event the dress code violation is determined to also violate other student conduct rules (e.g., public indecency, insubordination, expression of profanity, and the like), a first offense of the dress code may result in more stringent discipline, up to expulsion.

2. Academic Integrity.

- a. Policy Statement: Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity established by their teachers and school administration. Standards of academic integrity are established in order for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student’s level of learning and progress, to

provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values.

Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

- b. Definitions: The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:
- (1) “Cheating” means intentionally misrepresenting the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
    - (a) Tests (includes tests, quizzes and other examinations or academic performances):
      - (i) Advance Information: Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.
      - (ii) Use of Unauthorized Materials: Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formulae in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for “open book” tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.
      - (iii) Use of Other Student Answers: Copying or looking at another student’s answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student, when taking a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student’s paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student’s answers on the test paper.
      - (iv) Use of Other Student to Take Test. Having another person take one’s place for a test, or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.

- (v) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student was not prepared for the test.
  
- (b) Papers (includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work):
  - i) Use of Another's Paper: Copying another student's paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
  - (ii) Re-use of One's Own Papers: Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.
  - (iii) Assistance from Others: Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent or sibling, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student's parent or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's.
  - (iv) Failure to Contribute to Group Projects. Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.
  - (v) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.
  
- (c) Alteration of Assigned Grades. Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.

- (2) “Plagiarism” means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
- (a) Failure to Credit Sources: Copying work (words, sentences, and paragraphs or illustrations or models) directly from the work of another without proper credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.
  - (b) Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own: Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source, such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper.
- (3) “Contributing” to academic integrity violations means to participate in or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes but is not limited to allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.
- c. Sanctions: The following sanctions will occur when a student engages in cheating, plagiarism, or contributing to an academic integrity offense:
- (1) Academic Sanction. The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the academic integrity offense took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete a test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement test or project at a level meeting minimum performance standards, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work.
  - (2) Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense and the instructor or Principal will notify the student's parents or guardian.
  - (3) Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

3. Electronic Devices

- a. Philosophy and Purpose. The District strongly discourages students from bringing and/or using electronic devices at school. The use of electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and are items that are frequently lost or stolen. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, the District hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices.
- b. Definitions.
- (1) “Electronic devices” include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, lap top computers, and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another.
  - (2) “Sexting” means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video or other medium that:
    - (i) Displays sexual content, including erotic nudity, any display of genitalia, unclothed female breasts, or unclothed buttocks, or any sexually explicit conduct as defined at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02; or
    - (ii) Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or distribution of the message, photograph or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or,
    - (iii) Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.
- c. Possession and Use of Electronic Devices.
- (1) Students are not permitted to possess or use any electronic devices during class time or during passing time except as otherwise provided by this policy. Cell phone usage is strictly prohibited during any class period; including voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging.
  - (2) Students are permitted to possess and use electronic devices before school hours, at lunch time, and after school hours, provided that the student not commit any abusive use of the device (see paragraph (d)(1). Administrators have the discretion to prohibit

student possession or use of electronic devices on school grounds during these times in the event the administration determines such further restrictions are appropriate; an announcement will be given in the event of such a change in permitted use.

- (3) Electronic devices may be used during class time when specifically approved by the teacher or a school administrator in conjunction with appropriate and authorized class or school activities or events (i.e., student use of a camera during a photography class; student use of a lap top computer for a class presentation).
- (4) Students may use electronic devices during class time when authorized pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or a Health Care Plan, or pursuant to a plan developed with the student's parent when the student has a compelling need to have the device (e.g., a student whose parent is in the hospital could be allowed limited use of the cell phone for family contacts, so the family can give the student updates on the parent's condition).

d. Violations

- (1) Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students shall not use electronic devices for: (a) activities which disrupt the educational environment; (b) illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations; (c) unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests; (d) immoral or pornographic activities; (e) activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment; (f) recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) or otherwise transmitting images and/or sounds of another person or persons without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public; (g) "sexting;" or (h) activities which invade the privacy of others. Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.
- (2) Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Devices: Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time. If an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to the school's main office to be identified, placed in a secure area, and returned to the student and/or the student's parent/guardian in a consistent and orderly way.
  - (i) First Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action,

consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

- (ii) **Second Violation:** Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
  - (iii) **Third Violation:** Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration, a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal, and suspension of the student from school. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
- (3) Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students who receive a "sexting" message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in sexting or have any "sexting" message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, provided that at a minimum the following penalties shall be imposed:
- (i) Students found in possession of a "sexting" message shall be subject to a one (1) day suspension from school.
  - (ii) Students who send or encourage another to send a "sexting" message shall be subject to a five (5) day suspension from school.

- (4) Reporting to Law Enforcement: Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.
- e. Responsibility for Electronic Devices. Students or their parents/guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, students and parents authorize the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the end of each semester. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of students' electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.
- E. Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (IPDA): Students are not to engage in inappropriate public displays of affection on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes kissing, touching, fondling or other displays of affection that would be reasonably considered to be embarrassing or a distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences for IPDA:
1. 1st Offense: Student will be confronted and directed to cease.
  2. 2nd Offense: Student will be confronted, directed to cease, and parents will be notified.
  3. 3rd Offense: Student will be suspended from school for a minimum of 1 day, and parents and student will need to meet with Administrator(s) and/or counselor.
- If this type of behavior continues, or if the IPDA is lewd or constitutes sexual conduct, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.
- F. Specific Rule Items: The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which, in the repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion:
1. Students are not given locker passes, restroom passes or telephone passes to leave a classroom or study hall unless special circumstances arise.
  2. Students in the hallway during class time must have a pass with them.
  3. Gum, candy, seeds, etc. are not allowed in the classrooms.
  4. Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class. This includes study halls.
  5. Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by the teacher.
  6. Students are not to operate the mini-blinds or the windows.
  7. Classes are ended by the teacher. Students are not to begin to pack up or leave the class until the dismissal bell has rung or the teacher has dismissed the class.
  8. Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on the tardy bell.
  9. Special classes such as Industrial Technology, Art, P.E., and computer courses will have other safety or clean-up rules that will be explained to students by that teacher which must be followed.

10. Students are not to bring “nuisance items” to school. A nuisance item is something that is not required for educational purposes and which would cause a distraction to the student or others.
11. Students are to stand back from the entry steps and doors in the mornings before school and at noon before the bell so that others may pass in and out of the entry doors.
12. Snow handling is prohibited.

G. Law Violations

1. Any act of a student which is a basis for expulsion and which the principal or designee knows or suspects is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code will be reported to law enforcement as soon as possible. Conduct to be reported for law enforcement referral includes conduct that may constitute a felony, conduct which may constitute a threat to the safety or well-being of students or others in school programs and activities, and conduct that the legal system is better equipped to address than school officials. Conduct that does not need to be reported for law enforcement referral includes typical adolescent behavior that can be addressed by school administrators without the involvement of law enforcement. In making the decision of whether to report, consideration should be given to the student’s maturity, mental capacity, and behavioral disorders, where applicable. When appropriate, it shall be the responsibility of the referring administrator to contact the student’s parent of the fact that the referral to legal authorities has been or will be made.  
The foregoing reporting standards shall be reviewed annually by the school board on or before August 1 of each year, be annually reviewed in collaboration with the County Attorney each year, be distributed to each student and his or her parent or guardian at the beginning of each school year, or at the time of enrollment if during the school year, and shall be posted in conspicuous places in each school during the school year.
2. When a principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (e.g., police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the principal or other school official shall take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken, except when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, in which case the principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.
- 3.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. sections 79-254 to 79-296

Date of Adoption: August 14, 2018

StudentsExtracurricular Activity**Section 1 Extracurricular Activity Philosophy**

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provide experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests. Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens.

Safety

The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common-sense.

Warning for Participants and Parents

The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

**Section 2 Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct**

Purpose of the Code of Conduct. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the school district's policies, procedures and rules.

**Scope of the Code of Conduct.**

Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct: The Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school.

Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to: all sports, cheerleading, Pep Club, Pep Band, vocal, band, speech and drama, One-Act, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, Spanish Club, Art Club, Student Council, Student Advisory Board, National Honor Society, and other school sponsored organizations and activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities.

A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

When: The Code of Conduct rules apply to conduct which occurs at any time during the school year, and also includes the time frame which begins with the official starting day of the fall sport season established by the NSAA and extends to the last day of the spring sport season established by the NSAA, whether or not the student is a participant in an activity at the time of such conduct.

The rules also apply when a student is participating or scheduled to participate in an extracurricular activity that is held outside the school year or the NSAA season. For example, if an FBLA or FCCLA student plans to participate in a conference in July and commits a Code of Conduct infraction in June, the student may be suspended from participating in the conference. Conduct during the summer months may also affect a student's participation under the team selection and playing time guidelines.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event, or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

**Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline.** Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, bullying, harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in an manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules.
7. Engaging in selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as

- e-cigarettes), electronic nicotine delivery systems, alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" 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 or illegal substances 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.
8. Public indecency.
  9. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.
  10. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals.
  11. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.
  12. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
  13. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. 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, gender, national origin, or religion.
  14. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
  15. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Chase County Schools' buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.
  16. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or the supervisor.
  17. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event.
  18. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting.
  19. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations in writing.

20. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

### **Drug and Alcohol Violations.**

#### Meaning of Terms.

Use or consume includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation.

Under the influence means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

Possession includes having control of the substance and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:

- (1) Alcohol is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the alcohol is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol; and
- (2) Alcohol is present at a party attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that alcohol is at the party and fails to immediately leave the party, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol.

In these situations, a violation would not exist if the alcohol is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the alcohol. A violation would also not exist if the student did not know or have a reasonable basis to know that alcohol would be present, and the student leaves the location where the alcohol is present as soon the student could safely do so. (Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who has been drinking just to get away from the alcohol party immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the alcohol).

### **Consequences.**

Students may be suspended from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in co-curricular activities for violations of the Code of Conduct. The period of suspension or other discipline for such offenses shall be determined by the school administration.

The disciplinary consequence will be determined based on consideration of the seriousness of the offense, any prior violations, the student's compliance with the self-reporting obligations, the student's level of cooperation and willingness to resolve the matter, and the student's demonstration of a commitment to not commit future violations.

Because of the significance of drug and alcohol violations on the student participants, other students and the school, the following consequences are established for such violations:

### **Drugs and Alcohol.**

An activity participant who violates the drug or alcohol rules (other than steroids) shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: 20 school days or a minimum of the next (1) school activity.
2. Second Offense: 40 school days or a minimum of the next two school activities.
3. Third Violation: Student will be ineligible for the remainder of current school year.
4. Reduction for Self-Reporting: If the student has self-reported, the penalty will be reduced to 10 school days for the first offense and 20 school days for subsequent offenses. Minimum missed activities will not be reduced.
5. Reduction for Participation in Chemical Dependency Program: If the student and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency, the consequence will be reduced to only the next activity in which the student was to participate (including at least one contest) in the case of a first violation, and to a commensurate reduction (approximately 80%, as determined by the administration, for a second or subsequent violation).  
The program must be administered by a certified alcohol and drug abuse counselor and be approved by the school authorities. The student will need to successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program. Proof of successful completion of program must be submitted in writing to the Activities Director. Failure to participate and successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program may cause the participating student to be suspended from extracurricular activities for one calendar year. All costs associated with the program are to be borne by the student/parent or guardian.
6. More Serious Violations: In the event of more serious drug or alcohol violations, such as students engaging in use of especially serious drug offenses (cocaine, meth, etc.) or procuring alcohol for minors, the consequence of the violation is not limited by the foregoing, and may be established in the good discretion of the administration.

**Steroid Offenses.** A student who possesses, dispenses, delivers, or administers anabolic steroids shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: 45 consecutive days.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: One calendar year.

**When Suspensions Begin.** All suspensions begin with the next scheduled activity in which the student is a participant, after the determination by school officials of the sanction to be imposed; provided that the school officials shall have the discretion to establish a time period for the suspension that makes the suspension have a real consequence for the student. During a suspension, participants may be required or permitted to practice at the sole discretion of the coach or activity sponsor. Suspensions in the Spring will be carried over to the Fall when the suspension has not been fully served or when determined appropriate for the suspension to have a real consequence for the student.

**Letters and Post-Season Honors.** A student who commits a Code of Conduct violation is:

1. Eligible to letter, provided the student meets the criteria of the coach or sponsor.
2. Not eligible to receive honors during the sport or activity in which they are participating at the time of the offense and/or in sports or activities in which they have been suspended due to a code violation. The coach/sponsor, with the Athletic Director's approval, may make an exception where the student has self-reported or otherwise demonstrated excellence in character allowing for such honors.

**Self-Reporting.** A student who violates the Code of Conduct must self-report. A failure to self-report will lead to a longer suspension or other discipline. The self-report must be made to: the principal, athletic director, or the head coach or sponsor of an activity in which the student participates. The student's parent or guardian may initiate the self-reporting process, but the student will be later required to give a written statement of the self-report. The self-report must be made the earlier of: (1) before the end of the next school day after the conduct occurred and (2) before participation in an extracurricular or co-curricular activity.

In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct, and will be required to put this information in a written statement. In the event the student has received a criminal citation, charge, or ticket, and proclaims innocence of a violation, the student will be required to self-report such offense and provide information as to why they should be found innocent, not as it relates to the criminal offense, but as it relates to the Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or activity sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants with the Code of Conduct or eligibility conditions for participation in activities, the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

**Determining a Violation Has Occurred.** A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

1. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist.

2. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by the juvenile court.
3. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct.
4. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable.
5. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

**Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline.** The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities:

1. Investigation. The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
2. Meeting. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.
  - a. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct. Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
  - b. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting can not reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
3. Notice Letter. Within two school days (two business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Athletic Director or the Athletic Director's designee will send a written statement to the student and the student's parents or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed. The student and parents or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
4. Informal Hearing Before Superintendent. The student or student's parent/guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Athletic Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.

- a. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian. A form will be provided with the notice letter or otherwise be made available by request from the Principal's office.
- b. The request for a hearing must be received by the Superintendent's office within five days of receipt of the notice letter.
- c. If a hearing is requested:
  - i. The hearing will be held within ten calendar days of receipt of the request; subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
  - ii. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.
  - iii. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five school days (ten calendar days if school is not in session). The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian.
  - iv. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent/guardian.
5. No Stay of Penalty. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures
6. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent/guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.

### **Section 3 Attendance**

Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

1. Attend school regularly. Students who have "excessive absences" as determined under the school's attendance policy are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Students who have four or more unexcused absences in the semester of participation will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances.
2. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests the participant should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.
3. On the day of a contest, performance or other activity, be in attendance no later than 11:30 AM. A student who is not in attendance by 11:30 AM is ineligible for the contest, performance, or activity.

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments or family emergencies. The exception must be approved by the Principal or Athletic Director.

Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest. Sleeping in to rest up for the game will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning to play in the contest later that day.

#### **Section 4 Academic Standards**

Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. A student participating in extracurricular school activities must show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement. To be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities, students must:

1. Be enrolled in at least 25 credit hours in the semester of participation.
2. Meet weekly academic eligibility requirements. An ineligible list will be run by 9:00 AM on first school day of the week and be finalized by 9:00 AM the following day. Students failing two or more classes will be deemed ineligible to participate in all school activities starting on Tuesday and remain ineligible until the following Tuesday at Midnight.
3. Academic requirements do not apply to:
  - (A) Instructional field trips which are a part of the scheduled course learning experience; or
  - (B) Activities or events which are a part of the student's grade requirements.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-254 to 79-296

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsDrug and Substance Use and Prevention**Drug-Free Schools**

The District shall implement regulations and practices which will ensure compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and all regulations and rules promulgated pursuant thereto. The District's safe and drug-free schools program is established in accordance with principles of effectiveness as required by law to respond to such harmful effects.

**Education and Prevention**

The District promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs, which will include in the curriculum the teaching of both proper and incorrect use of drugs and alcohol for all students in all grades of this School District. Further, the District will have proper in-service orientation and training for all employed staff.

**Standards of Conduct; Notice to Students and Parents**

Students are to be provided a copy of the standards of conduct for student behavior in the District which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities. It shall be the further policy of the District to keep a file showing receipt of standards of conduct and a statement of disciplinary sanctions that may be taken for violations of such standards of conduct. The receipt shall be signed by both student and parent or guardian and returned to the respective Principal. It shall contain in prominent letters the following language:

"RECEIPT SHALL SERVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU AS PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT ATTENDING CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS HAVE RECEIVED NOTICE OF THE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT OF THIS DISTRICT EXPECTED OF STUDENTS CONCERNING THE ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, USE, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ILLICIT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES OR AS A PART OF ANY OF THE SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED IN BOARD POLICY OR ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION. THIS NOTICE IS BEING PROVIDED TO YOU PURSUANT TO P.L. 101-226 AND 34 C.F.R. PART 86, BOTH FEDERAL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT TO OBTAIN ANY FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. YOUR SIGNATURE ON THIS RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD OR CHILDREN WHO ARE STUDENTS ATTENDING THIS DISTRICT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DISTRICT'S POSITION ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITING THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, USE, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ILLICIT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES OR AS A PART OF THE SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES AS HEREIN ABOVE DESCRIBED AND THAT COMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS IS MANDATORY. ANY NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS CAN AND WILL RESULT IN PUNITIVE

MEASURES BEING TAKEN AGAINST ANY STUDENT FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THESE STANDARDS."

**Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program of the District Pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Laws and Regulations**

Students are to be provided an age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program. The program educates on the adverse effects of the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, with the primary objective being the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students.

**Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs**

Students are to be provided information concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs within sixty miles of the administrative offices of the District or, where no such services are found, within the State of Nebraska. Information concerning such resources shall be presented to all of the students of the District upon request by the counselor.

In the event of disciplinary proceedings against any student for any District policy pertaining to the prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol, appropriate school personnel shall confer with any such student and his or her parents or guardian concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs that appropriate school personnel shall consider to be of benefit to any such student and his or her parent or parents or guardian.

**Safe and Drug-Free Schools-- Parental Notice of Right to Withdraw**

Parents will be notified that, if upon receipt of information regarding the content of safe and drug free school programs and activities other than classroom instruction a parent objects to the participation of their child in such programs and activities, the parent may notify the School District of such objection in writing. Upon the receipt of such notice the student will be withdrawn from the program or activity to which parental objection has been made.

**Standards of Student Conduct Pertaining to the Possession, Use, or Distribution of Illicit Drugs, Alcohol or Tobacco.**

These standards are in addition to standards of student conduct elsewhere adopted by board policy or administrative regulation. The District's standards prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs, alcohol or tobacco on school premises, in school vehicles, or as a part of any of the school's activities on or off school premises. Conduct prohibited at places and activities as hereinabove described shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Possession, use distribution or being under the influence of any controlled substance, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant, or any depressant.
2. Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.
3. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of alcohol.
4. Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any abusable glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, including but not limited

- to lighter fluid, whiteout, and reproduction fluid, when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
5. Possession, use, or distribution of any look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
  6. Possession, use or distribution of any tobacco product.

### **Disciplinary Sanctions**

Violation of any of the above prohibited acts will result in disciplinary sanction being taken within the bounds of applicable law, up to and including short term suspension, long term suspension, expulsion, and referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. In particular, students should be aware that:

1. Violation of these standards may result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and turned over to law enforcement authorities.
3. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment.
4. Parents or legal guardian will be notified.
5. Law enforcement will be notified.
6. If it appears there is imminent danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or students involved, emergency medical services will be contacted. (including electronic nicotine delivery systems).

### **Intervention**

The Chase County School District does not have the authority or responsibility to make medical or health determinations regarding chemical dependency. However, when observed behavior indicates that a problem exists which may affect the student's ability to learn or function in the educational climate or activity, the school then has the right and responsibility to refer the student for a formal chemical dependency diagnosis based on behavior observed by school staff. The school will issue a statement to all students and employed staff that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful. The school shall make available to students and employed staff information about any drug and alcohol counseling, and rehabilitation and re-entry programs, which are available to students.

### **Administration**

The administration is authorized to adopt such administrative rules, regulations or practices necessary to properly implement this policy. Such regulations, rules or practices may vary the procedures set forth herein to the extent necessary to fit the circumstances of an individual situation. Such rules, regulations and practices may include administrative forms, such as checklists to be used by staff to record observed behavior and to determine the proper plan of action.

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

StudentsSchool Dances

A school sponsored dance is a school activity subject to all provisions of the Student Activity Code, and is a privilege available to students meeting all requirements for participation.

**General Rules of Student Conduct at Dances.** In addition to all rules of student conduct in the Student handbook, students attending dances shall adhere to the following rules of conduct:

1. Who Can Attend: Only students of Chase County Schools and their guests may attend.
  - a. Students currently attending Chase County High School or another Nebraska high school who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Chase County High School or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests.
  - b. Persons who are younger than 16 or older than 19 years of age and not attending high school are generally considered to not be appropriate dates or invited guests for our school dances.
  - c. Some school dances may be restricted to students attending specified grades levels at Chase County Schools. For any dances at the middle school level, only students attending Chase County Schools in the grade(s) for which the dance is being held may attend.
  - d. Students who have been suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.
  - e. The school reserves the right to exclude persons who may or do cause a disruption or detract from the event. Dates or invited guests not attending our school are expected to follow the same rules of conduct which apply to our students.
  - f. Rules for dances may restrict students and their guests from leaving the dance until the dance ends without written parental permission on a form provided.
  - g. Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior, whether on or off of the dance floor, may be asked to leave.
  
2. Prohibited Substances: Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco (including electronic nicotine delivery systems) are prohibited. Anyone using these or showing the affects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance. Their parents may be contacted.

Students and their dates may be required to submit to a breathalyzer prior to gaining entrance. Those who choose not to submit to a breathalyzer will not gain entrance. Law enforcement will be contacted if there is reasonable suspicion that the student or a student's date is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
  
3. Appropriate Attire: Students and their guests must meet the dress code requirements established for each dance. Teachers or administrators will make the final decision as to whether or not a student's attire is appropriate. Students will be asked to change unacceptable items, which may mean that the student may have to return home to change

the inappropriate clothing. It is advisable to check in advance of the dance with the Principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

**Eligibility for Selection of Royalty.** Nomination and selection of royalty for school sponsored dances is an honor awarded by students to those of their peers that exemplify the highest standards of integrity and achievement. Students nominated for dance royalty must have demonstrated through their conduct, academic achievement and activities that they have represented, and will represent, themselves, their classmates, and their school in a manner which reflects outstanding effort, commitment to their school and fellow students, and integrity and good citizenship in the school and in the community. The students selected to be the “royalty” for the Homecoming and Prom or any other school sponsored dance or activity shall meet that general standard as determined by the administration and, in addition, meet the following specific academic, activity and conduct standards:

1. Specific Dance Eligibility and Selection Requirements:
  - a. Homecoming Queen and King:
    - Only a senior girl shall be eligible to be Queen and only a Senior boy shall be eligible to be King.
    - To be eligible, a candidate must agree to attend the entire Homecoming Dance and represent the school properly.
    - The queen and king will be chosen from the qualified nominees by secret vote of the student body during Homecoming week. Crowning will be held at the fall sports event deemed to have the largest attendance.
  - b. Prom King and Queen:
    - Only a Senior girl shall be eligible to be Queen and a Senior boy shall be eligible to be King. The candidates may not have been previously selected as royalty at another school sponsored dance.
    - To be eligible, a candidate must agree to attend the entire Prom Dance and represent the school properly.
    - The queen and king will be chosen from the qualified nominees by secret vote of the junior class.

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

InstructionCurriculum - Assessments1. State Assessments.

The Chase County School District has adopted an assessment plan and has aligned the curriculum with the state approved content standards. The assessment plan includes a schedule and procedures for assessing success in achieving state standards.

Teachers are to clearly articulate the learning targets and align instruction to the learning targets within each of the content standards. Teachers are to give students instruction on the content prior to students being assessed on each content standard in order to provide learning opportunities for all students.

The assessments are to be conducted in accordance with the assessment plan schedule. Teachers are to conduct the assessments in a manner that assures it accurately assesses whether or not students are meeting the targets outlined by the content standards.

Assessment results are to be reported by the teachers in the manner and within the time directed by the administration or designee. The assessment data is to be used to meet state standards, to provide students and parents with information about student progress, to enhance school improvement planning, and to improve instruction. The assessment data is to be evaluated by teachers to monitor student learning and to improve instruction or terminate ineffective teaching practices to ensure students are being given the opportunity to meet the standards.

2. Achieving Valid Assessments.

Educators are responsible for maintaining the integrity of the assessments to ensure that assessments provide a valid measure of student progress and accomplishments. Educators are not to engage in any practice that may result in assessment results that do not reflect student learning, knowledge, skills or abilities in the area assessed.

For purposes of this policy, student assessments include both “standardized assessments” (including state assessments, norm referenced tests, and evaluations conducted for special education eligibility) and “coursework assessments” (e.g., classroom tests, quizzes, and other evaluative tools used to assign grades).

The following specific assessment expectations and rules apply:

- a. Integrity of the Assessment Instrument. The integrity of the assessment instrument is to be maintained.
  - i. Standardized Assessments. Standardized assessment instruments are not to be made available to students at any time before the student takes the assessment. The assessment instrument is to be maintained in a secure manner.

- ii. Coursework Assessments. Coursework assessment instruments are to be periodically modified to keep the assessments current and prevent students from effectively using “test banks.” For coursework assessments that are given on a repeat basis to students at different times (e.g., a test that is given to students throughout the school day), the educator is to remind students to not share the content of the assessment with students who will be taking the assessment later.

b. Teaching for Success on Assessments.

It is appropriate for educators to prepare students to do well on assessments. This is to be accomplished in a manner that assures the assessment accurately reflects the student’s knowledge, and not simply test preparation.

- i. Teach the Content. Educators are to prepare students to do well on assessments by teaching the subject content. Educators are not to “teach to the test” by teaching based solely on the content of the assessment. The content is to be taught to the students over an appropriate amount of time prior to the assessment. “Cramming” assessment content just before the assessment is to be taken is not appropriate. Review of content previously taught is appropriate.
- ii. Practice Tests. Educators are to prepare students by teaching test taking skills independent of the subject matter being assessed. Educators are not to conduct reviews (drills) using earlier (no longer published) versions of the same test, using alternate (parallel) forms of the same published test, or using actual items from the current form of a standardized test that will be administered to students. Educators are not to conduct reviews (drills) using items of identical format (for example, multiple choice) to the exclusion of other formats.

c. Conditions for Successful Assessments.

- i. Communications. Educators are to communicate to students and parents when assessments will be administered, the purpose of the assessment and how the assessment results will be used. Educators are to motivate students to do their best on assessments. Educators are to read and be familiar with assessment administration directions in advance and communicate the rules to students accurately and clearly.
- ii. Climate. Educators are to have sufficient assessment materials available (e.g., No. 2 pencils, if needed). The classroom is to be arranged to allow comfortable seating. Distractions are to be eliminated. Educators in nearby classrooms are to be informed that the assessment is to be administered so noises from neighboring classrooms are kept at a minimum. Activities or arrangements are to be made for students who finish early so such students do not cause a distraction to other students still taking the assessment.

- iii. Security. Educators are to monitor students while administering assessments to ensure students are complying with standards of academic integrity. Students who violate standards of academic integrity are to be reported to the administration.
  
- d. Full Participation. Educators are to make efforts to have all eligible students take the assessments. The educator should develop a list of students who will be exempted from assessment and the reason for the exemption and submit the list for review and approval by the Principal.
  
- e. Assistance During Assessments.
  - i. Standardized Assessments. Educators are not to provide assistance to students while a standardized assessment is being administered except as provided for in a student's 504 Plan or IEP. This includes giving "hints," giving extra time, reading the tests to students or defining or pronouncing words for students, allowing students access to instructional material related to the content of the assessment (e.g., displaying a map during a social studies assessment) or allowing students access to mechanical aids (e.g., calculators).
  
  - ii. Coursework Assessments. For coursework assessments, students may be allowed access to instructional materials or mechanical aids only when all students being given the assessment are given the aids and use of the aids does not hinder the students from learning the content of the lesson.
  
- f. Student Answers. Assessments are to reflect the students' work as submitted by the students. During the assessments, educators are to monitor students to make sure directions are being followed (e.g., students are using a No. 2 pencil on all "bubble" sheet assessments and completely erase mistaken answers and extra marks on "bubble" sheet assessments). Educators are not to change answers on a student's assessment sheet or otherwise participate in the submission of false or misleading assessment results.

All employees are to adhere to the Nebraska's Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) Security Procedures and report breaches in security to Superintendent or the Superintendent's assessment designee for report to the Nebraska Department of Education. Professionalism, common sense, and practical procedures provide the framework for testing ethics.

Violations of the rules and expectations set forth in this policy will be considered to be a breach of the District's standard of ethics and may result in disciplinary consequences. Educators are to report suspected violations of the expectation to the administration. The administration is to investigate and appropriately respond to violations of the expectations.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 10.05; NDE Rule 27.004.02H and 004.03D

Date of Adoption: October 8, 2018

InstructionCombined District and School Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Chase County Schools intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, *Section 1116(a -f) ESSA, (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015.*

**In General**

The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

- Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child's school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Parents are involved in the planning, review, evaluation and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at an annual parent meeting scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.
- Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
- Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.
- Parents of participating children will be provided timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand.
- 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.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

Legal Authorities: 20 U.S.C. §§6318 and 7801(32)

Date of Adoption:

Internal Board Policies - Organization

Standing Committees

It shall be the policy of Chase County Schools that the following will be the standing committees of the Board of Education:

1. Negotiations Committee
2. Curriculum, Technology Committee
3. Transportation/Facilities
4. Budget/Supt Evaluation Committee
5. Policy Committee
6. Health/Safety, Committee on American Civics

It shall further be the policy of Chase County Schools that the President shall appoint the members of the above committees.

Legal Reference:     Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-724  
                          Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-520

Date of Adoption:    [Insert Date]

Internal Board Policies - OrganizationStanding Committee on American Civics

It shall be the policy of Chase County Schools that the Committee on American Civics shall consist of no more than four appointed by the Board President. The Committee shall meet at least twice per year. One of the responsibilities of this committee will be to examine recommended social studies textbooks and report findings based on this examination to other members of the Board of Education. The Committee shall take all other steps to ensure compliance with Nebraska law.

It shall further be the policy of Chase County Schools that the Committee on American Civics shall review all major proposals prepared by the superintendent of schools and instructional staff for adoption of new textbooks, development of new instructional programs, revision of existing instructional programs, modification of established graduation requirements, and other related matters. After the review is completed, the Committee on Curriculum and Americanism will make a recommendation to the full Board of Education about approval or adoption of the matter under consideration.

Legal Reference:     Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-724  
                          Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-520

Date of Adoption:    [Insert Date]

# **CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS**

## **CERTIFIED STAFF 2019-2020**

**Chase County Schools**

**520 E 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Imperial, NE 69033  
308-882-4304**

# 2019-2020

# TEACHER HANDBOOK

# CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS

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# Chase County Schools Certified Staff Handbook 2019-2020 School Year

## Foreword

### Section 1 Intent of Handbook

Welcome to Chase County Schools. This handbook is intended to be used by teachers and other certificated staff to provide general information about Chase County Schools and to serve as a guide to the District's policies, rules, and regulations, benefits of employment, and performance expectations.

References in this handbook to "teachers" are intended to apply to all certificated staff. This includes administrative staff to the extent the handbook deals with professional expectations and conduct.

Each teacher is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise. This handbook is intended to supplement other documents that deal with your employment, including your employment contract, the negotiated agreement between the Chase County Schools and the Chase County Education Association, and the policies and regulations of the Board of Education. In reading this handbook, please understand that where a direct conflict exists, state or federal law, the negotiated agreement, and Board policies and regulations will control.

This handbook does not create a "contract" of employment. Staff positions and assignments which do not legally require a certificate or are otherwise not protected by the teacher tenure laws may be ended or changed on an "at will" basis notwithstanding anything in this handbook or any other publication or statement, except for a contract approved by the Board of Education.

The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook and shall have the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon applicable school district policies, state and federal statutes and regulations, and the best interests of the District.

This handbook will be in effect for the 2019-2020 and subsequent school years unless replaced by a later edition.

### Section 1 School Mission Statement

Welcome to Chase County Schools. The Board of Education, administration and staff are committed to meet the challenge, exceed expectations, and continue our legacy of excellence.

### Section 2 Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of the Chase County Schools are to provide:

1. A curriculum that is based on state standards; comprehensive, coordinated, and sequential and is directed toward locally approved goals and standards for student learning. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory and provides the foundation for standards based instruction. The instructional program focuses on

- achievement and provides for the diverse learning needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. Curriculum and instruction help students develop content and skill mastery, analytical thinking, problem solving, work ethics, creativity, and respect for diversity.
2. An instructional program that focuses on achievement and provides for the needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory broad enough yet with sufficient depth to allow education for all of the students.
  3. Assessment procedures and results that assist teachers in planning and providing appropriate instruction for all students. Assessment results also provide information for monitoring program success, and for reporting to parents, policy makers, and the community. The school periodically reviews procedures to improve assessment quality and increase student learning. The information assists schools in establishing and achieving improvement goals.
  4. A library/media/technology program that provides a wide range of accessible print and electronic resources that expand opportunity for learning, contribute to information literacy, support the local curriculum, and enhance and enrich learning experiences for all students. The program provides materials through onsite and electronic access that complement, supplement, and enrich curriculum and instruction. It facilitates research, supports and encourages personal interest in reading and the study of current events, and develops technological and other skills for accessing, evaluating, and using resources.
  5. Instructional staff who have appropriate training and preparation to work with the students assigned to them, who are knowledgeable of principles of child growth and development and of the curriculum content for which they are responsible, who use teaching strategies that engage students actively in learning, and who help students understand and apply content across subject areas. Staff development activities that support the school's efforts in curriculum development, instructional improvement, assessment, and general school improvement to achieve school improvement goals.
  6. Administration that exercises leadership in the development and implementation of school goals and policies. Administrators who demonstrate leadership in management and operation of the school system and in the improvement of curriculum and instruction. Building administrators who provide leadership to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and school improvement. They guide staff and students in achieving goals and fulfill other functions supportive of quality learning.
  7. A systematic ongoing process that guides planning, implementation, and evaluation and renewal of school improvement activities to meet local and statewide goals and priorities. The school improvement process focuses on improving student learning. The process includes a periodic review by visiting educators who provide consultation to the school/community in continued accomplishment of plans and goals.
  8. A school system that demonstrates accountability to the school community. School staff periodically assesses and reports student progress toward accomplishment of academic content standards. Results are used to plan and make needed changes to improve instruction for all students.
  9. School facilities and a general environment that supports quality learning. Facilities and grounds are safe, orderly, and well maintained, and facilities that have adequate space, lighting, and furnishings. The system has plans or provisions for climate-

controlled buildings to the extent feasible. The environment is emotionally safe and supportive and promotes respect, trust, and integrity.

10. A Board of Education that governs through orderly procedures which focus efforts of the school upon quality learning, result in equitable opportunities for learning for all students, and insure accountability to the local community.
11. An activities program that is scheduled outside the regular school day, focuses on active participation of all students involved in the activity, and promotes a positive image of the school and community.
12. A welcoming environment for parents and the community.

**Section 4 Members of the Board of Education**

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\*Executive Organization (Appendix B)

Foreword

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Liess, Jodie	<a href="mailto:jliess@chasecountyschools.org">jliess@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Vocal Music
Longoria, Randy	<a href="mailto:rlongoria@chasecountyschools.org">rlongoria@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Spanish/Physical Education

Meyer, Gregg	<a href="mailto:gmeyer@chasecountyschools.org">gmeyer@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Social Science
Meyer, Terri	<a href="mailto:tmeyer@chasecountyschools.org">tmeyer@chasecountyschools.org</a>	ELL
Milner, Paige	<a href="mailto:pmilner@chasecountyschools.org">pmilner@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Language Arts
Nickel, Rita	<a href="mailto:rnickel@chasecountyschools.org">rnickel@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Fourth Grade
O'Neil, Sandy	<a href="mailto:soneil@chasecountyschools.org">soneil@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Business
Paisley, Jaclyn	<a href="mailto:jpaisley@chasecountyschools.org">jpaisley@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Kindergarten
Ramos, Carolina	<a href="mailto:cramos@chasecountyschools.org">cramos@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Art
Schilke, Alexandria	<a href="mailto:aschilke@chasecountyschools.org">aschilke@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Language Arts
Schueler, Kristin	<a href="mailto:kschueler@chasecountyschools.org">kschueler@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Mathematics
Sheaffer, Janet	<a href="mailto:jsheaffer@chasecountyschools.org">jsheaffer@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Science
Smith, Denise	<a href="mailto:dsmith@chasecountyschools.org">dsmith@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Librarian
Spady, Kimberly	<a href="mailto:kspady@chasecountyschools.org">kspady@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Second Grade
Speck, Jason	<a href="mailto:jspeck@chasecountyschools.org">jspeck@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Agriculture/FFA
Strand, Agnes	<a href="mailto:astrand@chasecountyschools.org">astrand@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Instrumental
Sutton, Chelsey	<a href="mailto:csutton@chasecountyschools.org">csutton@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Third Grade
Vlasin, Ashley	<a href="mailto:avlasin@chasecountyschools.org">avlasin@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Third Grade
Vlasin, Jeremy	<a href="mailto:jvlasin@chasecountyschools.org">jvlasin@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Agriculture/Social Science
Williams, Michelle	<a href="mailto:mwilliams@chasecountyschools.org">mwilliams@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Curriculum/Assessment
Zuege, Carl	<a href="mailto:czuege@chasecountyschools.org">czuege@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Social Sciences
Zuege, Chelsea	<a href="mailto:chzuege@chasecountyschools.org">chzuege@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Art

### Section 7 Secretary Staff

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Anderjaska, Jon	Business Manager	<a href="mailto:janderjaska@chasecountyschools.org">janderjaska@chasecountyschools.org</a>
Blecha, Deb	Secondary Secretary	<a href="mailto:dblecha@chasecountyschools.org">dblecha@chasecountyschools.org</a>
Estrada, Jaquelin	Activity/Transportation	<a href="mailto:jestrada@chasecountyschools.org">jestrada@chasecountyschools.org</a>
Mays, Jill	Accounting Secretary	<a href="mailto:jmays@chasecountyschools.org">jmays@chasecountyschools.org</a>
Nevarez, Sindia	Secretary/Translator	<a href="mailto:snevarez@chasecountyschools.org">snevarez@chasecountyschools.org</a>
Wheeler, Sherri	Elementary Secondary	<a href="mailto:swheeler@chasecountyschools.org">swheeler@chasecountyschools.org</a>

## Article 1 – SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES

### Section 1 School Calendar

See School Calendar attached as Appendix E.

### Section 2 Daily Schedule

#### High School

- Period 1 – 8:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.
- Period 2 – 8:53 a.m. to 9:43 a.m.
- Period 3 – 9:46 a.m. to 10:36 a.m.
- Period 4 – 10:39 a.m. to 11:29 a.m.
- Period 5 – 11:32 a.m. to 12:22 p.m.
- Lunch – 12:22 p.m. to 12:51 p.m.
- Period 6 – 12:54 p.m. to 1:44 p.m.
- Period 7 – 1:47 p.m. to 2:37 p.m.
- Period 8 – 2:40 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

#### Middle School

- Period 1 – 8:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.
- Period 2 – 8:53 a.m. to 9:43 a.m.
- Period 3 – 9:46 a.m. to 10:36 a.m.
- Period 4 – 10:39 a.m. to 11:29 a.m.
- Lunch – 11:29 p.m. to 12:01 p.m.
- Period 5 – 12:01 a.m. to 12:51 p.m.
- Period 6 – 12:54 p.m. to 1:44 p.m.
- Period 7 – 1:47 p.m. to 2:37 p.m.
- Period 8 – 2:40 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

#### Elementary School

##### School Hours:

8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Monday – Friday

##### Lunch:

- 10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. – Kindergarten Lunch
- 10:50 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Lunch
- 10:55 a.m. to 11:25 a.m. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Lunch
- 11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.—3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Lunch
- 11:05 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch

##### Recess:

- 11:15 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. – Kindergarten Recess
- 11:20 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Recess
- 11:25 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Recess
- 11:30 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.—3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Recess
- 11:35 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Recess

##### Morning or Afternoon Recess:

As schedule allows in either AM or PM depending on PE schedule

### **Section 3 Severe Weather and School Cancellations**

The Superintendent of schools is authorized by the Board of Education to close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent's staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast regularly by radio and television stations.

Decision to Close Schools. A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service and civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise for students to go to school. If possible, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9 p.m. for announcement during the 10 p.m. news. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning (by 6 a.m. if possible). In any case, **an announcement will be made to the news media, social media and through school calling system when schools will be closed.** In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation, level III program, student activities). Some staff may be designated as being required to come to school even in the event of a school closing.

After School Starts. Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases as much advance notice as possible will be given. If school is closed during the day staff will be notified and parents will be notified via media broadcast, social media, and school calling system. Teachers will be responsible for remaining with students until all students have safely left school or the administration has made arrangements for remaining students.

Parental Decisions. Parents may decide to keep their children at home in inclement weather because of personal circumstances. Students absent because of severe weather when school is in session will not be marked absent. You should treat the absence like any other excused absence for legitimate causes provided parents properly notify the school of their decision. Parents may pick up their children in inclement weather (except in case of a tornado) at any time during the school day. Students will not normally be dismissed from school during severe weather on the basis of a telephone request.

Emergency Conditions. Chase County Schools has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. All regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are plans for Emergency Exit system, Tornado Warning System, and Critical Incident Response. **School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning.** In the event of an emergency exit alert or tornado warning, you should implement the school's established safety procedures.

### **Section 4 Contract Days**

Teachers are contracted for 184 contract days (hereinafter referred to as the "contract year"). Such contract days shall be serviced by individual teachers on varying schedules as established by the administration.

## **Section 5      Make-Up Days**

In the event teachers are not required to report for duty due to inclement weather conditions or other circumstance whereby a duty day is canceled, such days shall not be credited as a contract day served. Make-up days may be scheduled by the administration during the contract year as needed to allow all teaching staff to serve the full number of contract days.

## **Article 2 – EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS**

### **Section 1      Employment**

A teacher is employed by Chase County Schools when the teacher signs the Teacher’s Contract and the Board of Education approves such contract of employment. The teacher’s employment continues absent action by the administration or the Board of Education to non-renew, terminate, amend or cancel the teacher’s employment contract with the school district, or action by the Board of Education to accept a resignation of employment.

On or after March 15 of each school year a teacher may be requested to accept employment for the next school year and shall be required to signify such acceptance on or after April 1 or such other date after March 15 as may be designated in the notice. It is important for teachers to respond to the request to signify acceptance as a failure to signify acceptance of employment by the April 1 or other designated date shall constitute cause for amendment or termination of the teacher’s contract. If a teacher signifies acceptance of employment for the next school year the teacher may either be issued a new Teacher’s Contract or a “Contract Renewal Agreement.”

Should a teacher wish to resign from employment the teacher should give written notice of resignation to the Superintendent. The request to resign will be acted upon by the Board of Education. Mid-year resignations and resignations given late in the spring for the following school year can present significant planning problems for the District. If a mid-year resignation is submitted, or a resignation for the following school year is submitted after second Monday in May or after the teacher has signified acceptance of employment for the next school year, the Board of Education may act to not accept the resignation unless a suitable replacement can be found. The District will enforce the continuing contract of teachers accepting employment for the next school year under the provisions of Neb Rev. Stat. §79-829.

### **Section 2      Assignments**

The professional duties to be performed by a teacher with the District shall be subject to assignment by the Superintendent of the District. A teacher will be expected to devote full time during days of school to the teacher’s position and to diligently and faithfully perform the assigned duties to the best of the teacher’s professional ability. Job descriptions, where available, provide additional information about the position duties.

In addition to the normal duties traditionally required of teachers, a teacher may be assigned such “extra duty” assignments to support the extra-curricular programs of the District, which shall be upon such terms and conditions and at such additional rate of compensation as the Teacher and the District may agree upon or as set forth in the negotiated agreement. The extra-curricular

program of the school district is an integral part of the overall educational program of the school district. As such, a teacher shall not unreasonably refuse to accept such extra-duty assignments. In addition, performance in an extra duty assignment is a part of the evaluation of the teacher's overall performance to the District.

#### **Section 6 Personnel File**

The District will follow the requirements of state and federal law and regulation with regard to a teacher's personnel file, including but not limited to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-8,109.

#### **Section 7 Grievances and Complaints**

Teacher grievances regarding wages, hours, and conditions of employment set forth in the negotiated agreement shall be governed by the grievance or complaint procedure in the negotiated agreement. All other employment related grievances or complaints shall be addressed through the administrative chain of command following the process set forth in board policy.

In the event that a teacher believes a potential change to board policy could affect the terms and conditions of employment, the teacher and teachers' association should notify the Superintendent of his or her support, concerns or other opinions relating to said policy, pursuant to the applicable negotiated agreement.

#### **Section 5 Compensation**

Regular Salary and Extra-Duty Compensation. Compensation is paid only as authorized by the Board of Education. Teachers are paid a salary based on placement on the salary schedule set forth in the collectively bargained negotiated agreement between the District and the collective bargaining agent for the certificated teaching staff (referred to in this handbook as the "negotiated agreement"), and the extra-duty salary schedule also incorporated into the negotiated agreement.

Changes in Salary Schedule Placement. Changes in a teacher's placement on the salary schedule shall be governed by the provisions of the negotiated agreement. Teachers are expected to provide the Superintendent with a transcript for all graduate hours earned for purposes of advancement on the salary schedule on or before September 15 of the school year in which such hours are to be credited for the teacher's placement on the salary schedule. Failure to timely provide an official transcript from the post-graduate institution of the graduate hours earned will result in a loss of such credit for such school year. Any advancement on the salary schedule must be consistent with the terms of the applicable negotiated agreement, or no such advancement will be allowed.

Salary Payments. Salary is payable over twelve equal installments. Teachers will be paid on the 10th of the month, or the last preceding school day before noon, if the 10th falls on a vacation or week-end day. In emergency cases exceptions may be made, subject to the approval of the Board. In no case shall the Board advance more than one month's salary. Upon separation of a teacher's employment, or upon fulfillment of the contract, the teacher may, at the option of the Board, be paid all salary due in one lump sum.

Additional compensation over and above regular compensation, extra-duty pay and supplemental pay shall be disbursed as it is earned and deductions from compensation due to unpaid leave shall be taken out as they are reported to the payroll office. Reimbursements for mileage or other expenses will be considered separate from compensation.

## **Section 2 Extended Duty Pay**

Extended duty for any teacher beyond the number of contract days established by the Superintendent for the school year shall be paid at 1/184 of schedule placement on a per diem basis for such teacher's extended time.

## **Section 3 Benefits**

Teachers are provided benefits in accordance with the negotiated agreement, group health insurance plan requirements, and the school district's Section 125 Plan document. Teachers shall make annual fringe benefit elections by September 1 of each school year. Should a teacher fail to make such election, the teacher election from the immediately preceding school and contract year shall be continued. Each teacher is responsible for informing the Office of the Superintendent in writing of any changes in benefit status.

Continued health insurance benefits are available through COBRA subject to certain qualifying requirements. A Notice of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights is attached to this handbook as Appendix "A."

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) provides rights and protections for participants and beneficiaries in group health plans. HIPAA includes protections for coverage under group health plans that limit exclusions for preexisting conditions; prohibit discrimination against employees and dependents based on their health status; and allow a special opportunity to enroll in a new plan to individuals in certain circumstances. HIPAA may also give you a right to purchase individual coverage if you have no group health plan coverage available and have exhausted COBRA or other continuation coverage. Further information may be obtained from the Plan Administrator of the group health plan.

## **Section 4 Payroll and Payroll Deductions**

Salary and benefits are paid in accordance with the individual employment contracts and negotiated agreement. Payroll deductions shall be made in accordance with law and the negotiated agreement.

## **Section 5 Expense Reimbursement**

Reimbursement for authorized mileage will be paid to teachers required to drive their own vehicles during their regular scheduled working hours between two or more work sites. Claims for reimbursement should be submitted to the appropriate supervisor. The allowable rate shall be governed by Board policy, unless otherwise required by law. The District is not liable for physical damage to employee vehicles.

Materials necessary for instruction are provided by the District. If teachers need additional materials for instruction or school-related purposes, the request should be made to the Principal.

Reimbursement for purchase of materials or for meals or other expenses related to travel must be submitted to and approved by either the Principal or, if the expense relates to an activity, by the Athletic Director. The request for reimbursement should include a voucher sufficient to establish that the expense was actually incurred and that the expense was reasonable and related to a school-purpose.

## **Section 6      403(b) Salary Reduction Agreements**

The District will cooperate with any teacher who chooses to participate in an investment program under Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b) provided that the certificated employee executes a "Salary Reduction Agreement" provided by the District and the vendor of the 403(b) Plan elected by the teacher has entered in to a "Service Provider Agreement" with the District holding the District harmless from any liability that may arise out of such 403(b) Plan, including, but not limited to, the calculation of the maximum exclusion allowance, tax reporting, notices and income withholding.

### **Overtime**

Teaching professionals are classified as exempt from overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). The overtime exemption for teaching professionals is not dependent on whether the employee is paid on a "salary basis." Exempt employees are not eligible for overtime or compensatory time. A publication provided by the federal government which provides more information about the FLSA is attached as Appendix "A" to this handbook.

Any non-exempt employees must receive prior approval from their supervisor to work additional hours beyond their regular work schedule. Non-exempt employees must be paid for each hour worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek. The regular workweek is from 12:00 a.m. on Monday through 11:59 p.m. on Sunday. The administration may establish a different 7-day period workweek from time to time for specified employees or employee groups.

Overtime pay for non-exempt employees will be paid at the rate of not less than 1½ times the employee's regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of the 40-hour workweek. Employees with two or more non-exempt positions may be eligible for overtime pay based upon the total number of hours worked in one workweek. If applicable, the employee and the Superintendent will agree upon the overtime rate, in compliance with FLSA regulations. A non-exempt employee may request compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay, with approval of the employer, with the rate figured as 1½ times the number of hours worked in excess of 40 hours in any work week. Compensatory time may be accumulated up to 40 hours upon approval by their supervisor. Any accumulation of compensatory time over 40 hours must be approved by the Superintendent. The FLSA limits the accumulation of compensatory time to 240 hours.

The District's policy is to not permit improper deductions from the salary of exempt employees who are required to meet a "salaried basis" test for the exemption to be applicable. (Teaching professionals are not subject to the "salaried basis" test). An employee who feels an improper deduction affecting exemption status has occurred may submit a complaint to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee, who shall promptly investigate the complaint. Reimbursement shall be made and a good faith commitment to comply in the future will be given in the event it is determined that an improper deduction affecting overtime exemption has been made.

The District's policy is to authorize unpaid disciplinary suspensions of a full day or more for infractions of workplace conduct rules and to apply such policy uniformly to all similarly situated employees, including exempt employees who are required to meet a "salaried basis" test for the exemption to be applicable. Unpaid disciplinary suspensions of a partial day or of a full day or more may be implemented for infractions of safety rules of major significance. Deductions of pay of a partial day or of a full day or more may be made for FMLA leaves and in the first and last weeks of employment. In addition, based on principles of public accountancy, deductions from pay of a partial

day or of a full day or more will be made for absences for illness, injury or personal reasons when accrued leave is not used or not available, and for absences due to any budget-required furlough.

### **Article 3 – ABSENCES FROM WORK**

#### **Section 1 Paid Leave - Sick and Personal Leaves**

##### Temporary Leaves of Absence

1. Teachers shall be granted professional and personal leave at the discretion of the administration and consistent with the terms of the applicable negotiated agreement. Four personal leave days will be granted upon request. No salary deductions shall be made for professional or personal leave.
2. *Sub-Deduct Leave.* Sub-deduct leave will be allowed in extended or reoccurring absences at the discretion of the administration (including illness, injury or surgery).
3. *Unused Personal Days.* See negotiated agreement.

##### Sick Leave

4. *Days Per Leave Year.* Teachers have 10 days sick leave available per leave year.
5. *Availability.* Sick leave is a paid workday when the employee may be absent from duties. Sick days are only available when the employee is unable to perform assigned duties due to the illness or temporary disability of the employee or due to the employee needing to care for a member of the employee's immediate family (as defined in the applicable negotiated agreement) who is ill or has a serious health condition.
6. *Use of Sick Leave.* Employees are to use sick leave when unable to work. Activities other than caring for their own health or that of an immediate family member reflect an abuse of sick leave. Any sick leave in excess of five days will require proof of illness, consistent with the applicable negotiated agreement.
7. *Carry-over and Accumulation.* Unused sick leave may be carried over from one leave year to the next succeeding leave year to a maximum of 50 sick leave days. Once the maximum is accumulated, no further sick leave days will be available or granted for the ensuing leave year or years until the accumulated number of days is less than 50, and then only to the extent necessary to restore the total number of available sick leave days to the maximum of 50 days. Employees who have accumulated sick leave days in excess of said maximum prior to the 2019-2020 school year will continue to have the excess days available for use, but will not be given any additional sick leave days until their unused days are less than the

maximum of 50, and then only to the extent necessary to restore the total number of available sick leave days to the maximum of 50 days in a leave year.

### Sick Leave Bank

8. *See Board Policy*

### Bereavement Leave

- A. Absence from work will be allowed upon approval of the administration and consistent with the applicable negotiated agreement.
- B. The employee shall be granted without loss of pay for the purpose of attending the funeral of the employee's family member, as defined by the applicable negotiated agreement.

### Personal Leave

Teachers are entitled to take up to four days of personal leave per school year, consistent with the terms of the applicable negotiated agreement.

### **Section 2 Payroll Deductions for Absences in Excess of Paid Leave**

Should a teacher be absent from work in excess of the teacher's accumulated sick leave or other paid leaves called for in the negotiated agreement, the teacher's salary shall be reduced by the day or days of work missed on a per diem basis calculated using the number of days missed as the numerator, and the number of total contract days for the school years as the denominator.

### **Section 3 Unpaid Leaves**

Chase County Schools complies with laws that require leaves to be allowed without loss of pay, such as for FMLA leaves, military service and jury duty. Should an employee be absent from work in excess of the employee's available paid leaves, the absence will be an unpaid leave. The employee's salary may be subject to reduction for the day or days of work missed.

### Discretionary Leave of Absence

An employee may apply to the Superintendent for a leave of absence from duties. The Superintendent will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis. No leave of absence shall extend beyond one leave year. All discretionary leaves shall be without pay except as may be individually negotiated.

### **Section 4 Jury Duty Leave**

An employee who is summoned for jury service must promptly notify the employee's immediate supervisor. The employee will be allowed time off for jury duty.

There will be no loss of salary or deduction in leave time for time spent in jury service. The school district may at its discretion reduce salary by an amount equal to any compensation, other than expenses, paid by the court for jury duty.

If an employee reports for jury duty in the morning and is then dismissed from jury duty for the remainder of the day, the employee is to report for work and resume duties for the balance of the day, except as may be otherwise arranged by the employee's immediate supervisor.

Legal Reference:	§ 25-1640
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## **Section 5 Family and Medical Leave Act**

The Department of Labor has amended the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) regulations effective on January 16, 2009. One of the changes involves the content of the general notice to be given to employees concerning rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. The general notice information is to be included in employee handbooks. As such, we are providing the following information as an addendum to the District's existing employee handbooks.

### **Employee Rights and Responsibilities under the Family and Medical Leave Act**

Family and medical leaves shall be allowed under the terms and conditions of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended (FMLA).

Basic Leave Entitlement. FMLA provides up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for the following reasons:

- For incapacity due to pregnancy, prenatal medical care or child birth;
- To care for your child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care;
- To care for your spouse, son or daughter, or parent, who has a serious health condition; or
- For a serious health condition that makes you unable to perform your job.

The "leave year" for purposes of the FMLA is a "rolling" 12-month period, measured backward from the date of any FMLA leave usage.

Military Leave Entitlement. Eligible employees with a spouse, son, daughter, or parent on active duty or call to active duty status in the National Guard or Reserves in support of a contingency operation may use their 12-week leave entitlement to address certain qualifying exigencies. Qualifying exigencies may include attending certain military events, arranging for alternative childcare, addressing certain financial and legal arrangements, attending certain counseling sessions, and attending post-deployment reintegration briefings.

FMLA also includes a special leave entitlement that permits eligible employees to take up to 26 weeks of leave to care for a covered service-member during a 12-month period. A covered service-member is a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who has a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty on active duty that may render the service-member medically unfit to perform his or her duties for which the service-member is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy; or is in outpatient status; or is on the temporary disability retired list.

Benefits and Protections. During FMLA leave, your health coverage under a "group health plan" will be maintained on the same terms as if you had continued to work. Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to their original or an equivalent position with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms.

Your use of FMLA leave will not result in the loss of any employment benefit that accrued prior to the start of your FMLA leave.

Eligibility Requirements. You are eligible if you have been employed with Chase County Schools for at least one year, for 1,250 hours over the previous 12 months, and if there are at least 50 employees of Chase County Schools within 75 miles of your work location.

Definition of Serious Health Condition. A serious health condition is an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves either an overnight stay in a medical care facility, or continuing treatment by a health care provider for a condition that either prevents you from performing the functions of your job, or prevents the qualified family member from participating in school or other daily activities.

Subject to certain conditions, the continuing treatment requirement may be met by a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days combined with at least two visits to a health care provider or one visit and a regiment of continuing treatment, or incapacity due to pregnancy, or incapacity due to a chronic condition. Other conditions may meet the definition of continuing treatment.

Use of Leave. You do not need to use FMLA leave entitlement in one block. Leave can be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when medically necessary. You must make reasonable efforts to schedule leave for planned medical treatment so as not to unduly disrupt the District's operations. Leave due to qualifying exigencies may also be taken on an intermittent basis.

Substitution of Paid Leave for Unpaid Leave. You may choose or Chase County Schools may require use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. In order to use paid leave for FMLA leave, you must comply with the District's normal paid leave policies.

Employee Responsibilities. You must provide sufficient information for the District to determine if the leave may qualify for FMLA protection and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. Sufficient information may include that you are unable to perform job functions, the family member is unable to perform daily activities, the need for hospitalization or continuing treatment by a health care provider, or circumstances supporting the need for military family leave. You also must inform the District if the requested leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified. You also may be required to provide a certification and periodic recertification supporting the need for leave.

Employer Responsibilities. The District must inform employees requesting leave whether they are eligible under FMLA. If they are, the notice must specify any additional information required as well as the employees' rights and responsibilities. If they are not eligible, the District must provide a reason for the ineligibility.

The District must inform employees if leave will be designated as FMLA-protected and the amount of leave counted against the employee's leave entitlement. If the District determines that the leave is not FMLA-protected, the District must notify the employee.

Unlawful Acts by Employers. FMLA makes it unlawful for any employer to:

- Interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of any right provided under FMLA;
- Discharge or discriminate against any person for opposing any practice made unlawful by FMLA or for involvement in any proceeding under or relating to FMLA.

Enforcement. An employee may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

FMLA does not affect any Federal or State law prohibiting discrimination, or supersede any State or local law or collective bargaining agreement which provides greater family or medical leave rights.

For additional information you may refer to FMLA posters on employee bulletin boards or contact the U.S. Wage and Hour Division at:

1-866-4US-WAGE (1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

[www.wagehour.dol.gov](http://www.wagehour.dol.gov)

To submit a request for use of FMLA, or to make arrangements for payment of benefits while on an FMLA leave, contact Randall Klooz at (308) 882 - 4304.

## **Section 6 Military and Family Military Leave**

Military leave and family military leave will be granted to the extent required by state and federal law.

Employees requesting military leave must notify the Superintendent as soon as they receive notification of activation. Employees are to attach a copy of their orders to a leave request form when they prepare the request for military leave.

Employees requesting to take family military leave under the Nebraska statutes must notify the Superintendent at least 14 days in advance of taking such a leave if the leave will be for 5 or more consecutive days, and consult with their supervisor to schedule the leave so as to not unduly disrupt operations of the school district. For leaves of less than 5 days, the employee is to notify the Superintendent of the leave request as soon as practicable.

Family military leave under the FMLA will be provided in accordance with that law and subject to the provisions of the Board policy pertaining to FMLA leave.

Legal Reference:	Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 55-160 to 55-166 Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 55-501 to 55-507 29 U.S.C. §§ 2611, et seq.; 29 CFR Part 825 (FMLA) 38 U.S.C. §§ 4301 to 4333; 20 CFR Part 1002 (USERRA)
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### **Section 7 Adoption Leave**

Adoption leave will be permitted to be taken by an adoptive parent for the same time and on the same terms as an employee is permitted to take a leave of absence upon the birth of the employee's child.

The adoptive parent leave of absence begins following the commencement of the parent-child relationship. The parent-child relationship commences, for purposes of adoption leave, when the child is placed with the employee for purposes of adoption. The employee shall be deemed to have waived any adoptive leave days not taken following the commencement of the parent-child relationship, except as the Superintendent and the employee may otherwise agree. Advance notice of an anticipated adoption shall be provided by the employee to the Superintendent as early as possible.

Legal Reference:	§ 48-234
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### **Section 8 Subpoena to Testify Leave**

An employee must promptly notify the employee's immediate supervisor when the employee receives a lawfully issued subpoena to testify in court or to give a deposition that may require an absence from duty.

In the event the subpoena involves a job-related matter in which the employee is testifying on behalf of the school district, the absence will be treated similar to a jury duty leave.

In the event the subpoena involves a personal matter, the employee will be required to use available leave days. A subpoena will be considered to involve a personal matter whenever the employee or a family member or friend of the employee is a party to the legal proceeding, unless the employee's involvement in the legal matter is solely due to actions taken in connection with the employee's work duties, the actions of the employee were not inappropriate, and the school district is not an opposing party in the legal matter.

### **Section 9 Voting Leave**

Employees will be allowed paid time off to vote in an election if the employee: (a) is a registered voter; (b) does not have 2 consecutive hours during which the employee is not required to be present at work in the period between the time of the opening and closing of the polls; and (c) applies for voting leave prior to or on election day.

Voting leave will not be available to most employees because elections are typically scheduled for 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Most employees are off duty on or before 6 p.m. If not off work by 6 p.m., the employee is usually not on duty before 10 a.m.

When voting leave is available, an employee will be entitled to be absent from work on election day for such period of time as will, when considering the employee's non-working time, total 2 consecutive hours between the time of the opening and closing of the polls. When voting leave is used, no deduction shall be made from the employee's salary or wages on account of such absence. The employee's supervisor may specify the hours during which the employee may be absent for voting leave.

Legal Reference:	§ 32-922
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## **Article 4 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Section 1 Hours of Work & Meetings**

Regular, dependable attendance at work is an essential function of a teacher's employment position.

The Board of Education recognizes that teachers' responsibilities to their students and their profession generally involve the performance of duties and the commitment of time beyond the normal working day, but also recognizes that teachers and other educational professionals are entitled to regular time and work schedules on which they can rely in the ordinary course of events and which will be fairly and evenly maintained to the extent possible throughout the school system.

Schools have differing starting and ending times for the student day. Certificated employees assigned to a building are to spend seven hours and 30 minutes on site, including lunch break (30-minute lunch), except that duty-free lunch time can be spent off-site. The Principal will determine the length of time prior to and after the student class schedule for staff to be on-site in order to meet the required seven hours and 30 minutes. Staff may leave the building earlier when called to a professional meeting.

Certificated employees are required to serve on playground, lunchroom and hall supervision as designated by the Principal. The Principal will attempt to make an equitable distribution of such assignments and professional staff shall assume such duties as part of their work and agreement of employment.

Teachers shall attend meetings called by the Superintendent of Schools, principals, department heads and team leaders, except those meetings which are designated for optional attendance.

### **Section 2 Arrival to Duty Assignments**

Full-time teachers have a designated on-site workday as 7:45am—3:50pm (M-Th) and 7:40am-3:30pm (F). Certificated employees other than teachers are expected to meet the same guidelines for entry to the building, being in their assigned duty area, and duty departure time. Teachers and

## Article 4 – Duties and Responsibilities

other certificated employees who are part-time or work on adjusted schedules are to be in the building at least 10 minutes before their class or assigned duty begins, and to be in their classroom or assigned duty area at least 10 minutes before their class or assignment begins. During the school day, teachers are to be in their assigned classroom at least five minutes before each period begins to assure that students are not unsupervised within the classroom.

### **Section 3 Leaving School**

Teachers are to be on duty at all times during the school day. Teachers are considered on duty even during designated planning periods. An uninterrupted lunch period of not less than 30-minutes each day is provided to teachers during which they are not assigned teaching, supervisory, or other duties. Teachers who leave the school during the designated lunch period must check out with the Principal's office.

Teachers may not leave school during duty hours without approval of the Principal. If the absence has been approved, the teacher must check out with the Principal's office when leaving, and check back in with the Principal's office upon return. Teachers who need to leave during the school day for reason of illness or emergency are to check out with the Principal's office and make sure that a responsible person has been notified of their unexpected absence so student coverage may be provided.

### **Section 4 Lesson Plans**

Teachers will prepare weekly lesson plans that identify the State Standards. Lesson plans are to be completed and are due Monday morning by 8:00 am in the principal's office. Please keep the plan lesson plans, class rosters, etc. up to date and readily available in the teacher's absence.

The lesson plans must be sufficiently clear in establishing objectives and related activities so that they are easily used by a substitute teacher or other staff member not familiar with previous classroom activities or progress. The plan book must give specific reference to other instructional sources immediately available which will enhance the instructional lesson.

### **Section 5 Daily Class Records**

Every teacher is required to keep a complete and easily understandable record of the attendance and achievement of every student in Infinite Campus. These class records must be kept current and a complete report of all recorded grades for each student needs to be updated on weekly basis. Be sure that you test frequently enough and that you record grades frequently enough to readily and realistically justify the term and final grades which are reported to parents.

Upon request a student's individual record shall be made available for review or copying. Information relating to other students should not be allowed to be seen by other students or parents.

Teachers who return to Chase County School and who wish to refer to the previous year's class record book may request the Infinite Campus records.

## **Section 6 Classroom and School Procedures**

Teachers are expected to adhere to the following classroom and school procedure in the performance of their duties:

1. Textbook and Room Inventory

All school purchased materials must be inventoried with the building bookkeeper or secretary. Textbooks are to be numbered and either have cards in pockets or a form for writing the name of the student whom the book is assigned. Teachers should keep good records of who has which book. At the start of the year, note condition of the textbook on the inventory sheet and keep this sheet. When a book is turned in, again note its condition, and if the book shows abuse (other than normal wear) assess a fine that you consider is fair. Insist that students put covers on their books by the end of the first week after receiving them.

2. Use of Cell Phones

Teachers shall not use personal cell phones for any non-school purpose during teacher duty time without administration approval.

Teachers are not to use wireless cell phones or otherwise engage in distracted driving while transporting students. This rule applies to the driver when the vehicle is in motion. The only exception would be in the case of emergencies.

Teachers will abide by all rules of the road and any applicable rules of the Nebraska Department of Education and the District relating to driving a motor vehicle. Seat belts and child restraint systems will be utilized by all occupants. Cell phones will not be used while the vehicle is in motion.

3. Use of Paraprofessionals

Paraprofessionals provide valuable assistance in the educational process and allow teachers to carry out their responsibilities in a more efficient and effective manner. A teacher aide must not, however, assume teaching responsibilities. The teacher must maintain the role of leadership and responsibility for the students, with the teacher aide in a supportive role. Paraprofessionals may be used to assist the teacher by, among other tasks, assisting with instructional activities under the direction of the teacher, helping to supervise students, copying tests and other written material, organizing class materials, and preparing bulletin boards. Paraprofessionals are to work only on their assigned workdays and within their assigned workday. If the teacher desires the para to work hours other than the assigned work hours or assigned workday, contact the administration for approval.

4. Use of Student Aides

Student aides are to be directly supervised by the teacher and are not to leave the building or be in the halls or anywhere they are not being supervised. Student aides are not to be used to assist the teacher by helping supervise another student, grade tests or class work, calculate student grades or record grades. Keys are NEVER to

be given to students, whether they are student aides or not. A student aide should not be present and assisting a teacher without another adult present after the end of regular teacher duty hours.

5. Checking Out of Equipment

All equipment must be checked out through the building principal. All school equipment may be used only for school purposes. No school equipment may be directed to the personal use of a teacher or another District employee.

6. Requisition of Equipment and Supplies

Books and supplies which are needed for instruction should be requested through the Principal's office. No equipment or supplies ordered through the District may be directed to the personal use of a teacher or another District employee.

7. E-mail

Each teacher will be assigned a school e-mail address for purposes of intra-school and inter-school e-mail correspondence. Teachers should check for e-mail throughout the day, and should timely respond to e-mails which require a response, but should avoid checking and responding to e-mails during instructional time. Use of the District's e-mail system for personal communications should be limited, and is subject to the rules governing overall computer usage found in Board policy and this handbook.

8. Teacher Mail Box

Each teacher will be assigned a mailbox located in the office. Teachers should check for mail each morning and also later in the school day, if possible. If something requires an answer teachers are responsible for responding promptly. Teacher mailboxes are to be limited to communications regarding school business.

9. Teachers Meetings

Teachers' meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 a.m. **ALL** teachers are expected to be present for the meetings, unless they are absent from school for good cause or have made prior arrangements.

## **Section 7 Supervision of Students**

Proper supervision of students is an important responsibility for teachers and other adults responsible for our students. Teachers and other adults responsible for student supervision are expected to meet the four "P's" for student supervision and safety.

1. Proper Supervision

- Report to all duty assignments on time.
- Circulate through your duty area. Pay particular attention to areas and activities that pose an increased risk of injury.
- Be vigilant while supervising students. Never leave your classroom unattended; the need to make a copy is not greater than the need to supervise your students. If an emergency requires that you leave your classroom, request

that another nearby staff member cover your class, or notify the office so someone can provide assistance. If you are on recess duty, your responsibility is to supervise the students in your assigned area. When talking with other adults or students, remember that your primary duty is supervision and make sure you are aware of what all students who you are to be supervising are doing.

- If you have seen or have been informed that a particular student has a propensity to act dangerously or in an unpredictable manner, your supervision of that student must increase with the known risk of injury. (Remember, though, that this type of information may be confidential—do not share confidential information about students except with other staff who need to know the information to perform their jobs).
- Be careful with touching students. Use of corporal punishment is prohibited at Chase County Schools. Touching students should be limited to that necessary to protect the student from harm (e.g., falling from playground equipment) and that which professional educators determine appropriate for purposes of proper student relationships.
- Be careful with your language. Profanity or abusive language should not be used by you. Be a good role model for students. If a student uses such language, you should correct the student and take such disciplinary action as is appropriate, which may include making a report to administration.

## 2. Proper Instructions

- Proper instructions are important to reduce the risk of injury when students undertake an activity, especially an activity that has an increased risk of harm to students.
- Repeat the instructions on how to complete a task that has a heightened risk of danger as often as needed. Do not assume because students heard the directions once that they will be remembered.
- When you go over safety rules with students note it in your written records (e.g., your lesson plan book or daily reports).
- Review playground and classroom safety rules with students at least once each semester and note when you do it in your written records. Also, if any students are absent when you review the rules contact the student(s) to review the same information and also note that contact in your written records.

## 3. Proper Maintenance of Buildings, Grounds, and Equipment

- Conduct periodic inspections of equipment under your control or in your area of supervision.
- If equipment is broken and presents a risk of injury, immediately take it out of service (if it can't be moved, tape a "Do Not Use" sign) and notify the office so those repairs may be undertaken.
- Check your communication device (whether it be a school phone in your supervision area, a walkie-talkie, or a cell phone) periodically to make sure you can communicate with the office immediately in the event of an emergency.

#### 4. Proper Warnings

- If you have knowledge of a hazard that can likely cause injury, take steps to warn other staff and students. Tell the office so additional warnings may be given.

#### Contact the Office for Assistance

The office administration should be contacted immediately when a situation exists which could cause injury to students or others. Examples include:

- student fight
- student health problem (fainting, bleeding, high temperature, difficulty breathing, etc.); if the office can not be immediately located, call 911 if the problem appears to be of immediate and serious concern
- a report or a suspicion that a student has a weapon or other dangerous item or drugs, alcohol, or other illegal substances
- presence of an intruder (a non-student or staff member who refuses to go to the office)

#### Student Searches

Office administration should also be contacted before performing searches of students or their belongings. You may direct a student suspected of having an item in violation of school rules to wait with you until another adult is present, or to follow you to the office if you can leave your assigned area without causing risk of harm to others. Do not use physical force to detain the student or to make the student accompany you except as reasonably necessary to protect the student or others.

#### Student Rights

Students should be treated fairly and given the same treatment without consideration of race, color, religion, gender, or disability. Students who need special accommodations should be given those accommodations as needed for them to participate in school and school activities. Further, students have the right to have their school records kept confidential. Such information should be shared only with other school staff with a need to know the information to perform their duties.

### **Section 8 Managing Student Conduct**

Discipline is everyone's responsibility. It begins with the student being responsible for his/her own behavior and understanding the consequences it may cause. The teacher is responsible for articulating classroom expectations at the beginning of the school year, implementing the classroom expectations on a consistent basis, and being familiar with the student handbook. All staff are responsible for **all students** in the hallways, in the restrooms, at assemblies, at pep rallies, and during lunch. Consequences for inappropriate behavior may include students making up time before or after school, a student or a parent conference, or a referral to an administrator.

The following guidelines will assist in maintaining appropriate student conduct and complying with the process required for student discipline.

1. On the first day of class make students aware of classroom expectations. Students will accept them if they know in advance and if they are fair and consistent.

Students often appreciate giving input on classroom rules. These expectations should be in writing. Give one copy to the students, post one copy in the room and provide one copy for the principal.

2. It is important to document student behavior in your classroom, calls to parents, referrals, and/or communications with a student.
3. If, after attempts to improve student behavior, the problems continue, talk to the student's counselor or the Principal about possible alternatives in discipline procedures. Be attentive and respond to "bullying."
4. If a student continues to cause problems, inform the administration for disciplinary action using the approved reporting forms. Be sure to state the problem clearly and expectations in terms of assistance, as at times the student's and teacher's stories are different. Be prepared to provide documentation.
5. Follow up on any referral. The student may not go to the principal or the counselor when sent. The administrator or attendance coordinator will inform the teacher of the consequences.
6. Refer students with continued and significant behavioral problems to the student assistance team for a determination of whether the student is in need of special services. Contact the counselor if you have questions as to the procedure.
7. Talk with other teachers about the classroom management techniques they use to establish an atmosphere conducive to learning in their classroom. A large repertoire of classroom management techniques always enhances learning.
8. Read and understand the student handbook and the student conduct rules of the District.
9. Use good judgment when dealing with difficult situations involving students. Physical confrontation generally escalates tense situations. Corporal punishment is prohibited in our school district and is not to be used. Physical force may only be used to the extent reasonably necessary to protect the student, yourself and others, and to protect property as may be reasonable.
10. Violations of student rules which are also violations of state law are required to be reported to law enforcement. Make a report of such conduct to the Principal so this law may be followed.

### **Section 9      Dispensing Medication**

Teachers are not permitted to give any medication to students unless trained under the Medication Aid Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-6718 to 71-6743. Students who need to take prescription medicine must have a signed parent release form on file in the office. Medications are to be taken in the presence of the office staff, the nurse, or medication aide and are to be stored in the office. Medical procedures are not to be administered in the classroom except in accordance with the District's Safety and Security Management Plan and the District's Emergency Protocol (asthma/anaphylaxis protocol).

If students must take medication and/or perform medical procedures prescribed by a duly licensed physician during school hours, it is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to sign permission to dispense the medicine at the school and to submit a note or prescription from the physician authorizing the medicine and/or medical procedure. School district personnel will not administer medicine, including over the counter medicine, without this signed form and note or prescription. Any medication brought to school needs to be properly labeled. The label should include the following information: Student's name, name of medication, dosage needed, and time of dispensing the medication.

### **Section 10 Reporting Child Abuse**

Nebraska State Law and school policy mandates school officials to make a report to the proper law enforcement agency or the Department of Health and Human Services (Child Protective Services) when there is reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused or neglected, or a child is in a situation which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect. According to Nebraska State Law, abuse or neglect means knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child 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 minor child is six years of age or younger; Sexually abused; or
5. Sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions.

Teachers are to inform their principal or supervisor that they intend to make a report. Administrative staff may sometimes choose to make the report for a teacher. However, informing a principal or supervisor does not end the teacher's responsibility; teachers are obligated to make certain a report was made if they do not do it themselves.

It is vital that the report be made as accurately and as soon as possible. To assure accuracy, you are encouraged to document the date of the incident and specific statements or explanations made by a child regarding an abuse/neglect concern. Timeliness in making a report will assist in minimizing further risk to the child by allowing the police or Child Protective Services workers to interview the child during the school day and prior to an evening or weekend. In cases of physical injury (e.g., bruising or other marks), it is essential the police observe and document the injury. A counselor, the school social worker or an administrator will help you.

### **Section 11 Curriculum – Assessments**

1. State Assessments.

Chase County Schools has adopted an assessment plan and has aligned the curriculum with the state approved content standards. The assessment plan includes a schedule and procedures for assessing success in achieving state standards.

Teachers are to clearly articulate the learning targets and align instruction to the learning targets within each of the content standards. Teachers are to give students instruction on the content prior to students being assessed on each content standard in order to provide learning opportunities for all students.

The assessments are to be conducted in accordance with the assessment plan schedule. Teachers are to conduct the assessments in a manner that assures it accurately assesses whether or not students are meeting the targets outlined by the content standards.

Assessment results are to be reported by the teachers in the manner and within the time directed by the administration or designee. The assessment data is to be used to meet state standards, to provide students and parents with information about student progress, to enhance school improvement planning, and to improve instruction. The assessment data is to be evaluated by teachers to monitor student learning and to improve instruction or terminate ineffective teaching practices to ensure students are being given the opportunity to meet the standards.

## 2. Achieving Valid Assessments.

Educators are responsible for maintaining the integrity of the assessments to ensure that assessments provide a valid measure of student progress and accomplishments. Educators are not to engage in any practice that may result in assessment results that do not reflect student learning, knowledge, skills or abilities in the area assessed.

For purposes of this policy, student assessments include both “standardized assessments” (including state assessments, norm referenced tests, and evaluations conducted for special education eligibility) and “coursework assessments” (e.g., classroom tests, quizzes, and other evaluative tools used to assign grades).

The following specific assessment expectations and rules apply:

- a. Integrity of the Assessment Instrument. The integrity of the assessment instrument is to be maintained.
  - i. Standardized Assessments. Standardized assessment instruments are not to be made available to students at any time before the student takes the assessment. The assessment instrument is to be maintained in a secure manner.
  - ii. Coursework Assessments. Coursework assessment instruments are to be periodically modified to keep the assessments current and prevent students from effectively using “test banks.” For coursework assessments that are given on a repeat basis to students at different times (e.g., a test that is given to students throughout the school day), the educator is to remind students to not share the content of the assessment with students who will be taking the assessment later.

b. Teaching for Success on Assessments.

It is appropriate for educators to prepare students to do well on assessments. This is to be accomplished in a manner that assures the assessment accurately reflects the student's knowledge, and not simply test preparation.

- i. Teach the Content. Educators are to prepare students to do well on assessments by teaching the subject content. Educators are not to “teach to the test” by teaching based solely on the content of the assessment. The content is to be taught to the students over an appropriate amount of time prior to the assessment. “Cramming” assessment content just before the assessment is to be taken is not appropriate. Review of content previously taught is appropriate.
- ii. Practice Tests. Educators are to prepare students by teaching test taking skills independent of the subject matter being assessed. Educators are not to conduct reviews (drills) using earlier (no longer published) versions of the same test, using alternate (parallel) forms of the same published test, or using actual items from the current form of a standardized test that will be administered to students. Educators are not to conduct reviews (drills) using items of identical format (for example, multiple choice) to the exclusion of other formats.

c. Conditions for Successful Assessments.

- i. Communications. Educators are to communicate to students and parents when assessments will be administered, the purpose of the assessment and how the assessment results will be used. Educators are to motivate students to do their best on assessments. Educators are to read and be familiar with assessment administration directions in advance and communicate the rules to students accurately and clearly.
- ii. Climate. Educators are to have sufficient assessment materials available (e.g., No. 2 pencils, if needed). The classroom is to be arranged to allow comfortable seating. Distractions are to be eliminated. Educators in nearby classrooms are to be informed that the assessment is to be administered so noises from neighboring classrooms are kept at a minimum. Activities or arrangements are to be made for students who finish early so such students do not cause a distraction to other students still taking the assessment.
- iii. Security. Educators are to monitor students while administering assessments to ensure students are complying with standards of academic integrity. Students who violate standards of academic integrity are to be reported to the administration.

- d. Full Participation. Educators are to make efforts to have all eligible students take the assessments. The educator should develop a list of students who will be exempted from assessment and the reason for the exemption and submit the list for review and approval by the Principal.
- e. Assistance During Assessments.
  - i. Standardized Assessments. Educators are not to provide assistance to students while a standardized assessment is being administered except as provided for in a student’s 504 Plan or IEP. This includes giving “hints,” giving extra time, reading the tests to students or defining or pronouncing words for students, allowing students access to instructional material related to the content of the assessment (e.g., displaying a map during a social studies assessment) or allowing students access to mechanical aids (e.g., calculators).
  - ii. Coursework Assessments. For coursework assessments, students may be allowed access to instructional materials or mechanical aids only when all students being given the assessment are given the aids and use of the aids does not hinder the students from learning the content of the lesson.
- f. Student Answers. Assessments are to reflect the students’ work as submitted by the students. During the assessments, educators are to monitor students to make sure directions are being followed (e.g., students are using a No. 2 pencil on all “bubble” sheet assessments and completely erase mistaken answers and extra marks on “bubble” sheet assessments). Educators are not to change answers on a student’s assessment sheet or otherwise participate in the submission of false or misleading assessment results.

Violations of the rules and expectations set forth in this policy will be considered to be a breach of the District’s standard of ethics and may result in disciplinary consequences. Educators are to report suspected violations of the expectation to the administration. The administration is to investigate and appropriately respond to violations of the expectations.

## **Article 5 – PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

### **Section 1 Professional Ethics Standards**

The Chase County Schools expects its certificated employees to adhere to the professional ethics standards established by the Nebraska Department of Education as such standards may be modified from time to time. The professional ethics standards, which certificated employees are expected to adhere to, include those set forth below. References to “educator” shall include all certificated employees of the District.

**Preamble**

The educator shall believe in the worth and dignity of human beings. Recognizing the supreme importance of the pursuit of truth, the devotion to excellence and the nurture of democratic citizenship, the educator shall regard as essential to these goals the protection of the freedom to learn and to teach and the guarantee of equal educational opportunity for all. The educator shall accept the responsibility to practice the profession to these ethical standards.

The educator shall recognize the magnitude of the responsibility he or she has accepted in choosing a career in education, and engages, individually and collectively with other educators, to judge his or her colleagues, and to be judged by them, in accordance with the provisions of this code of ethics.

The standards listed in this section are held to be generally accepted minimal standards for public school certificate holders in the State of Nebraska and for all educators, including administrators, with respect to ethical and professional conduct.

**Principle I - Commitment as a Professional Educator:**

Fundamental to the pursuit of high educational standards is the maintenance of a profession possessed of individuals with high skills, intellect, integrity, wisdom, and compassion. The educator shall exhibit good moral character, maintain high standards of performance and promote equality of opportunity.

In fulfillment of the educator's contractual and professional responsibilities, the educator:

- A. Shall not interfere with the exercise of political and citizenship rights and responsibilities of students, colleagues, parents, school patrons, or school board members.
- B. Shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, or other protected category.
- C. Shall not use coercive means, or promise or provide special treatment to students, colleagues, school patrons, or school board members in order to influence professional decisions.
- D. Shall not make any fraudulent statement or fail to disclose a material fact for which the educator is responsible.
- E. Shall not exploit professional relationships with students, colleagues, parents, school patrons, or school board members for personal gain or private advantage.
- F. Shall not sexually harass students, parents or school patrons, employees, or board members.
- G. Shall not have had revoked for cause in another state a teaching certificate, administrative certificate, or any certificate enabling a person to engage in any of the activities for which a special services counseling certificate is issued in Nebraska.

- H. Shall not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in the performance of professional duties.
- I. Shall report to the Superintendent any known violation of paragraphs G, E, or B above.
- J. Shall seek no reprisal against any individual who has reported a violation of this rule.

**Principle II - Commitment to the Student:**

Mindful that a profession exists for the purpose of serving the best interests of the client, the educator shall practice the profession with genuine interest, concern, and consideration for the student. The educator shall work to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the student, the educator:

- A. Shall permit the student to pursue reasonable independent scholastic effort, and shall permit the student access to varying points of view.
- B. Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter for which the educator is responsible.
- C. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions, which interfere with the learning process or are harmful to health or safety.
- D. Shall conduct professional educational activities in accordance with sound educational practices that are in the best interest of the student.
- E. Shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information that has been obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves professional purposes, or is required by law.
- F. Shall not tutor for remuneration students assigned to his or her classes unless approved by the Superintendent or his designee.
- G. Shall not discipline students using corporal punishment.

**Principle III - Commitment to the Public:**

The magnitude of the responsibility inherent in the education process requires dedication to the principles of our democratic heritage. The educator bears particular responsibility for instilling an understanding of the confidence in the rule of law, respect for individual freedom, and a responsibility to promote respect by the public for the integrity of the profession.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the public, the educator:

- A. Shall not misrepresent an institution with which the educator is affiliated, and shall take added precautions to distinguish between the educator's personal and institutional views.
- B. **Shall not use institutional privileges for private gain or to promote political candidates, political issues, or partisan political activities.**
- C. Shall neither offer nor accept gifts or favors that will impair professional judgment.
- D. Shall support the principle of due process and protect the political, citizenship, and natural rights of all individuals.
- E. Shall not commit any act of moral turpitude, nor commit any felony under the laws of the United States or any state or territory.

- F. Shall, with reasonable diligence, attend to the duties of his or her professional position.

**Principle IV - Commitment to the Profession:**

In belief that the quality of the services to the education profession directly influences the nation and its citizens, the educator shall exert every effort to raise professional standards, to improve service, to promote a climate in which the exercise of professional judgment is encouraged, and to achieve conditions which attract persons worthy of the trust to careers in education. The educator shall believe that sound professional relationships with colleagues are built upon personal integrity, dignity, and mutual respect.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the profession, the educator:

- A. Shall provide upon the request of an aggrieved party, a written statement of specific reasons for recommendations that lead to the denial of increments, significant changes in employment, or termination of employment.
- B. Shall not misrepresent his or her professional qualifications, nor those of colleagues.
- C. Shall practice the profession only with proper certification, and shall actively oppose the practice of the profession by persons known to be unqualified.

**Principle V - Commitment to Professional Employment Practices:**

The educator shall regard the employment agreement as a pledge to be executed both in spirit and in fact. The educator shall believe that sound personnel relationships with governing boards are built upon personal integrity, dignity, and mutual respect.

In fulfillment of the obligation to professional employment practices, the educator:

- A. Shall apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position or responsibility on the basis of professional preparation and legal qualifications.
- B. Shall not knowingly withhold information regarding a position from an applicant or employer, or misrepresent an assignment or conditions of employment.
- C. Shall give prompt notice to the employer of any change in availability of service.
- D. Shall conduct professional business through designated procedures, when available, that have been approved by the employing agency.
- E. Shall not assign to unqualified personnel, tasks for which an educator is responsible.
- F. Shall permit no commercial or personal exploitation of his or her professional position.
- G. Shall use time on duty and leave time for the purpose for which intended.

**Section 2 Evaluations**

Evaluations of teachers will be conducted in accordance with the District's evaluation policy and the applicable negotiated agreement. Supervisors reserve the right to observe, appraise or evaluate teachers more frequently than required by policy on an as-needed basis. Teachers are expected to participate constructively and positively in the evaluation process and to accept and implement constructive suggestions and improvement strategies developed by the administration.

### **Section 3     Role Model**

Teachers serve as role models for students and their actions and conduct reflect on the school as a whole. Teachers are in all respects to conduct themselves in a professional manner.

#### **A.     Notification of Arrest, etc.**

Employees must notify Superintendent by the next business day after:

1.     Arrest or Criminal Charges. The employee is arrested, ticketed, or issued a criminal charge where:
  - a.    The maximum penalty for the crime equals or exceeds six months incarceration;
  - b.    The crime relates to abuse, neglect or endangerment of a minor, a minor was allegedly a victim or a witness, or the crime involves alleged sexual misconduct;
  - c.    Conviction would impact performance of employee’s job responsibilities, including offenses that:
    - i.    Would impact the responsibility to be a role model for students or relations with other employees of Chase County Schools;
    - ii.   Would impact the employee’s ability to operate a motor vehicle if the employee at times needs to travel during duty time or the employee at times drives students; or
    - iii.  Would impact the employee’s Commercial Drivers License if the employee’s job requires that the employee have a CDL.
  - d.    The arrest or the alleged criminal activity occurred while the employee was on duty, on property of Chase County Schools, or in a school owned or utilized vehicle, or at a school-supervised activity or school-sponsored function.Employees must also promptly report to the Superintendent whenever the employee has been sentenced to be incarcerated for any period of time, even if the offense is not otherwise reportable.
2.     Certificate or License. The employee becomes aware that a complaint has been filed against the employee that could affect a certificate or license required for the employee’s position. This includes proceedings of the Nebraska Department of Education related to an alleged violation of the NDE Standards of Conduct and Ethics, Chapter 27, and proceedings of the Health and Human Services related to an alleged violation of the professional standards of conduct for the employee’s position.
3.     Child Abuse. The employee becomes aware that a report of child abuse or neglect has been made against the employee under the Child Protection Act.

Further, employees must give full disclosure of any Child Protection Act investigation that resulted in an “inconclusive” determination that occurred at any time. Current employees must give such disclosure within ten days following adoption of this Policy. As a condition of employment, applicants for employment must give such disclosure prior to commencement of employment. Any hiring

made without such disclosure shall be subject to being immediately revoked in the event the required disclosure was not given.

Employees must give full disclosure of the existence and nature of the above proceedings and must also promptly notify Superintendent of the disposition of the proceedings.

Legal documents relating to the proceedings shall be treated and maintained as part of the employee's confidential criminal background file.

Failure to notify as required under this policy may subject the employee to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

#### B. Civility

All employees shall behave with civility, fairness and respect in dealing with fellow employees, students, parents, patrons, visitors, and anyone else having business with Chase County School. Uncivil behaviors are prohibited. Employees may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination for engaging in uncivil behaviors.

Uncivil behaviors are any behaviors that are physically or verbally threatening, either overtly or implicitly, as well as behaviors that are coercive, intimidating, violent or harassing. Such interactions are prohibited in all forms of communication, including telephone conversations, voice mail messages, face-to-face conversations, written communications, and email messages.

Any employee aware of another employee's uncivil behavior shall report the conduct to the employee's immediate supervisor or to the Superintendent. There will be no retaliation against a person for making the report.

#### C. Visitors to Employees

Employees are not to have visitors while on duty other than as appropriate for the performance of their duties except on a short-term basis and only with permission of the Superintendent or designee. Included in the definition of visitors are family members of the employee. Employees are responsible for ensuring that their visitors follow posted procedures for being on Chase County School's property. Employees are not to bring their children to work with them in lieu of taking them to childcare.

#### D. Tobacco

The use of tobacco products is prohibited in all school buildings and all school vehicles. Smoking shall also be prohibited in any area where school staff, students or members of the public may be present or may be affected by smoke, including without limitation the stands and bleachers of outdoor athletic fields and near the entry of school buildings.

For purposes of this policy, tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), alternative nicotine

products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. This does not preclude adults from wearing non-visible nicotine patches, or using nicotine gum without displaying the product container, as part of a smoking cessation program.

Legal Reference:	§§ 71-5716 to 71-5734
Date of Adoption:	

E. Complaints or Concerns of Employees

Employees are to inform Chase County Schools of any complaints or concerns about the operations of Chase County Schools using the established chain of command (immediate supervisor, next higher level supervisor, etc.) on all matters that require administrative attention; that is, on all matters or issues that their job responsibilities require them to report to a supervisor.

It is important to the efficient and successful operation of Chase County Schools and a duty of all of the District’s employees to share any such complaints or concerns in a responsible, professional manner such as to: (1) not disrupt the proper functioning of their office, department, or position, (2) not undermine the authority of their co-workers, supervisors, or superiors, (3) maintain close working relationships with their co-workers, supervisors, and superiors, and (4) ensure that all applicable laws and regulations are followed. All employee official communications must be accurate, demonstrate sound judgment, and promote Chase County School’s mission. Employees must ensure that all applicable laws and regulations are followed by Chase County Schools and its employees. In the event an employee becomes aware of any such non-compliance, the employee is to report such to the employee’s immediate supervisor (or the next higher level, if the supervisor is responsible for the problem) and maintain the confidentiality of the report so that the problem can be appropriately corrected in the best interests of Chase County Schools.

Employees are to use the appropriate complaint or grievance mechanism for matters involving discrimination or harassment or other established mechanism specific to the nature of the complaint or concern.

Chase County Schools will not tolerate unlawful retaliation against an employee for engaging in legally protected activity. A protected activity includes an employee’s act of opposing an unlawful practice prohibited by employment discrimination or other laws that protect the conduct in question. Any act of unlawful retaliation by a supervisor or other employee may result in serious disciplinary action up to and including termination. Any employee may file a complaint with the Administrator or appropriate Coordinator if the employee feels that they have experienced unlawful retaliation in any form.

**Section 4 Relationships**

It is important for teachers to maintain an effective working relationship with the administration and all co-workers, including other teachers and support staff. Teachers are also to maintain appropriate relationships with students. Appropriate relationships are established by extending social courtesies, following through on commitments and promises, complying with administrative

directives and Board policies, being honest and consistent, and not intruding into personal matters outside the scope of duties or gossiping or spreading rumors about others.

### Professional Boundaries Between Employees and Students

All employees are expected to observe and maintain professional boundaries between themselves and students. A violation of professional boundaries will be regarded as a form of misconduct and may result in disciplinary action.

The following non-exclusive list of actions will be regarded as a violation of the professional boundaries that employees are expected to maintain with a student:

- Using e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging or social networking sites to discuss with a student a matter that does not pertain to school-related activities, such as the student's homework, class activity, school sport or club, or other school-sponsored activity. Electronic communications with students are to be sent simultaneously to multiple recipients, not to just one student, except where the communication is clearly school-related and inappropriate for persons other than the individual student to receive (for example, e-mailing a message about a student's grades).
- Engaging in social-networking friendships with a student on Instagram, Facebook, or other social networking site. Material that employees post on social networks that is publicly available to those in the school community must reflect the professional image applicable to the employee's position and not impair the employee's capacity to maintain the respect of students and parents or impair the employee's ability to serve as a role model for children.
- Engaging in sexual activity, a romantic relationship, or dating a student or a former student within one year of the student graduating or otherwise leaving the District.
- Making any sexual advance – verbal, written, or physical – towards a student.
- Showing sexually inappropriate materials or objects to a student.
- Discussing with a student sexual topics that are not related to a specific curriculum.
- Telling sexual jokes to a student.
- Invading a student's physical privacy (e.g., walking in on the student in a restroom).
- Hugging or other physical contact with a student that is initiated by the employee when the student does not seek or want this attention.
- Being overly "touchy" with a specific student.

- Allowing a specific student to get away with misconduct that is not tolerated from other students, except as appropriate for students with an IEP or 504 Plan.
- Discussing with the student the employee's problems that would normally be discussed with adults (e.g., marital problems).
- Giving a student a ride in the employee's personal vehicle without express permission of the student's parent or school administrator unless another adult is in the vehicle.
- Taking a student on an outing without obtaining prior express permission of the student's parent or school administrator.
- Inviting a student to the employee's home without prior express permission of the student's parent and school administrator.
- Going to the student's home when the student's parent or a proper chaperone is not present.
- Giving gifts of a personal nature to a specific student.

Appropriate exceptions are permitted to the foregoing for legitimate health or educational purposes and for reasons of familial relationships between employees and their children who are students in the District.

### **Section 5 Professional Attire**

It is important for teachers to project a professional image to students, parents and co-workers. Appropriate attire and grooming is one of the means of projecting a professional image. Teachers are expected to maintain conservative and professional attire and grooming when on duty. As professionals, teachers are expected to be aware of the standard to be maintained. As a minimal guide, teachers should not wear clothing which students would not be permitted to wear at school. The administration may establish more detailed guidelines for individual teachers should that be necessary.

### **Section 6 Private Tutoring**

Teachers are encouraged to provide individual assistance to students as a part of their duties. Teachers who engage in private tutoring for pay (compensation of any kind from a source other than the District) are subject to the following rules:

1. The teacher may not arrange to provide private tutoring for any child enrolled in the teacher's class.
2. The teacher is not to provide private tutoring during duty time.
3. The teacher is not to advertise or promote the teacher's private tutoring services in the school or in the school's communications systems except with the express permission of the Superintendent or designee.

### **Section 7 Outside Employment**

Teachers shall not perform duties unrelated to District employment during duty hours. In addition,

teachers shall not engage in employment which conflicts with their school duties. Teachers are not required to notify the District of outside employment except: (1) teachers who are also employed by another Nebraska school district in order to comply with Nebraska State Retirement System regulations and (2) teachers who have a work-related injury in order to comply with workers' compensation requirements.

### **Section 8 Safe Transportation**

When driving a school vehicle or transporting students, teachers are to abide by all rules of the road and any applicable rules of the Nebraska Department of Education and the District relating to driving a motor vehicle. Seat belts and child restraint systems will be utilized by all occupants.

When transporting students, teachers are not to use cell phones or otherwise engage in distractions. This rule applies to the driver when the vehicle is in motion. The only exception would be in the case of emergencies.

## **Article 6 – ACADEMIC MATTERS**

### **Section 1 Purpose and Goals of Academic Achievement**

The Chase County School Board of Education is committed to providing a quality education for all Chase County Schools students consistent with the school's mission statement. Effective, quality instruction by teachers is an essential means of meeting the District's mission of providing a quality education.

### **Section 2 Teaching to Student Understanding to Assure Learning**

Each teacher is responsible for teaching in a manner to meet the mission of the District and to assure student understanding and learning of the principles and concepts to be presented to students within the curriculum adopted by the District. Teachers will model classroom instruction on the educational model implemented by the District and reflected in the teacher evaluation instrument adopted by the Board of Education. Teachers are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the instructional model and the principles of instruction set forth in the evaluation instrument. The administration shall provide periodic in-services regarding the instructional model.

State and federal laws and regulations have been enacted which require that students with certain needs be provided instruction and services consistent with those special needs. Examples include students who have been verified as in need of special education ("special education students"), students with other disabilities which impact the educational program ("504 students"), and limited English proficient students ("LEP or ELL students"). The District's policy is to comply with the state and federal laws and regulations in all respects. Teachers who are assigned special education, 504, or LEP/ELL students are required to provide instruction and services consistent with legal requirements and the requirements of Board policy and regulation.

### **Section 3 Instruction in the Curriculum**

Teachers shall instruct students in the curriculum, including the use of curriculum materials, adopted and implemented by the Board of Education and as directed by the administration.

#### **Section 4 Measuring and Reporting Academic Achievement**

**Grades and Grading.** Measuring and accurately reporting the level of each student's academic achievement is of critical importance to students, parents, staff, the board of education and community. To this end, each teacher shall develop a variety of assessment instruments and techniques to measure student achievement in the curriculum adopted and implemented by the school district, record the results of such assessment, and report such results on Report Cards. Teachers should endeavor to measure student learning and understanding on a frequent basis during each quarter to provide an accurate evaluation of each student's academic achievement for that period. It is required that the teacher record at least one grade per week. It is generally preferable to give numerical grades for tests, quizzes, and daily work. **GRADES MUST BE RECORDED FOR ALL CURRICULAR AREAS.**

**Recording Grades.** Each teacher shall record grades in Infinite Campus. A sufficient number of grades must be recorded in the grade book to justify all quarter and semester grades for each student. Please keep consistent and complete records. Teachers must be able to support and justify the grades that each individual student earns.

**Grade Scales.** Teachers are to use only the grading scales set forth below. Any deviation from the approved grade scales must be approved by the building principal.

STUDENT EVALUATION SCALE: The grade scales to be used for reporting student progress in grades 4-12 are as follows:

**Superior** – 93-100 (A) The student is more than meeting the demands of the teacher. His work is on time. The work is of superior quality. It shows mastery of the subject matter. He has the ability to carry the job through, and exerts a positive influence on the class.

**Above Average** – 86-92 (B) The work is of superior nature and the required work is well done. The student meets the demands of the teacher and exerts a positive influence on the class.

**Average** – 76-85 (C) He does satisfactorily the required work. The work is on time and is of average quality. The student is showing achievement.

**Below Average to Unsatisfactory** – 70-76 (D) The student is not doing all of the assigned work, is dependent on others, is inconsistent, uncertain, and confused. Work is below normal, but shows some evidence of growth.

**Failing** – 69 and below (F) Unsatisfactory, with little growth taking place, lack of interest and irregular attendance and attention. (Provides no credit toward those needed for graduation.)

**P** - Indicates that the student is passing regular work in the class.

**I** - Incompletes are assigned in cases where the student's work is incomplete at the end of the nine-week period and/or semester. This may be due to absence because of illness, etc. The student and teacher will work together to arrange a timeline for the completion of the missed work. If the assigned work is not completed by the established deadline, the incomplete becomes an F. Incompletes not taken care of in this time frame will not be eligible for the honor roll.

**Con.** - Condition mark - Condition marks may be assigned in cases that do not warrant an outright

failure. The instructor may then give a passing grade at the close of the next grading period or may fail the student for both grading periods.

**STUDENT EVALUATION SCALE:** The grade scales to be used for reporting student progress in grades K are as follows:

Exceeds grade level- +  
Meets grade level expectations- o  
Developing skills- -  
Not assessed at this time- x

**STUDENT EVALUATION SCALE:** The grade scales to be used for reporting student progress in grades 1-3 and PE and music for grades K-3 are as follows:

Advanced- 4  
Proficient- 3  
Progressing- 2  
Beginning- 1  
Not evaluated at this time- X

**Outstanding** – 96-100 (O) Work is consistently excellent/Pupil is consistently giving optimum effort.

**Superior** – 90-95 (S+)

**Satisfactory** – 84-89 (S) Work is generally good/Pupil applies himself most of the time.

**Low Satisfactory** – 77-83 (S-)

**Needs Improvement** – 70-76 (N) Work is not done well/Pupil displays minimum effort.

**Unsatisfactory** – 0-69 (U) Work is unacceptable for grade standards.

The preceding grade scales are expected to be used according to the following guidelines:

1. No other grade scales are to be used on official records or reports.
2. "Failing," "unsatisfactory" or equivalent terms indicate that student performance does not meet the minimum requirements established for the course. A final mark of "failing" or "unsatisfactory" in a credit-bearing course means that credit hours will not be granted.
3. The mark given at the end of each reporting period is considered an evaluation of the pupil's status at the time (for example, the final mark in a semester course is an evaluation of the pupil's status as of the close of the semester; not an average of two nine-week marks).
4. Teachers may exercise professional judgment in distributing marks. Marks are not expected to be distributed on a normal curve.

#### Reconsideration of Grades/Marks

Questions raised concerning duly assigned grades will be resolved cooperatively in a conference which

includes the teacher(s) involved and the Principal. In the event a grade is questioned by parents or students, the parents/guardians and/or student may be included in the conference.

Failure to resolve the issue will result in a second conference involving the Superintendent or designee and the participants in the initial conference described above. The grades designated by teachers will not be changed unilaterally by the Superintendent unless the Superintendent determines that the grade is not consistent with the requirements of law, Board policy, or the best interests of the District.

Reduced Credit. Some students in certain situations may qualify for less than the number of credits normally granted for a course. Late entry or a serious injury at an awkward point in the semester would be a couple of examples. If a student is excessively absent from a class for any particular reason, a teacher may request reduced credit. All cases of reduced credit should be recorded on a "Reduced Credit/Error Summary" form and be approved by the Principal.

Transfer Grades. A student transferring into Chase County School at the 15 - 18 week time period will have all grades on transcript from an accredited school accepted for semester credit. Grades must be approved for credit by the Principal.

Reports to Parents. Grades and credit are assigned on a quarter (9 weeks) or semester basis (18 weeks). Reports are sent to parents at the close of each nine weeks during the school year; the reporting periods are referred to as first quarter, first semester, third quarter, and second semester.

The grade reports are produced from information supplied by teachers and distributed to students at school or are mailed to parents.

All term or mid-quarter grades are calculated on a cumulative basis; i.e., the grade given at the end of the first quarter represents an evaluation of work done during that quarter, and the grade given at the close of the semester represents an evaluation of all the work done during the entire 18 weeks.

The end-of-quarter and end-of-semester reports are directed to parents, not to students. Students probably know quite well how they stand in such areas as citizenship, attitude, cooperation, attendance, preparation of assignments, etc. The parents do not have this knowledge. If any such factors have significant bearing on the student's grades or their relationship with teachers, notes should be sent to parents. Arrangements will be made to place these teacher-written notes with the grade report forms. The notes may call attention to deficiencies, faults, or failures; or they may be commendatory in nature. If carefully prepared, they can be most valuable. Parents need to have information about areas of strengths and areas needing improvement and progress being made by their child. For their instruction, and for our ultimate well-being, if and when problems arise, it is essential that the reports be as informative as possible. Teachers should, in all cases, plan to keep on file duplicate copies of the notes which are sent to parents.

Please accept, cooperatively and professionally, the responses that parents may make subsequent to the distribution of term or mid-quarter reports. Parents are not always helpful or reasonable under these circumstances but they do need information and direction. Please encourage parents to discuss their student-centered problems with you and give them all possible assistance.

## **Section 5 Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-Teacher conferences are a critical opportunity for teachers to dialogue with parents (or guardians) of students regarding student achievement and learning. To this end, Parent-Teacher conferences will be scheduled and held twice during the school year. Teacher attendance at Parent-Teacher conferences is mandatory. A teacher may only be excused from attendance at Parent-Teacher conferences in writing by the Superintendent.

Teachers are expected to be prepared for such conferences. Being prepared includes having completed grade books which include all student assignments, work or tests completed within five (5) days of the date of the Parent-Teacher conference.

## **Article 7 – USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

### **Section 1 Drug-Free Workplace**

The District has established the school as a drug free workplace. The drug-free workplace for this purpose includes school grounds, school utilized vehicles, and places in which school activities are held.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, disposition, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the work place. The possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol, the use of glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, and being under the influence of illicit drugs, alcohol, or inhalants, is prohibited in any place while teachers are on duty time. Any level of impairment from illicit drugs, alcohol, or inhalants, and the presence of any odor of illicit drugs (such as marijuana) or alcohol on a teacher in the work place or on duty time shall be a violation of the drug-free workplace. The possession or distribution of a look-alike drug or look-alike-controlled substance is prohibited. In addition, teachers are expected to serve as role models for students and will be considered to have violated the District's expectations in the event the teacher commits a criminal drug or alcohol offense off the work place or off duty time.

As a condition of employment teachers will abide by the District's drug-free workplace policies and notify the Superintendent of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than 5 days after such conviction. Disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination of employment and referral for prosecution will be imposed for violations of the District's drug-free workplace policies. Sanctions may include the requirement that the teacher complete an appropriate rehabilitation program, a reprimand, and termination of employment. Drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and reentry programs are available through local health agencies.

### **Section 2 Smoke and Tobacco-Free Workplace**

The use of tobacco products is prohibited in all school buildings and all school vehicles. Smoking shall also be prohibited in any area where school staff, students or members of the public may be present or may be affected by smoke, including without limitation the stands and bleachers of outdoor athletic fields and near the entry of school buildings.

For purposes of this policy, tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance

or effect. This does not preclude adults from wearing non-visible nicotine patches, or using nicotine gum without displaying the product container, as part of a smoking cessation program.

### **Section 3      **Weapon-Free Workplace****

The District prohibits any person from being in possession of a weapon at a school attendance facility, on school property, at a school-supervised activity, or at a school-sponsored function. Any teacher found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

The term "weapon" means an instrument or object used, or which may be used, as a means of attack, defense, or destruction, including, without limitation:

1. Any object which will, or is designed to, or may readily be converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other means;
2. The frame or receiver of any object described in the preceding example;
3. Any firearm muffler or silencer;
4. Any explosive, incendiary or gas (a) bomb, (b) grenade, (c) rocket, (d) missile, (e) mine, or similar device;
5. Any bludgeon, sand-club, metal knuckles, or throwing star;
6. Any knife other than as used for strictly instructional or personal care or eating purposes. A pocket knife with a blade of 2-1/2 inches or more is a prohibited weapon. A switch-blade knife is prohibited regardless of size of the blade. A switch-blade knife is defined as a knife with a blade that opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring, or other device in the handle of a knife, or any knife having a blade that opens or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity or by an outward, downward, or centrifugal thrust or movement;
7. Any electronic device designed to discharge immobilizing levels of electricity, commonly known as a stun gun; and
8. A teacher may possess mace or other similar chemical agents in quantity and/or concentration typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes and it shall not be considered as possession of a weapon. Possession of larger quantities and/or concentrations of mace or other similar chemical agents than is typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes will be considered as possession of a weapon. Usage of mace or other similar chemical agents will be considered as usage of a weapon if the usage is found to be for non-defensive purposes. A teacher who is negligent in their possession of mace or other similar chemical agents will be subject to disciplinary action.
9. A teacher may possess an item which may be considered a weapon where such item is used for instructional purposes and the teacher has received approval of the administration to possess the item, provided it is used in the manner approved and is maintained in such manner as the administration has directed.
10. Any other object that is designed for or intended for use as a destructive or injurious device.

The phrase "possession of a weapon" includes, without limitation, a weapon in a teacher's personal possession, as well as in a teacher's motor vehicle, desk, locker, briefcase, backpack, or purse.

#### **Section 4 Use of District Computer Network and Internet**

Teachers have access to the District's computer network and the Internet for the enhancement and support of student instruction. It is important to remember that the equipment and the software are the property of the school district.

In using the computers and the Internet, teachers are agreeing to the following:

1. Since copyright laws protect software, teachers will not make unauthorized copies of software found on school computers by any means. Teachers will not give, lend, or sell copies of software to others unless the original software is clearly identified as shareware or in the public domain.
2. If a teacher downloads public domain programs for personal use or non-commercially redistributes a public domain program, the teacher assumes all risks regarding the determination of whether a program is in the public domain.
3. Teachers shall not access material that is obscene, child pornography or otherwise inappropriate matter for educational or work-related uses or contrary to the District's mission. Teachers are not permitted to knowingly access information that is profane, obscene or offensive toward a group or individual based upon race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, or another protected category. Further, teachers are prohibited from placing such information on the Internet.
4. Teachers will protect the privacy of other computer users' areas by not accessing their passwords without written permission. Teachers will not copy, change, read, or use another person's files. Teachers will not engage in "hacking" or otherwise attempt to gain unauthorized access to system programs or computer equipment.
5. Teachers will not use computer systems to disturb or harass other computer users by sending unwanted mail or by other means.
6. Teachers will not disclose their passwords and account names to anyone or attempt to ascertain or use anyone else's password and account name.
7. Teachers will not attempt to login to the system as a system administrator.
8. Teachers understand that the intended use of all computer equipment is to meet instructional objectives.
9. Teachers will not waste or take supplies, such as paper, printer ribbons, toner, and diskettes that are provided by the District.
10. Teachers will not use the network for financial gain or for any commercial or illegal activity.
11. Attempts to bypass security systems on computer workstations or servers, or vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and may result in further consequences. Malicious attempts to harm or destroy data of another teacher, or data that resides anywhere on the network or on the Internet, or the uploading or creation of computer viruses are forbidden.
12. The District will not be responsible for any liabilities, costs, expenses, or purchases incurred by the use of the District's telecommunications systems such as the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, the purchase of on line services or products. The teacher is solely responsible for any such charges. The teacher's acceptance of an email account is an acceptance of the teacher's agreement to indemnify the District for any expenses, including legal fees, arising out of the teacher's use of the system in violation of the agreement.

13. The Internet will be supplied for your use on an "as is, as available" basis. The District does not imply or expressly warrant that any information you access will be valuable or fit for a particular purpose or that the system will operate error free.
14. The District is not responsible for the integrity of information accessed, or software downloaded from the Internet.
15. The District reserves the right to refuse posting of files, and to remove files.
16. The District further reserves the right to inspect a teacher's computer and computer usage at any time. Teachers have no privacy rights or expectations of privacy with regard to use of the District's computers or Internet system.
17. The computer system is not a public forum. It is provided for the limited purpose of advancing the District's mission.
18. A technology protection measure is in place that blocks and/or filters Internet access to prevent access to Internet sites that are not in accordance with policies and regulations. In addition to blocks and/or filters, the District may also use other technology protection measures or procedures as deemed appropriate. The technology protection measure that blocks and/or filters Internet access may be disabled only by an authorized staff member for bona fide research or educational purposes: (a) who has successfully completed district training on proper disabling circumstances and procedures, (b) with permission of the immediate supervisor of the staff member requesting said disabling, or (c) with the permission of a building administrator. An authorized staff member may override the technology protection measure that blocks and/or filters Internet access for a minor to access a site for bona fide research or other lawful purposes provided the minor is monitored directly by an authorized staff member.

Any violation of any part of this agreement or any other activity which school administrators deem inappropriate will be subject to disciplinary action. Discipline could include but would not be limited to, the immediate suspension or termination of the teacher's Internet account and computer privileges, reprimand, suspension, or termination.

#### **Section 5 Use of School Facilities**

Teachers will be issued keys to the school. Teachers are expected to not lose their keys and to not allow others to have access to or to use their keys. Teachers are permitted to have access to school facilities during non-school time provided such access is for work-related purposes. When teachers leave the building, they are to close all windows, lock their classroom door, and make sure that the entry door is fully closed and locked. This is especially important when teachers are using the school facilities prior to the beginning of the school year and during any weekend or evening usage.

School property is to be used for approved work-related purposes and not for personal purposes or for personal gain or benefit. Teachers/coaches and immediate family (18 and under must be supervised) may use the weight room and auxiliary and shorthorn gyms for personal use through the school/community membership agreement. Use of school supplies (paper, staples, etc.), school equipment (copiers, fax machines, telephones, etc.), and school postage is to be for approved school-related purposes only. Excess or surplus supplies or equipment, including items which have been placed in the trash, should not be removed for non-school use without approval from the administration.

## **Section 6 Care of School Property**

Teachers are responsible for the proper care of all books, equipment, supplies and furniture supplied by the school. If an item is in need of maintenance or repair, report it to the Principal. If you learn that a student has damaged school property or equipment, or if you are responsible for damage to school property, promptly report it to the Principal so the item may be replaced or repaired if possible and appropriate responsibility for the cost of replacement or repair may be determined.

## **Section 7 Use of Telephone**

Personal telephone calls shall not be made during duty time except in the event of an emergency. You will need to promptly log long distance calls and be responsible for any charges, which are for personal use.

## **Section 8 Visitors**

Teachers are not to have visitors on school property except on a short-term basis and only with permission of the principal. Included in the definition of visitors are family members of the teacher. Visitors should follow posted procedures for being on school property. Teachers are not to bring their children to school with them in lieu of taking them to childcare.

## **Section 9 Salespersons**

Teachers need not allow, and should not permit, any salesperson or representative or agent of any commercial enterprise or theatrical presentation to contact the teacher while engaged in the teacher's duties except for such times as may be designated by the Superintendent or designee. By law, the hours of no solicitation are between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on all days school is in session. If you are required to be at work earlier than 8:30 a.m., the hours are extended to that earlier time as well.

Teachers shall not use classrooms, buildings or other school property for personal use or profit without specific approval from the Superintendent or designee. Teachers shall not use time for which the teacher is on duty or paid by the District to engage in any activity for personal financial profit. Any violation of this policy will be held to be willful insubordination.

## **Section 10 Security of Desks and Lockers**

Offices, teacher desks, lockers, file cabinets and other such storage devices ("storage devices") are owned by the school and are to be properly cared for and maintained. Appropriate security measures should be used to protect school and personal property kept in storage devices from theft or vandalism and to protect confidential student records.

The school exercises exclusive control over school property and reserves the right to search offices and storage devices provided to or used by employees where permitted by law, such as where reasonable grounds exist for suspecting that a search will turn up evidence that the employee has committed work-related misconduct, or that a search is necessary for a non-investigatory work-related purpose, such as to retrieve a file. School-related documents or records must remain readily available to administration and other appropriate school staff. Any personal items a teacher wants to have kept private should be kept in a separate personal storage device, such as a brief case, purse or backpack.

The District is not responsible for any personal property teachers may bring to school. Teachers are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of significant value to school.

### **Section 11 Video Surveillance**

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 to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Notice is hereby given that video surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

### **Section 12 Bulletins and Announcements**

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by the Principal's office. Posters are to be limited to approved areas and include administrator's initials. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

### **Section 13 Copyright and Fair Use Policy**

It is the school's policy to follow the federal copyright law. Teachers are reminded that, when using school equipment and when performing school duties, they also must follow the federal copyright laws. The federal copyright law governs the reproduction of works of authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

The "fair use" doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. The relevant portion of the copyright statute provides that the "fair use" of a copyrighted work, including reproduction "for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research" is not an infringement of copyright. The law lists the following factors as the ones to be evaluated in determining whether a particular use of a copyrighted work is a permitted "fair use," rather than an infringement of the copyright:

- the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole, and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

Although all of these factors will be considered, the last factor is the most important in determining whether a particular use is "fair." Teachers should seek assistance from administration if there are any questions regarding what may be copied.

## **Section 14 Lost and Found**

Teachers who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the articles can be claimed by the owner.

## **Section 15 Safety**

### Safety Program and Safety Committee

The District has established a Safety and Security Management Plan which includes safety and security plans and procedures, including plans and procedures to address emergency and crisis situations. Teachers are expected to be familiar with and to comply with the Safety and Security Management Plan. The Plan may be obtained for review or copy from the Principal or the Superintendent.

The District also has a safety committee to address employee accidents, injuries and work place conditions. A representative from each bargaining group plus representatives appointed by administration serve on the committee. If you have a desire to serve on the committee, you should contact the President of the teachers' association. Teachers can make suggestions and/or report concerns to the safety committee in the following ways: (1) contact the teachers' association representative of the safety committee, (2) contact the President of the teachers' association, or (3) contact the Safety Committee in care of the Superintendent.

### Safety Practices

Guidelines for safe work practices which teachers should follow include the following:

1. Never stand on chairs, counters, tables, etc. Only use step stools, ladders and locking stools to stand, climb, etc., to reach high places, put things on bulletin boards, etc.
2. Always wear protective equipment (i.e., goggles, aprons, gloves, and ear protection).
3. Wipe up spills or report promptly to appropriate personnel. DO NOT assume someone else will do it.
4. Be aware of your surroundings. Pick up clutter, keep your work area or room clean and free of clutter, debris, etc.
5. Identify and report all hazards (i.e., broken equipment, broken or uneven floor surfaces, non-operating tools, windows, doors, etc.). Follow up if not repaired.
6. Do not use equipment if you are not familiar with it or operate machinery without proper training.
7. Do not carry heavy or bulky objects. Get a cart, dolly or assistance. Know how to properly lift.
8. Report any injuries or medical problems to your supervisor immediately and complete the employee accident report.
9. Wear seatbelts when in vehicles where provided.
10. Do not do repetitive tasks for long periods of time (i.e., keyboarding, dipping cookies, cutting out things, filing, typing, etc.). Take breaks, learn and do stretching exercises, etc. Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the Principal.

As required by law, approved safety glasses will be required of every student and teacher while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial technology, science, and art classes. All visitors to these areas must check out a pair of safety glasses when entering any of these areas.

#### Use of Personal Vehicles

Teachers who drive school vehicles or volunteer to use their personal automobile to transport students must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance. Teachers will be provided a Driver's Certification form to verify this information and to be given instruction on emergency evacuation and first aid. Teachers who drive school vehicles or transport students in their personal vehicles are responsible for following safe driving practices, including use of seat belts by all occupants, and are responsible for any injury or accident. Teachers are not to use cell phones while driving a school vehicle or while transporting children.

#### Accidents

Every accident which results in a personal injury must be reported to the Principal immediately. In the event the injury involves a student, the teacher responsible for the student either as teacher, coach or sponsor is responsible for making the report. If the injury occurs in the presence of the teacher, the teacher is also responsible for making a report.

#### Workers Compensation

Teachers are required to immediately report any work-related injury and/or work-related medical condition to their supervisor and complete all appropriate paperwork.

## **Article 8 – STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS**

### **Section 1 Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The Chase County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected category in admission or access to, or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. The Coordinators listed in Section 2 have been designated to handle inquiries regarding complaints, grievance procedures or the application of these policies of nondiscrimination.

Local complaint or grievance procedures are provided for by the District and set forth in this handbook. If an employee does not feel that a complaint of nondiscrimination has been satisfactorily resolved at the school level, the employee may file a complaint with the appropriate federal or state agency. Complaints are to be filed with the regional Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights where the complaint relates to Title IX (discrimination, harassment or lack of equity based on gender), Title VI (discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin) or Section 504 (discrimination, harassment or failure to accommodate a disability). Complaints are to be filed with the regional U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) if the complaint relates to Title VII (discrimination or harassment based on race, color, gender, national origin, or religion), the Americans with Disabilities Act (discrimination, harassment or failure to accommodate a disability), or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (discrimination based on age). The contact information for the OCR and the EEOC in this regard are:

Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR)  
 601 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 353  
 Kansas City, MO 64106  
 (800) 368-1019 (voice), Fax (816) 426-3686  
 (800) 537-7697 (telecommunications device for the deaf),  
 or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)  
 Gateway Tower II  
 400 State Avenue, Suite 905  
 Kansas City, KS 66101  
 (800) 669-4000; TTY: (800) 669-6820; Fax (913) 551-6957

A publication provided by the federal government concerning rights of non-discrimination is attached as Appendix “D” to this handbook.

**Section 2 Designation of Coordinators**

Any person having inquiries concerning the District’s compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies or other programs should contact or notify the following person(s) who are designated as the coordinator for such laws, policies or programs. The contact address for the coordinator is: Chase County Schools, 520 E 9<sup>th</sup> Street; Imperial, Nebraska 69003, (308) 882-4304.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Mr. Klooz
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Mr. Hauxwell/Mr. Lechtenberg
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Mr. Lechtenberg
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Mr. Klooz
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Mr. Klooz

**Section 3 Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy**

Elimination of Discrimination

The Chase County Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. This school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations.

### Preventing Harassment and Discrimination

Purpose: Chase County Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers, students or other persons is prohibited. In addition, the Chase County Schools will try to protect employees and students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the work place and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected category constitute harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

Age harassment (40 years of age and higher) has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.

Sexual harassment is defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment. Sexual harassment may exist when:

- Submission to such conduct is either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment or of participation and enjoyment of the school's programs and activities;
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used or threatened as a basis for employment related decisions, such as promotion, performance, evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc., or school program or activity decisions, such as admission, credits, grades, school assignments or playing time;
- The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, class room or educational environment.
- Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

### Complaint and Grievance Procedures

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the

Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Chase County Schools. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

#### **Section 4 Grievance Procedure for Persons with a Disability**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act address discrimination, harassment or failure to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with a disability. The following grievance procedure shall be used for resolution of complaints of alleged violations of the ADA or Section 504:

1. Complaints shall be filed with the ADA and Section 504 Coordinator. Complaints shall be made in writing, unless the Complainant's disability prevents such, in which event the Complaint can be made verbally.
2. Complaints shall set forth: (a) the name of the Complainant, (b) the address and telephone number or other such information sufficient to enable the Coordinator to contact the Complainant, (c) a brief description of the alleged violation, and (d) the relief requested by the Complainant.
3. Complaints shall be investigated by the Coordinator or the Coordinator's designee. Investigations shall be thorough, but informal, and the Complainant shall be given a full opportunity to submit evidence relevant to the complaint.
4. The Coordinator shall make a decision on the Complaint within thirty (30) days of the filing of the Complaint, unless such time period is extended by agreement with the Complainant or a longer period is reasonably necessitated by the circumstances. The decision shall be made in writing, shall set forth the Coordinator's proposed resolution of the Complaint, and shall be forwarded to the Complainant.
5. The Complainant shall have ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant to accept or reject the Coordinator's proposed resolution. The Complainant shall be deemed to have accepted the proposed resolution unless the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution within such time period.
6. In the event the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution, the Complainant shall be given the opportunity to file a request for reconsideration within ten (10) days from the date the Coordinator's decision is sent to the Complainant. The request for reconsideration shall be filed with the Coordinator. Upon receipt of the request for reconsideration, the Coordinator shall promptly forward the request for reconsideration and all evidence received by the Coordinator in connection with the Complaint to a third person for review (either an administrator or other employee of the District, or members

- of the Board of Education or Committee of the Board).
7. A decision on the request for reconsideration shall be made within ten (10) days after the request for reconsideration was filed unless the Board or Committee of the Board is the reviewer, in which event the decision shall be made within thirty (30) days of the filing of the request for reconsideration, unless such time period is extended by agreement with the Complainant or a longer period is reasonably necessitated by the circumstances.

### **Section 5 Confidentiality of Student Records (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives parents and students over 18 years of age rights of access and confidentiality with respect to education records. Employees are expected to provide access rights and maintain the confidentiality of education records in accordance with FERPA and Board policy. Further information about FERPA and the District's policies under FERPA are found in Board policy and in the student handbook.

### **Section 6 Disclosure of Student Information to Military Recruiters and Colleges**

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires the District to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone listings. Parents and secondary students have the right to request that the school not provide this information (i.e., not provide the student's name, address, and telephone listing) to military recruiters or institutions of higher education, without their prior written consent. Employees are expected to follow these requirements.

### **Section 7 Disclosure of Staff Qualifications**

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 gives parents/guardians the right to get information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. The District designates the following information as "directory information" and will give parents/guardians such information upon request:

1. Whether the teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional teaching certificate.
3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher, along with information about other graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
4. Whether the parent/guardian's child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of the NCLB.

### **Section 8 Student Privacy Protection**

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires the District to protect the privacy of students. Further information about student privacy and the District's policies with regard to student privacy are found in Board policy and in the student handbook. In general, employees are expected to comply with these provisions of the NCLB and related Board policy, as follows:

1. Student surveys created by and administered by either the United States Department of Education or a third party (a group or person other than the District)—give parent/guardian the opportunity to inspect the survey upon request before the survey is administered or distributed to the students;
2. Student surveys which involve "sensitive" matters—make suitable arrangements to protect student privacy (that is, do not include the name or other identifying information

about a particular student) and give parents the opportunity, in advance, to “opt-out” their child from the survey. Sensitive matters include:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent;
  - Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s parent;
  - Sex behavior or attitudes;
  - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
  - Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
  - Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
  - Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the students or the student’s parent;
  - Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).
3. Instructional materials—permit parents upon reasonable request to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for their child. The term “instructional materials” does not include academic tests or academic assessments for purposes of this parent inspection requirement. If you receive such a request, direct the parent to contact your building principal and also inform the building principal yourself about the request to get instructions.
  4. Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information—the District policy is to not gather such information for such purposes.

## **Section 9 Parental Involvement**

### **General - Parental/Community Involvement in Schools**

The District’s policy is to welcome parental involvement in the education of their children. As a part of this policy, employees are expected to:

1. provide parents timely information about their child’s progress, including use of quarterly report cards, active and constructive attendance at parent-teacher conferences, and more frequent parent contacts where warranted by the student’s academic and behavioral needs;
2. make textbooks, completed tests and other curriculum materials available for review by parents upon request;
3. permit parents access to their child’s records according to law and school policy;
4. encourage parents to attend courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities with prior approval of the proper teacher, counselor or administrator, provided that such parent attendance be educationally appropriate and not disruptive to the educational program;
5. assure that testing occurs to assure proper measurement of each child’s educational progress and achievement;
6. permit parents to excuse their child from testing, classroom instruction and other school experiences when possible and educationally appropriate;
7. notify parents of student surveys in accordance with district policy, obtain parental

- permission for surveys where required by District policy or law, and allow parents to opt-out of such surveys in accordance with District policy and law; and
8. encourage parents to express their concerns, share their ideas and advocate for their child's education.

### Title I Parental Involvement

The District has a separate policy established pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 relating to parental involvement applicable to parents of children enrolled in Title I programs. The policy requires that parents of Title I children have been given the opportunity to participate in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in the parental involvement policy. Employees are expected to comply with the Title I parental involvement policy.

### **Section 10 Homeless Students**

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires that homeless students not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless. Homeless children generally include children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The Superintendent serves as the District's designated Homeless Coordinator and should be contacted for questions relating to a homeless student.

### **Section 11 Breakfast and Lunch Programs**

The District participates in the National School Lunch Program. Employees are expected to keep information about the participation of students in the program confidential.

### **Section 12 Confidentiality of Protected Health Information**

It is the policy of the District to develop and implement all necessary practices, policies, and procedures to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) where and to the extent applicable and to maintain the privacy of protected health information (PHI), as that term is defined by HIPAA, that it receives, obtains, or transmits for employees and students. The District designates the Superintendent as its HIPAA privacy officer. Student and employee records containing PHI shall be accessible only to those who require such information to carry out their duties.

**Model General Notice of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights  
(For use by single-employer group health plans)**

**\*\* Continuation Coverage Rights Under COBRA\*\***

**Introduction**

You are receiving this notice because you have recently become covered under a group health plan (the Plan). This notice contains important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. **This notice generally explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect the right to receive it.**

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you when you would otherwise lose your group health coverage. It can also become available to other members of your family who are covered under the Plan when they would otherwise lose their group health coverage. For additional information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's Summary Plan Description or contact the Plan Administrator.

**What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?**

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when coverage would otherwise end because of a life event known as a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage [*choose and enter appropriate information: must pay or are not required to pay*] for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you are an employee, you will become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because either one of the following qualifying events happens:

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

If you are the spouse of an employee, you will become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;
- Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the plan as a "dependent child."

*[If the Plan provides retiree health coverage, add the following paragraph:]*

Sometimes, filing a proceeding in bankruptcy under title 11 of the United States Code can be a qualifying event. If a proceeding in bankruptcy is filed with respect to *[enter name of employer sponsoring the plan]*, and that bankruptcy results in the loss of coverage of any retired employee covered under the Plan, the retired employee will become a qualified beneficiary with respect to the bankruptcy. The retired employee's spouse, surviving spouse, and dependent children will also become qualified beneficiaries if bankruptcy results in the loss of their coverage under the Plan.

### **When is COBRA Coverage Available?**

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. When the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of hours of employment, death of the employee, *[add if Plan provides retiree health coverage: commencement of a proceeding in bankruptcy with respect to the employer,]* or the employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), the employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the qualifying event.

### **You Must Give Notice of Some Qualifying Events**

**For the other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days *[or enter longer period permitted under the terms of the Plan]* after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to: *[Enter name of appropriate party]*. *[Add description of any additional Plan procedures for this notice, including a description of any required information or documentation.]***

### **How is COBRA Coverage Provided?**

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered

employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage. When the qualifying event is the death of the employee, the employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), your divorce or legal separation, or a dependent child's losing eligibility as a dependent child, COBRA continuation coverage lasts for up to a total of 36 months. When the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, and the employee became entitled to Medicare benefits less than 18 months before the qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage for qualified beneficiaries other than the employee lasts until 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement. For example, if a covered employee becomes entitled to Medicare 8 months before the date on which his employment terminates, COBRA continuation coverage for his spouse and children can last up to 36 months after the date of Medicare entitlement, which is equal to 28 months after the date of the qualifying event (36 months minus 8 months). Otherwise, when the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, COBRA continuation coverage generally lasts for only up to a total of 18 months. There are two ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended.

#### ***Disability extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage***

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by the Social Security Administration to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to receive up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a total maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of continuation coverage.

#### ***Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage***

If your family experiences another qualifying event while receiving 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if notice of the second qualifying event is properly given to the Plan. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children receiving continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies, becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both), or gets divorced or legally separated, or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child, but only if the event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

## **If You Have Questions**

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the contact or contacts identified below. For more information about your rights under ERISA, including COBRA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit the EBSA website at [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa).

## **Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes**

In order to protect your family's rights, you should keep the Plan Administrator informed of any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

## FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

# \$7.25

 PER HOUR

BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009

The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

**OVERTIME PAY** At least 1½ times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

**CHILD LABOR** An employee must be at least 16 years old to work in most non-farm jobs and at least 18 to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. Youths 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs with certain work hours restrictions. Different rules apply in agricultural employment.

**TIP CREDIT** Employers of “tipped employees” who meet certain conditions may claim a partial wage credit based on tips received by their employees. Employers must pay tipped employees a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee’s tips combined with the employer’s cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference.

**NURSING MOTHERS** The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing mother employee who is subject to the FLSA’s overtime requirements in order for the employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for one year after the child’s birth each time such employee has a need to express breast milk. Employers are also required to provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by the employee to express breast milk.

**ENFORCEMENT** The Department has authority to recover back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages in instances of minimum wage, overtime, and other violations. The Department may litigate and/or recommend criminal prosecution. Employers may be assessed civil money penalties for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law. Civil money penalties may also be assessed for violations of the FLSA’s child labor provisions. Heightened civil money penalties may be assessed for each child labor violation that results in the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits retaliating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the FLSA.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage, and/or overtime pay provisions.
- Special provisions apply to workers in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Some employers incorrectly classify workers as “independent contractors” when they are actually employees under the FLSA. It is important to know the difference between the two because employees (unless exempt) are entitled to the FLSA’s minimum wage and overtime pay protections and correctly classified independent contractors are not.
- Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of Labor.



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

1-866-487-9243  
TTY: 1-877-889-5627  
[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)



# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

## LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;\* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

\*Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

## BENEFITS & PROTECTIONS

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## REQUESTING LEAVE

## EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

## ENFORCEMENT

For additional information or to file a complaint:

**1-866-4-USWAGE**

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

**[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)**

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division



# Equal Employment Opportunity is **THE LAW**

## **Private Employers, State and Local Governments, Educational Institutions, Employment Agencies and Labor Organizations**

Applicants to and employees of most private employers, state and local governments, educational institutions, employment agencies and labor organizations are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

### **RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN**

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, protects applicants and employees from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), or national origin. Religious discrimination includes failing to reasonably accommodate an employee's religious practices where the accommodation does not impose undue hardship.

### **DISABILITY**

Title I and Title V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, protect qualified individuals from discrimination on the basis of disability in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship.

### **AGE**

The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, protects applicants and employees 40 years of age or older from discrimination based on age in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment.

### **SEX (WAGES)**

In addition to sex discrimination prohibited by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended, prohibits sex discrimination in the payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work, in jobs that require equal skill, effort, and responsibility, under similar working conditions, in the same establishment.

### **GENETICS**

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 protects applicants and employees from discrimination based on genetic information in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment. GINA also restricts employers' acquisition of genetic information and strictly limits disclosure of genetic information. Genetic information includes information about genetic tests of applicants, employees, or their family members; the manifestation of diseases or disorders in family members (family medical history); and requests for or receipt of genetic services by applicants, employees, or their family members.

### **RETALIATION**

All of these Federal laws prohibit covered entities from retaliating against a person who files a charge of discrimination, participates in a discrimination proceeding, or otherwise opposes an unlawful employment practice.

### **WHAT TO DO IF YOU BELIEVE DISCRIMINATION HAS OCCURRED**

There are strict time limits for filing charges of employment discrimination. To preserve the ability of EEOC to act on your behalf and to protect your right to file a private lawsuit, should you ultimately need to, you should contact EEOC promptly when discrimination is suspected:

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), 1-800-669-4000 (toll-free) or 1-800-669-6820 (toll-free TTY number for individuals with hearing impairments). EEOC field office information is available at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov) or in most telephone directories in the U.S. Government or Federal Government section. Additional information about EEOC, including information about charge filing, is available at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov).

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## Employers Holding Federal Contracts or Subcontracts

Applicants to and employees of companies with a Federal government contract or subcontract are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

### **RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN**

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits job discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

### **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals from discrimination on the basis of disability in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship. Section 503 also requires that Federal contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities at all levels of employment, including the executive level.

### **DISABLED, RECENTLY SEPARATED, OTHER PROTECTED, AND ARMED FORCES SERVICE MEDAL VETERANS**

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohibits job discrimination and requires affirmative action to employ and advance in employment disabled veterans, recently separated veterans (within

three years of discharge or release from active duty), other protected veterans (veterans who served during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized), and Armed Forces service medal veterans (veterans who, while on active duty, participated in a U.S. military operation for which an Armed Forces service medal was awarded).

### **RETALIATION**

Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a complaint of discrimination, participates in an OFCCP proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination under these Federal laws.

Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under the authorities above should contact immediately:

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210, 1-800-397-6251 (toll-free) or (202) 693-1337 (TTY). OFCCP may also be contacted by e-mail at [OFCCP-Public@dol.gov](mailto:OFCCP-Public@dol.gov), or by calling an OFCCP regional or district office, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor.

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## Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance

### **RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX**

In addition to the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance.

### **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal financial assistance, you should immediately contact the Federal agency providing such assistance.

# CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS

## 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

12 FB/SB/VB/CC Practice Starts  
 9,19 Staff Preservice Days  
 20 1<sup>st</sup> Day of school

AUGUST '19						
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

9/11 Student/Staff Days

SEPTEMBER '19						
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					

2 Labor Day  
 16 Teacher In-Service

19/20 Student/Staff Days

7 Teacher In-Service  
 8 Parent/Teacher Conference (2pm-8pm)  
 18 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
 25 Fall Break

OCTOBER '19						
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		

21/22.5 Student/Staff Days

NOVEMBER '19						
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

4 Teacher In-Service  
 11 Veterans Day  
 28-29 Thanksgiving Break

18/19 Student/Staff Days

20 End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr/1<sup>st</sup> Sem  
 22-26 NSAA Moratorium  
 23-Jan 3 Christmas Break

DECEMBER '19						
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				

15/15 Student/Staff Days  
 82/87.5 Student/Staff Days

JANUARY '20						
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	

6 Staff In-Service Day  
 7 Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

19/20 Student/Staff Days

11 Parent/Teacher Conference (2-8pm)  
 14 Winter Break  
 17 Teacher In-Service

FEBRUARY '20						
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

18/19.5 Student/Staff Days

MARCH '20						
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				

12 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
 13 Spring Break  
 16 Teacher In-Service

20/21 Student/Staff Days

10-13 Easter Break

APRIL '20						
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		

20/20 Student/Staff Days

MAY '20						
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

9 Graduation  
 21 Last Day K-11  
 22 Teacher In-Service

15/16 Student/Staff Days  
 92/96.5 Student/Staff Days  
 174/184 Student/Staff Days

*Early Out Days*

*Professional Development Days*

*No School*

## **CONCUSSION: RETURN TO LEARN PROTOCOL**

Students who sustain a concussion and return to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff until the student is fully recovered. The school administration of Chase County Schools adopts the NDE Guidance entitled “Bridging the Gap from Concussion to the Classroom,” and accompanying Appendix (see page 25 & 26), as its Return to Learn protocol, with the recognition that each student who has sustained a concussion will require an individualized response.

### **Concussion Management Team (CMT) Return to Learn Protocol**

The CMT ensures that every student who suffers a concussion is monitored for a safe return to activity.

1. Concussion occurs!
  - If at school sporting event or other school activity, family is notified of possible concussion
2. Encourage parent to obtain medical confirmation of concussion from a licensed health care provider.
3. Parent signs Release of Information form allowing the school to be notified of concussion by the health care provider and for information sharing.
4. CMT Contact person notified of concussion by parent, coach, athletic trainer or health care provider.
5. CMT Contact person informs appropriate school personnel (teachers, school nurse, athletic trainer, coaches, etc.) of concussed student and specifies general accommodations from health care provider, if available.
6. CMT implements a gradual Return to Learn Protocol based on the individual needs of the student. (Refer to Return to Academics Progression form.)
7. CMT documents physical, cognitive, behavioral and emotional symptoms of concussed student and assesses the student’s needs based on symptoms. (Refer to Post-Concussion Symptom Checklist).
8. CMT designs individual academic adjustment/accommodation plan with appropriate School, staff and works with SAT process to coordinate academic adjustments/accommodations during recovery (about 2-3 weeks) and reviews with student and family.
9. CMT -Teachers monitor the effectiveness of adjustments, accommodations and symptoms of concussion and report progress/recovery data and results regularly to CMT contact person.
  - Data on progress/recovery shared with family and student.
  - Family tracks and regularly reports progress on physical, cognitive sleep and emotional symptoms to CMT.
10. CMT makes adjustments and readjustments to individual plan until student no longer has special needs in the classroom resulting from the concussion.
  - Student progress and updates are communicated to appropriate school staff, family and student.

11. CMT and family agree student is symptom free and function is “back to baseline” in the classroom.
  12. Student returns to classroom full-time with no adjustments or accommodations!
  13. Parents/guardians deliver medical clearance from the healthcare provider to the CMT and parent provides written permission for the Return to Play Progression to begin.
  14. Student begins Return to Play Progression after a successful Return to Learn.
  15. CMT ensures that the concussion date and adjustments for Return to Learn are documented in the student’s file.
- If symptoms last more than 2-3 weeks, follow up assessment and academic adjustments may need to be strengthened or remain in place longer.
  - Student may need to visit physician for further evaluation.
  - If problems persist, student supports may be provided through an MTSS/RtI Plan, a Health Plan or a 504 Plan. A small percentage of students may require a referral for special education.
  - CMT offers resources on concussion to educators and parents throughout the Return to Learn progression.
  - Contact BIRSST team members for information or resources on concussion for educators and parents!

AGREEMENT FOR LIMITED COMPUTER USE

In recognition of the educational value of computer literacy in today's society, the Board of Education agrees to this "Fair Use" Agreement and elects to offer a "limited use of school computers" program to employees of Chase County Schools. This limited use agreement allows for personal use of computers/technology in compliance with Regulation 3005.7a.

The election below will be effective September 1 of this year, and each year after, unless the employee notifies the Business Manager's office of change or cancellation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I authorize the school district to make a payroll deduction of \$1.00 per month.

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to make one payment of \$12.00 (choose one of the following):

\_\_\_\_\_ as a single payroll deduction of \$12.00 in September;  
you notify the office to make a change.)

(or)

\_\_\_\_\_ by check (please attach check, payable to Chase County Schools)

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not wish to participate in the "limited computer use" program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please sign and return this form to Crystal or Jill.

Employees electing not to participate in this program may be subject to disciplinary action if they use school own computers for personal use. Depending on the abuse, disciplinary action could include loss of Internet access, suspension with/without pay and/or termination of employment.

**RECEIPT OF THE 2019-2020 TEACHER HANDBOOK  
OF CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS**

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the 2019-2020 Teacher Handbook of Chase County Schools. This receipt acknowledges that it is understood that I am to read and be familiar with the handbook, that I understand the handbook contains a disclaimer of contract and that I understand that the handbook includes the District's policies of non-discrimination and equity, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook which should be used for responding to harassment or discrimination.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Signature

Return to:

Randall Klooz, Superintendent  
Chase County Schools  
520 E 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
PO Box 577  
Imperial, NE 69033

# **CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS**

## **STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK 2019-2020**

**Chase County Schools**

**520 E 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Imperial, NE 69033  
308-882-4304**

# STUDENT - PARENT HANDBOOK OF CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS 2019-2020

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**Chase County Schools Parent-Student Handbook  
2019-2020 School Year**

**Foreword**

**Section 1 Intent of Handbook**

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff and patrons as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about Chase County Schools. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

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

**Section 2 Members of the Board of Education**

<u>Name (Contact)</u>
Jeff Olsen, President (jolsen@gpcom.net)
Willy O’Neil, Vice President (woneil57@gmail.com)
Sheila Stromberger, Secretary (sheilastromberger@gmail.com)
Karl Meeske, Treasurer (kkmeeske@gmail.com)
Steve Wallin, Member (stevenwallin189@gmail.com)
Carrie Terryberry (carrie.terryberry@gmail.com)
Cindy Arterburn (arterburn@gmail.com)
Dan Reeves (danreeves@gpcom.net)
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**Section 3 Administrative Staff**

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\*Executive Organization (Appendix B)

Foreword

**Section 4     Certified Staff**

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Zuege, Chelsea	<a href="mailto:chzuege@chasecountyschools.org">chzuege@chasecountyschools.org</a>	Art

**Section 5 Secretary Staff**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
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Mays, Jill	Accounting Secretary	<a href="mailto:jmays@chasecountyschools.org">jmays@chasecountyschools.org</a>
Nevarez, Sindia	Secretary/Translator	<a href="mailto:snevarez@chasecountyschools.org">snevarez@chasecountyschools.org</a>
Wheeler, Sherri	Elementary Secondary	<a href="mailto:swheeler@chasecountyschools.org">swheeler@chasecountyschools.org</a>
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## **Article 1 – Mission and Goals**

### **Section 1 School Mission Statement**

Welcome to Chase County Schools. The Board of Education, administration and staff are committed to meet the challenge, exceed expectations, and continue our legacy of excellence.

### **Section 2 Goals and Objectives**

The goals and objectives of the Chase County Schools are to provide:

1. A curriculum that is based on state standards; comprehensive, coordinated, and sequential and is directed toward locally approved goals and standards for student learning. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory and provides the foundation for standards-based instruction. The instructional program focuses on achievement and provides for the diverse learning needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. Curriculum and instruction help students develop content and skill mastery, analytical thinking, problem solving, work ethics, creativity, and respect for diversity.
2. An instructional program that focuses on achievement and provides for the needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory broad enough yet with sufficient depth to allow education for all of the students.
3. Assessment procedures and results that assist teachers in planning and providing appropriate instruction for all students. Assessment results also provide information for monitoring program success, and for reporting to parents, policy makers, and the community. The school periodically reviews procedures to improve assessment quality and increase student learning. The information assists schools in establishing and achieving improvement goals.
4. A library/media/technology program that provides a wide range of accessible print and electronic resources that expand opportunity for learning, contribute to information literacy, support the local curriculum, and enhance and enrich learning experiences for all students. The program provides materials through onsite and electronic access that complement, supplement, and enrich curriculum and instruction. It facilitates research, supports and encourages personal interest in reading and the study of current events, and develops technological and other skills for accessing, evaluating, and using resources.
5. Instructional staff who have appropriate training and preparation to work with the students assigned to them, who are knowledgeable of principles of child growth and development and of the curriculum content for which they are responsible, who use teaching strategies that engage students actively in learning, and who help students understand and apply content across subject areas. Staff development activities that support the school's efforts in curriculum development, instructional improvement, assessment, and general school improvement to achieve school improvement goals.
6. Administration that exercises leadership in the development and implementation of school goals and policies. Administrators who demonstrate leadership in management and operation of the school system and in the improvement of curriculum and

- instruction. Building administrators who provide leadership to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and school improvement. They guide staff and students in achieving goals and fulfill other functions supportive of quality learning.
7. A systematic ongoing process that guides planning, implementation, and evaluation and renewal of school improvement activities to meet local and statewide goals and priorities. The school improvement process focuses on improving student learning. The process includes a periodic review by visiting educators who provide consultation to the school/community in continued accomplishment of plans and goals.
  8. A school system that demonstrates accountability to the school community. School staff periodically assesses and reports student progress toward accomplishment of academic content standards. Results are used to plan and make needed changes to improve instruction for all students.
  9. School facilities and a general environment that supports quality learning. Facilities and grounds are safe, orderly, and well maintained, and facilities that have adequate space, lighting, and furnishings. The system has plans or provisions for climate-controlled buildings to the extent feasible. The environment is emotionally safe and supportive and promotes respect, trust, and integrity.
  10. A Board of Education that governs through orderly procedures which focus efforts of the school upon quality learning, result in equitable opportunities for learning for all students, and insure accountability to the local community.
  11. An activities program that is scheduled outside the regular school day, focuses on active participation of all students involved in the activity, and promotes a positive image of the school and community.
  12. A welcoming environment for parents and the community.

### **Section 3 Mutual Respect**

The Chase County Schools expects every staff member and student to be treated with respect and dignity. A show of disrespect toward a staff member or insubordination on the part of students will not be tolerated.

### **Section 4 Complaint Procedures**

The proper procedure for a parent or student to make complaints or raise concerns is to begin with the school employee who is most immediately or directly involved in the matter, as illustrated in the complaint procedure set forth below. There are specific procedures to address certain complaints or concerns, such as discrimination or harassment, bullying, disciplinary actions. Those procedures should be used where applicable.

1. Complaint procedure
  - Step 1. Schedule a conference with the staff person most immediately or directly involved in the matter.
  - Step 2. Address the concern to the Principal if the matter is not resolved at Step 1.
  - Step 3. Address the concern to the Superintendent if the matter is not resolved at Step 2.
  - Step 4. Address the concern to the Board of Education if the matter is not resolved at Step 3.
2. Conditions Applicable to All Levels of Complaint Procedure

All information to be considered at each step should be placed in writing in order to be most effective. Action or decisions will be expedited as quickly as possible, typically within ten (10) calendar days, depending on the nature of the complaint and the need for prompt resolution.

## Article 2 – School Day

### Section 1 Daily Schedule Middle & High School

#### **Grades 9-12:**

Period 1 – 8:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.  
Period 2 – 8:53 a.m. to 9:43 a.m.  
Period 3 – 9:46 a.m. to 10:36 a.m.  
Period 4 – 10:39 a.m. to 11:29 a.m.  
Period 5 – 11:32 a.m. to 12:22 p.m.  
Lunch – 12:22 p.m. to 12:51 p.m.  
Period 6 – 12:54 p.m. to 1:44 p.m.  
Period 7 – 1:47 p.m. to 2:37 p.m.  
Period 8 – 2:40 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

#### **Grades 5-8:**

Period 1 – 8:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.  
Period 2 – 8:53 a.m. to 9:43 a.m.  
Period 3 – 9:46 a.m. to 10:36 a.m.  
Period 4 – 10:39 a.m. to 11:29 a.m.  
Lunch – 11:29 p.m. to 12:01 p.m.  
Period 5 – 12:01 a.m. to 12:51 p.m.  
Period 6 – 12:54 p.m. to 1:44 p.m.  
Period 7 – 1:47 p.m. to 2:37 p.m.  
Period 8 – 2:40 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### Elementary School

#### School Hours:

8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Monday – Friday

#### Lunch:

10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. – Kindergarten Lunch  
10:50 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Lunch  
10:55 a.m. to 11:25 a.m. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Lunch  
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.—3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Lunch  
11:05 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch

#### Recess:

11:15 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. – Kindergarten Recess  
11:20 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Recess  
11:25 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Recess  
11:30 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.—3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Recess  
11:35 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Recess

#### Morning or Afternoon Recess:

As schedule allows in either AM or PM depending on PE schedule

## **Section 2 Severe Weather and School Cancellations**

The Superintendent may close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent's staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast regularly by radio and television stations.

Decision to Close Schools. A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service, law enforcement advisories or civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise to hold school. If possible, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9 p.m. for announcement. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning (by 6 a.m. if possible). In any case, **an announcement will be made to the news media when schools will be closed.** In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation, kindergarten, student activities).

When it becomes necessary to cancel school, start late or dismiss early, announcements to this effect will be sent to your phone using our School Messenger system and will also be made on radio and TV stations.

You may also check the school's websites for information:

<http://www.chasecountyschools.org/>

After School Starts. Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances, closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases as much advance notice as possible will be given to parents. If school is closed during the day the notice will be broadcast by the media. **Parents should have a plan in place to accommodate these circumstances.**

Parental Decisions. **Parents may decide to keep their children at home in inclement weather because of personal circumstances.** Students absent because of severe weather when school is in session will be marked absent. The absence will be treated like any other absence for legitimate causes provided parents properly notify the school of their decision. Parents may pick up their children in inclement weather during the school day. Students will not normally be dismissed from school during severe weather on the basis of a telephone request.

What Not To Do. Parents should not attempt to come to school during a tornado warning. **School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning.** Tornado safety procedures are practiced regularly by students and staff members. Also, parents are urged not to call radio and television stations and school buildings during severe weather.

Emergency Conditions. The school has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. Regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are plans for Emergency Exit system, Tornado Warning System, and Critical Incident Response.

Recess Outside recesses are scheduled throughout the year. They are expected to wear adequate clothing and boots for cold and wet weather. Individual exceptions to the outside recess rule are:

1. Teacher request to keep the child indoors.
2. Doctor request to have the child remain indoors for a period of time designated by the physician. Please send a note to this effect.

The playground supervisor is responsible for maintaining a safe environment for all students. The following rules will be enforced on a consistent basis:

1. Respect person in charge.
2. Use appropriate language.
3. Play fair and safe.

### **Section 3      Open-Closed Campus**

We encourage students to eat a nutritious lunch. All students are required to remain on campus during the school day, except grades 9-12 who are allowed to leave campus during lunch. Open Campus is a privilege and could be revoked for students who violate school rules or need extra time to complete school work.

### **Section 4      Supervision Responsibility Before/After School**

#### Arrival at School/Dismissal From School

Students are expected to arrive at school no more than 15 to 20 minutes prior to the first class or school program in which they are participating. **Prior to that time, the school is not responsible for supervision of the students.** Students will be admitted to the school building 10 minutes prior to the first class unless eating breakfast. Students will not be permitted to enter earlier unless the Principal determines it to be necessary due to inclement weather or other factors. Students are to enter through their assigned entrance and proceed to designated areas.

Students will be dismissed at the end of the last period of the school day unless there are other circumstances (early dismissal, detention etc.). Upon dismissal, students must leave the school grounds and proceed home or to a previously designated location unless participating in a school-sponsored activity. **The school is not responsible for supervision of students once the students are to have left school grounds.**

Certain days on the calendar are “shortened days,” meaning that the school day starts or ends other than on the normal schedule. Parents are strongly encouraged to be aware of those days so their children are not left in an unsupervised situation or without a means to get home upon dismissal.

#### Signing a Child In and Out of School

Parents or guardians are required to notify the school if their children are entering after their first class or leaving prior to their final class. The computer to check a child in and/or out of school is located in the main office. If a child is being signed out, the school secretary will call the appropriate classrooms. The schools will only release children to adults designated by the parent on the emergency card.

If there is a special circumstance, such as a court order limiting access to a student by a parent or guardian, affecting who a student can be released to, the parent must inform the Principal and provide the Principal with a copy of that order to maintain on file at the school.

### Supervision at Dismissal

Parents or guardians of children in grades K to 6, where the child does not use district-provided transportation after dismissal, may request the school or program not release the child to walk home after dismissal unless the child is released to the parent or legal guardian or an escort designated by the parent or guardian. The parent or guardian may designate up to three (3) escorts. Parents or guardians requesting their children only be released to the parent or guardian or a designated escort after dismissal must submit a completed written request with the Principal to this effect.

Students who leave before the end of the day are to be signed out by a parent or guardian or an escort designated by the parent or guardian.

### Emergency Closing Procedures

Parents are requested to provide an emergency contact telephone number to have on file in the event of an emergency closing or any other general or individual situation that requires the immediate presence of a parent/guardian. In the event that parents do not have such a number or cannot be contacted, it will be assumed that the parent has instructed their children concerning the procedure they are to follow should school be dismissed early. Realizing that the school might be unable to reach all parents, it is suggested that all children be advised as to what they are to do should they ever be dismissed early. It is recommended that parents give their children an alternate destination and that the building principal be made aware of this information.

If conditions allow and supervision is available in the event of an early dismissal, the child will be held in school until the normal dismissal time. If the parent or guardian has not arrived to pick up the child by the normal dismissal time, law enforcement or child protective services may be contacted to ensure the safety of the child.

## **Article 3 - Use of Building and Grounds**

### **Section 1      Visitors**

All visitors must report to the office, upon entering the main entrance, to sign in and receive a visitor's pass. Visits to classrooms during the first week of school and the last week of school may be limited to ensure a smooth transition. Visits by parents to classrooms are encouraged; provided that the visits do not disrupt the educational program, individual students, or create a safety concern.

**Section 2 Smoke-Free Environment**

All of our school buildings and grounds are smoke and tobacco-free. We would appreciate your help in meeting the goal of a smoke and tobacco-free environment for our children. When you attend school events, including athletic events, please abide by our District’s policy.

**Section 3 Care of School Property**

1. Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, equipment, supplies and furniture supplied by the school.
2. Students who disfigure property, break windows or do other damage to school property or equipment will be required to pay for the damage done or replace the item.

Fines are determined on books according to the following criteria:

Lost Book:	Replacement cost
Missing one or both covers:	Same as lost book
Loose Cover:	\$3.00
Missing Page:	50 cents per page (up to replacement cost)
Torn Page:	\$1.00 per page (up to replacement cost)
Marks that cannot be erased:	20 cents per mark (up to replacement cost)

School-issued items that are stolen or damaged from unlocked lockers are the responsibility of the student to whom they were issued.

**Section 4 Lockers**

Each student will be assigned a locker grades 4-12 students must use their own lockers and are not to share lockers with other students except as assigned by school officials. We recommend that the locker be locked with a combination lock. Students may turn in an extra key to the office if they choose to use a key lock. Students are expected to keep all books, etc., in their assigned locker. Students are also responsible for the cleanliness inside their locker and the door of their locker. Students may be assessed a fine for damage to lockers.

## **Section 5 Searches of Lockers and Other Types of Searches**

Student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property are owned by the school. The school exercises exclusive control over school property. Students should not expect privacy regarding usage of or items placed in or on school property, including student vehicles parked 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 following rules apply to searches of students and of a student's personal property and to the seizure of items in a student's possession or control:

1. School officials may conduct a search if there is a reasonable basis to believe that the search will uncover evidence of a crime or a school rule violation. The search is to be conducted in a reasonable manner under the circumstances.
2. Illegal items or other items reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety of others or a threat to educational purposes may be taken and kept by school officials. Any firearm or other weapon will be confiscated and delivered to law enforcement officials as soon as practicable.
3. Items which have been or are reasonably expected to be used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process (that is, "nuisance items") may be removed from student possession.

## **Section 6 Video Surveillance**

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 to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Notice is hereby given that video surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

## **Section 7 Use of Telephone**

Use of the office phone will be allowed in an emergency, when a student is ill, or other Principal approved use.

### **Section 8      Bicycles**

Bicycles must be parked in the racks provided. All bicycles should be equipped with locks. The school is not responsible for damage or theft of parts while bicycles are on school property.

### **Section 9      Student Valuables**

Students, not the school, are responsible for their personal property. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of value to school. If it is necessary to bring valuable items or more money than is needed to pay for lunch, leave the money or valuables with a staff member in the school office for temporary safe-keeping. Even then, the school is not in a position to guarantee that the student's property will not be subject to loss, theft, or damage.

### **Section 10     Lost and Found**

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the articles can be claimed by the owner. If articles are lost at school, report that loss to office personnel.

### **Section 11     Accidents**

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the Principal.

### **Section 12     Laboratory Safety Glasses**

As required by law, approved safety glasses will be required of every student and teacher while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial technology, science, and art classes. All visitors to these areas must check out a pair of safety glasses when entering any of these areas.

### **Section 13     Insurance**

Under Nebraska law the District may not use school funds to provide general student accident or athletic insurance. The District requires that all student participants in athletic programs have injury and accident insurance and encourages all students who are in classes with risk of personal injury or accident to have insurance coverage. The District does not make recommendations nor handle the premiums or claims for any insurance company, agent or carrier. Information about student insurance providers will be available in the school office or on school bulletin boards.

### **Section 14     Bulletins and Announcements**

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by an administrator with an administrator's signature/initials. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces with permission of the administration. Place posters on marble, glass, metal, brick and wood. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

### **Section 15     Copyright and Fair Use Policy**

It is the school's policy to follow the federal copyright law. Students are reminded that, when using school equipment and when completing course work, they also must follow the federal copyright laws. The federal copyright law governs the reproduction of works of authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted

works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

The “fair use” doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. The relevant portion of the copyright statute provides that the “fair use” of a copyrighted work, including reproduction “for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research” is not an infringement of copyright. The law lists the following factors as the ones to be evaluated in determining whether a particular use of a copyrighted work is a permitted “fair use,” rather than an infringement of the copyright:

- the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole, and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

Although all of these factors will be considered, the last factor is the most important in determining whether a particular use is “fair.” Students should seek assistance from a faculty member if there are any questions regarding what may be copied.

## **Article 4 – Attendance**

### **Section 1 Attendance Policy**

Regular and punctual student attendance is required. The Board’s policies require such attendance. The administration is responsible for developing further attendance rules and regulations and staff is responsible for assisting in the enforcement of the rules and regulations. Students and parents are responsible for developing behaviors, which will result in regular and punctual student attendance.

### **Section 2 Attendance and Absences**

Excused and Unexcused Absences. An absence from school will be reported as: (a) an excused absence or (b) an unexcused absence.

a. School Excused. Any of the following circumstances that lead to an absence will be identified as a *School Excused* absence, provided the required attendance procedures have been followed:

- (1) Impossible or impracticable barriers outside the control of the parent or child prevent a student from attending school. The parent must provide the school with documentation to demonstrate the absence was beyond the control of the parent or child. This could include, but is not limited to documented illness, court, death of a family member, or suspension.
- (2) Other absences as determined by the principal or the principal’s designee.

b. Not School Excused. Absences that are not school excused may result in a report to the county attorney and may be classified as follows:

- (1) Parent acknowledged absences are those in which the parent communicated with the school in the prescribed manner that the child is absent and is the parent's responsibility for the extent of the school day. This includes, but is not limited to, illness, vacations, and medical appointments.
- (2) Other absences are those in which the parent has not communicated a reason for the student's absence.

Tardy to School. Students will be considered tardy to school if they are not seated in their assigned class or ready and attentive in their assigned area when the bell for their first class rings.

Tardy to Class. Students have a sufficient time period between classes to make it to their next assigned class on time. Students will be considered tardy to class if they are not in their assigned classroom when the tardy bell rings, unless they have a pass from the teacher who detained them.

Leaving School or Class. Students who leave school for any reason during the school day must check out at the office before leaving. Students leaving school must be cleared in advance by a note or phone call from the student's parent or legal guardian. Upon returning to school that same day, students are expected to check in at the office.

Students who leave school without permission and without signing out in the proper manner, or who leave their assigned classroom without teacher permission, will be considered truant.

When students wish to leave the room, a signed pass must accompany the trip. Students are not allowed to leave the room during the first 10 minutes or last 10 minutes of class. If students are "checking in" before attending an assembly, meeting, etc., students must be seated in their scheduled classroom until attendance has been taken.

### **Section 3 Absence Procedures**

A student will not be allowed to enter class after an absence until an admit slip, based upon a written or verbal parental excuse, or a conditional admit slip, is issued by the Principal's office. Work must be made up.

### **Section 4 Make-up Work**

The student has the responsibility to contact teachers, initially, regarding make-up assignments. Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher with concerns.

For excused absences, two school days will be allowed to make up the work for each day missed with a maximum of ten (10) days allowed to complete make up work. If parents or students request homework the school should be contacted by no later than 10:00 a.m.

### **Section 5 Attendance is Required to Participate in Activities**

Students must arrive to school by 11:30 AM on the day of any scheduled school activity in order to participate in the activity. This includes athletic contests, practices and dances. Failure to attend will result in a student being withheld from participation in the activity. The Administration retains the right to grant participation should exceptional circumstances prevail.

## **Section 6      Truancy**

A student who engages in unexcused absences may be considered truant as per state law. Truancy is a violation of school rules. The consequence of truanancies may include disciplinary action up to expulsion and referral to the county attorney for compulsory attendance violations.

Reporting and Responding to Truant Behavior. Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board of education who knows of any failure on the part of any child age six (6) to eighteen (18) to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall within three days report such violation to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall immediately cause an investigation into any such report to be made. The Superintendent shall also investigate any case when, based on the Superintendent's personal knowledge or based on a report or complaint from any resident of the district, the Superintendent believes that any child is unlawfully absent from school. The school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to remediate the child's truant behavior.

Excessive Absenteeism. Students who accumulate five (5) unexcused absences in a quarter shall be deemed to have "excessive absences." Such absences shall be determined on a per day basis for elementary students and on a per class basis for secondary students. When a student has excessive absences, the following procedures shall be implemented:

1. One or more meetings shall be held between a school attendance officer, school social worker, or other person designated by the school administration and the parent/guardian and the student to report and attempt to solve the truancy problem. If the parent/guardian refuses to participate in such meeting, the principal shall place in the student's attendance records documentation of such refusal.
2. Educational counseling to determine whether curriculum changes, including but not limited to, enrolling the child in an alternative education program that meets the specific educational and behavioral needs of the child.
3. Educational evaluation, which may include a psychological evaluation, to assist in determining the specific condition, if any, contributing to the truancy problem, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed.
4. Investigation of the truancy problem by the school social worker, or if such school does not have a school social worker, another person designated by the administration to identify conditions which may be contributing to the truancy problem. If services for the child and his or her family are determined to be needed, the person performing the investigation shall meet with the parent/guardian and the child to discuss any referral to appropriate community agencies for economic services, family or individual counseling, or other services required to remedy the conditions that are contributing to the truancy problem.

Reporting Habitual Truancy. Students who accumulate twenty (20) unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent per year shall be deemed to be habitually truant. If the student continues to be or becomes habitually truant, the principal shall serve a written notice to the person violating the Nebraska truancy laws (i.e., the person who has legal or active charge or control of the student) warning him or her to comply with the provisions of that law. If within one (1) week after the time the notice is given such person is still violating the school attendance laws or policies, the Principal shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which such person resides.

## Article 5 – Scholastic Achievement

### Section 1 Grading System

Students will receive letter grades on report cards and transcripts. The following scale will be used in grades 4-12 to assign letter grades and a grade point average from a percent:

A+	99-100	A	95-98	A-	93-94
B+	91-92	B	88-90	B-	86-87
C+	84-85	C	79-83	C-	76-78
D+	74-75	D	72-73	D-	70-71
F	0-69				

The following scale will be used in grades K-3

Advanced	4
Proficient	3
Progressing	2
Beginning	1
Exceeds Grade Level	+
Meets Grade Level Expectations	o
Developing Skills	-
Not Assessed at this time	x

Each teacher will define the grading procedures to be used in their classes.

### Section 2 High School Yearly Course Requirements

Chase County Schools recommends students register in the following courses: Math, Social Studies, Science, Health and Physical Education, and Language-Arts Core.

All students are required to successfully complete six (6) semesters of exploratory courses. Students also have the option of taking band or a vocal music/study hall combination.

### Section 3 Graduation Requirements

To participate in commencement exercises or receive a Chase County Schools' diploma a student must fully complete all requirements for graduation prior to the official commencement exercises, and complete other administrative requirements or conditions.

To be eligible for graduation from Chase County High School, a student must have earned a minimum of 220 credit hours in grades 9 through 12 inclusive. Credit hours will be computed in accordance with the Nebraska Department of Education.

Satisfactory completion of the following courses must be presented in the candidate’s record:

English	32 semester hours
Social Sciences	24 semester hours
Science	24 semester hours
Math	24 semester hours
P.E.	8 semester hours
Fine Arts	8 semester hours
Speech	Incorporated into English 2/3
Vocational	16 Semester hours 4 from Personal Finance

10 hours per year of community service or 40 hours over the course of high school must be documented. Community service opportunities during the school day will be offered to the students as well. Exceptions to these requirements may be made by the board upon the recommendation of the administration, who will support the recommendation with justifiable reasons. The candidates for graduation shall be presented to the Board of Education for approval.

A student who has not met the requirements for graduation but who has attended school regularly may, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, be granted a Certificate of Attendance.

**Section 4 Promotion and Retention**

Students will be placed at the grade level and in the courses best suited to them academically, socially and emotionally as determined by the professional staff. Students will typically progress annually from grade to grade. A student may be retained at a grade level or be required to repeat a course or program when such is determined in the judgment of the professional staff to be appropriate for the educational interests of the student and the educational program.

**Section 5 Schedule Changes**

Students needing schedule changes should notify the Principal. Schedule changes must be initiated by the teachers involved, the Principal or counselor, and the student’s parent. Final approval of all schedule changes will be made by the Principal only.

**Section 6 Interim Reports**

Various supplemental reports may be sent to parents throughout the school year concerning student’s performance. These reports may describe student work of an exceptional nature or work which needs improving. These reports will be sent as the teacher determines appropriate.

Included in the academic improvement report will be a request from the teacher for parents to contact the teacher by phone to discuss the student’s academic progress. Teachers will arrange with the parents for days when the student can meet with the teacher outside the regular class period until the student returns to satisfactory academic standing.

**Section 7 Report Cards**

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. Letter grades are used to designate a student’s progress. A grade of “F” (failing) carries no credit. A grade of “I” (incomplete) received at the end of

a grading period must be made up. No incompletes will be given at the end of the fourth quarter, as all course work must be completed without principal permission.

### **Section 8 Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-teacher conferences will be held during the 1st quarter and 3rd quarter. There will also be a parent night. Refer to the school calendar for the schedule. Conferences with teachers, at any other time, are possible by calling the school office and making arrangements with the teachers.

### **Section 9 Honor Roll**

The purpose of the honor roll is to recognize those students who demonstrate academic excellence in grades 5-12. Honor rolls will be determined by semester. Students will be recognized accordingly:

1. Students receiving all "A's" will be classified as high honor roll.
2. Students receiving no lower than a "B" will be classified as regular honor roll.
3. All class grades are figured the same for honor roll status.
4. Honor roll lists are published in school and community publications.

### **Section 10 National Honor Society**

The National Honor Society chapter of Chase County School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization.

#### Admission to the National Honor Society

In order to apply to the NHS chapter, you will need to be at least a sophomore with a 3.75 or higher GPA. In order to be selected, the applicant must document on the application at least two leadership roles held in grades 9-12, at least 10 hours of community service completed in grades 9-12, participation in at least one school or community activity with a significant accomplishment or award, and completion of a personal statement demonstrating how character is evident in his or her daily life. Applications will be reviewed by a faculty committee and if the criteria is met, the applicant will be selected into the NHS.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance in all four criteria (or better) that led to their selection. This obligation includes regular attendance at chapter meetings when and as scheduled and participation in the chapter service projects.

Students or parents who have questions regarding the selection process or membership obligations can contact the chapter adviser.

#### Removal from National Honor Society

A student may be removed from the NHS by action of the Principal upon a determination by the Principal that the student:

1. Prior Conduct. Engaged in conduct prior to induction which was not known at the time of induction and which, if known, would have caused denial of induction;

2. Post-Induction Conduct. Engaged in conduct after induction which is grounds for a student to be long-term suspended or expelled from school under the student code of conduct; which is grounds for suspension or removal from any extracurricular activity of the school, or which would cause denial of induction if such conduct had taken place prior to the time of induction.

The student may appeal the Principal's decision to the Superintendent by giving written notice of appeal to the Superintendent within ten calendar days of receipt of the Principal's removal decision. The appeal procedures shall be established in the discretion of the Superintendent such as to allow a fair opportunity for the student's views and information to be considered. The decision of the Superintendent on the appeal shall be final.

## **Section 11 Academic Integrity**

### **A. Policy Statement**

Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity established by their teachers and school administration. Standards of academic integrity are established in order for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student's level of learning and progress, to provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values.

Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

### **B. Definitions**

The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:

1. "Cheating" means intentionally to misrepresent the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Tests (includes tests, quizzes and other examinations or academic performances):
  - (1) Advance Information: Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.
  - (2) Use of Unauthorized Materials: Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formulae in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for "open book" tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.
  - (3) Use of Other Student Answers: Copying or looking at another student's answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student, when taking

a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student's paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student's answers on the test paper.

(4) Use of Other Student to Take Test. Having another person take one's place for a test, or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.

(5) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student was not prepared for the test.

(b) Papers (includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work):

(1) Use of Another's Paper: Copying another student's paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.

(2) Re-use of One's Own Papers: Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.

(3) Assistance from Others: Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent or sibling, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student's parent or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's.

(4) Failure to Contribute to Group Projects. Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.

(5) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.

(c) Alteration of Assigned Grades. Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.

2. "Plagiarism" means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) Failure to Credit Sources: Copying work (words, sentences, and paragraphs or illustrations or models) directly from the work of another without proper credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.
  - (2) Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own: Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source, such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper.
3. “Contributing” to academic integrity violations means to participate or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes but is not limited to allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.

### C. Sanctions

The following sanctions will occur for academic integrity offenses:

1. Academic Sanction. The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the cheating or plagiarism took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete a test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement test or project at a level meeting minimum performance standards, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work. Credit for the class may be withheld pending successful completion of the replacement test or project.
2. Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense and the instructor or Principal will notify the student's parents or guardian.
3. Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in a serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

## Section 12      **Class Rank and GPA**

### **CLASS RANK and GPA**

A grade point average and class rank will be computed at the end of each semester for every student. This information along with a student's grades and attendance records is considered confidential and will be released only to those persons authorized to use these materials by law. The school can release such information to other people only at the request of a student and/or his legal guardians.

Numerical points will be given for all regular classes in computing grade point averages. The grade points for classes entitled “Basic” will be computed on a different scale.

### Grading Scale and Weighted Courses

Examples of weighted courses are all dual credit courses (whether taken for credit or not), trigonometry, precalculus, chemistry, and physics and any other courses that the administration deems appropriate. For the purpose of selecting Valedictorian and Salutatorian, weighted classes will figure into the grade point average using the following scale:

<u>Regular</u>	<u>Weighted</u>
A--4 points	A--5 points
B--3 points	B--4 points
C--2 points	C--3 point
D--1 point	D--1 point

### SELECTION OF VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

The Chase County School Board feels it is important to recognize outstanding academic achievement by designating a valedictorian and a salutatorian annually. The following guidelines will be used to determine a valedictorian, the student who has the highest weighted grade point average at the end of their senior year and the salutatorian, the student with the second highest weighted grade point average.

For students to receive valedictorian or salutatorian recognition, the following will apply:

1. The students must have attended Chase County High School for a minimum of two complete consecutive semesters prior to graduation, which must be completed as a full-time student enrolled at Chase County High School. Students who choose to graduate early will not be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian.
2. The highest grade point average will be determined by all semester grades in all courses taken during grades 9-12 that are accepted for credit by Chase County Schools. All grades will be calculated using the Chase County Schools weighted grade point system. The grade point average is calculated to the thousandths place.
3. If two or more students have the same grade point average, the following criteria in rank order will be used to determine the eligible student:
  - a. The highest score from the eleventh-grade State Assessment, Math, Science and Writing or equivalent exam, when averaged together.
  - b. The highest composite American College Test (ACT) score available as of 10 days before graduation.

In the event of a tie through step 3(b), all students who tie will qualify for valedictorian/salutatorian. In the event that there are two valedictorians, there will be no salutatorian.

## Article 6 – Support Services

### Section 1 Special Education Services

#### What Does Special Education Mean?

Special education means specially designed instruction and related services adapted as appropriate to the needs of an eligible student with a disability. Special education is provided at no cost to the parent to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

#### Students Who May Benefit

A student verified as having autism, behavior disorders, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, hearing impairments, mental handicaps, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech-language impairments, traumatic brain injury or visual impairments, who because of these impairments need special education and related services.

#### How are Students With Disabilities Identified?

Referrals are made by teachers or parents to a Student Assistance Team. If the student assistance team or comparable problem solving team feels that all viable alternatives have been explored, a referral for multidisciplinary evaluation is completed. An evaluation is conducted to assist in the determination of whether a student has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services the student needs. The evaluation is conducted only with written consent of a parent or guardian. A multidisciplinary evaluation team (MDT) will then meet to determine whether the student is eligible for special education.

#### Independent Evaluation

If a parent disagrees with an evaluation completed by the school district, the parent has a right to request an independent educational evaluation at public expense. Parents should direct inquiries to school officials to determine if the school district will arrange for further evaluation at public expense. If school district officials feel the original evaluation was appropriate and the parents disagree, a due process hearing may be initiated. If it is determined that the original evaluation was appropriate, parents still have the right to an independent educational evaluation at their own expense.

#### Reevaluation

Students identified for special education will be reevaluated at least every three (3) years by the IEP team. The IEP team will review existing evaluation data on the student and will identify what additional data, if any, are needed. The school district will obtain parental consent prior to conducting any reevaluation of a student with a disability.

#### Individual Education Program (IEP)

Upon a student being verified as having a disability, a conference will be held with parents. At the conference, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed specifying programs and services which will be provided by the schools. Parent consent will be obtained prior to a student being placed for the first time in a program providing special education and related services or early intervention services to infant and toddlers. Once in place, the IEP is reviewed on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Parents are given a copy of the IEP.

### Special Education Placement

The student's placement in a special education program is dependent on the student's educational needs as outlined in the Individual Education Program (IEP). To the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with students who are not disabled. Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. Determination of a student's educational placement will be made by the IEP team.

Written notice shall be given to parents a reasonable time before the school district: 1. Proposes to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, verification or educational placement of a child or the provision of a free appropriate public education; or 2. Refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child.

### More Information

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the District's special education policy, the Parental Rights in Special Education brochure, or a copy of the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 51 (special education regulations and complaint procedures) or Rule 55 (special education appeal procedures) may contact the Superintendent. A notice of parental rights, Rules 51 and 55 and more information about special education are also available at the Nebraska Department of Education's website: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/SPED/sped.html>.

### **Section 2      Students with Disabilities: Section 504**

Accommodations and related services are made available to students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Under Section 504, parents have the following rights:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of your child's disability.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
5. Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to students without disabilities.
6. Have your child receive an individualized evaluation and receive special education and related services if your child is found eligible under Section 504.
7. Have evaluation, eligibility, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know your child and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.

## Article 6 - Support Services

8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if your child were placed in a program operated by the school district.
9. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the school district.
10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation and placement. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost on the same terms as records are provided students without a disability unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
11. Receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records.
12. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing.
13. File a local grievance in accordance with school policy.
14. Request an impartial hearing related to decisions regarding your child's identification, eligibility, and educational program or placement with opportunity for participation by the person's parents or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure. This is provided in the local grievance procedure.

### **Section 3      Guidance Services**

Chase County Schools employs counselor(s) for the purpose of assisting with the District's testing program, to assist with scheduling and for students to discuss problems and resolve conflicts. If you wish to see a counselor, stop by a counselor's office and make arrangements for an appointment.

### **Section 4      Health Services**

#### Student Illnesses

School health personnel will notify parents when a student needs to be sent home from school due to illness. Conditions requiring a student be sent home include: Temperature greater than 100°F., vomiting, diarrhea, unexplained rashes, live head lice, or on determination by the school nurse that the child's condition prevents meaningful participation in the educational program, presents a health risk to the child or others, or that medical consultation is warranted unless the condition resolves.

Please include emergency daytime phone numbers on your child's enrollment card so that you can be reached if your child becomes ill or injured while at school. Please also inform your school health office staff of health related information you feel is important for your student's success in the classroom and/or safety at school.

#### Guidelines for Administering Medication

Whenever possible your child should be provided medications by you outside of school hours.

In the event it is necessary that your child take or have medication available at school, the parents/guardians must provide a signed written consent for the child to be given medication at school. A consent form is available at the school health office. If your child has asthma or

## Article 6 - Support Services

diabetes and is capable of self-managing his or her health condition, contact the health office to develop a self-management plan.

Medications must be provided to the school by the parent/guardian in the pharmacy-labeled or manufacturer-labeled bottle. Repackaged medications will not be accepted. All medications also require a physician's authorization to be given at school. The school nurse may limit medications to those set forth in the Physician's Desk Reference (PDR). Please limit the amount of medication provided to the school to a two-week supply.

### School Health Screening

Children in Kindergarten through twelfth grade are screened for vision, hearing, dental defects, height and weight. The screening program also incorporates scoliosis and blood pressure. Students entering the Student Assistance Process at any grade level, and those about whom health concerns are identified to the school nurse, may also be screened. Parents who do not wish their child to participate in the school screening program must communicate this in writing to the school health office at the start of the school year. Because Nebraska statutes require school-age screening, parents who remove their child from the screening program must submit findings from an alternate medical provider to the school by December 1.

### Physical and Visual Examination

Evidence of a physical examination and a visual evaluation is required within six (6) months prior to entrance into kindergarten and, in the case of transfer from out of state, to any other grade. A physical examination is also required prior to entrance into the seventh grade. The physical examination is to be completed by a physician, a physician's assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse; the visual evaluation is to be completed by any of the forgoing or an optometrist. A parent or guardian who objects to the physical examination and/or visual evaluation may submit a written statement of refusal for his or her child. Waiver forms are available in the school health office. Additional physical examination requirements exist for students participating in athletic participation.

### Immunizations

Students must show proof of immunization. A student who does not comply with the immunization requirements will not be permitted to continue in school. Students with medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs which do not allow immunizations must complete a waiver statement or affidavit. Forms are available in school health offices.

Unimmunized students may be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak.

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine, 3 doses of Polio vaccine, 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age, *Hib not required after child reaches 5 yrs. of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine, 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age, 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age. *Pneumococcal not required after child reaches 5 yrs. of age.
Students from Kindergarten through 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade, including all transfer students from outside the State of Nebraska and any foreign students	3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday, 3 doses of Polio vaccine, 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age. 2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month, 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.
Additionally, for 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Only	1 dose of Tdap (must contain Pertussis booster)
Students transferring from outside the state at any grade	Must be immunized appropriately according to the grade entered.

Source: Nebraska Immunization Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. For additional information, call 402-471-6423.

The School Rules & Regulations are available on the internet: <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/reg/t173.htm> (Title 173: Control of Communicable Diseases - Chapter 3; revised and implemented 2011)

**Updated 5/2015**

Birth Certificate Requirements

State law requires that a certified copy of a student's birth certificate be provided within 30 days of enrollment of a student in school for the first time. You may obtain a certified copy from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which your child was born. Assistance in obtaining birth certificates may be obtained from Health Records Management, P.O. Box 95065, Lincoln, NE 68509-5065. There is a fee per certificate.

Please note: The document parents receive from the hospital looks like a birth certificate, but it is

not a certified copy. A certified copy has the raised seal of the state of Nebraska on it and is signed by the director of vital statistics.

If a birth certificate is unavailable, other reliable proof of a student's identity may be used. These documents could include naturalization or immigration documents showing date of birth or official hospital birth records, a passport, or a translation of a birth certificate from another country. The documents must be accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.

#### Guidelines for Head Lice

The following guidelines are in place to: better control a nuisance condition; reduce absenteeism due to head lice; and involve parents as partners with the school in control efforts:

1. Children will be sent home from school for live head lice. In the event a child has two (2) cases of live lice in a semester, the child will be sent home until free of both live lice and nits (eggs).
2. Health office staff will provide written treatment information and instructions, including how to check and identify head lice\*.
3. A child who is sent home from school for head lice should miss no more than two (2) school days.
4. A child who has been sent from school due to head lice must come to the health office for inspection before returning to class.
5. A child who returns to class with nits (eggs) will be checked again in 7-10 days.
6. Families are encouraged to report head lice to the school health office.
7. Classroom-wide or school-wide head checks will be conducted as needed in order to control the condition at school.

\*Nit removal will be emphasized for effective management of the condition. For more information call the nurse at your child's school.

#### **Section 5      Transportation Services**

Transportation to and from school is provided to students in accordance with law and Board policy. Students may also be provided transportation on field trips and when participating in school activities. Students are expected to follow the behavioral expectations for riding school buses.

#### **Behavior on School Buses**

- I. **General Conduct Rules Apply:** While riding school buses you are expected to follow the same student conduct rules, which apply when you are on school property or attending school activities, functions or events. There are also special conduct rules for riding school buses. These rules also apply to riding other school vehicles.

## II. Special Conduct Rules for Riding School Buses.

### A. Rules for Getting On and Off the Bus

1. Be on time to be picked up. As a general rule, get to your bus stop five (5) minutes before your scheduled pick up time. If you miss the bus, immediately return to your home and tell your parents so they can get you to school.
2. While waiting for the bus, stay at least five (5) feet away from the street, road or highway. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before approaching the bus.
3. You may exit the bus only at your approved destination (your school or your approved bus stop). Exit the bus as directed by the driver. Do not run.
4. If you must cross the street after exiting the bus, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.

### B. Rules on the Bus

1. Be respectful of the bus driver. Immediately follow all directions of the driver and any para-educator or adult on the bus.
2. Sit in your seat facing forward. Use seat belts in vehicles in which they are available.
3. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
4. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
5. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
6. No fighting, harassment, bullying, intimidation or horseplay.
7. Do not throw any object.
8. No use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs or flammables.
9. Do not bring any weapon (real or imitation) or dangerous objects on the school bus.
10. Do not damage the school bus.

**III. Getting the Driver's Assistance:** If you need assistance from the driver, wait until the bus is at a full stop. If you are close enough, tell the driver what you need. If you are too far away for the driver to hear you, ask a student in front of you to get the driver's attention. If necessary, walk up to the driver, while the bus is at a full stop. If you need immediate assistance for an emergency, take all action needed to safely get the help of the driver.

**Consequences for Rule Violations:** Consequences for school bus misconduct may include restriction or suspension of bus privileges and other disciplinary measures, up to and including expulsion from school.

## Article 7 – Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

### Section 1 Drug-Free Schools

The District implements regulations and practices which will ensure compliance with the federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and all regulations and rules promulgated pursuant thereto. The District's safe and drug-free schools program is established in accordance

with principles of effectiveness as required by law to respond to such harmful effects. The consistent message of the program is that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful.

## **Section 2 Education and Prevention**

The District promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs. The curriculum includes the teaching of both proper and incorrect use of drugs and alcohol for all students in all grades. The District provides in-service orientation and training for staff with regard to drug and alcohol education and prevention programs.

Drug and Alcohol Use and Prevention. Each student of the District is hereby provided a copy of the standards of conduct for student behavior in the District which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities.

Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program of the District Pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Laws and Regulations. All students are provided an age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program. The program educates on the adverse effects of the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, with the primary objective being the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students.

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs. Information concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs is available to all of the students upon request of the Counselor. In the event of disciplinary proceedings against a student for any District policy pertaining to the prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol, appropriate school personnel will confer with the student and the student's parents or guardian concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs that appropriate school personnel consider to be of benefit.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools—Parental Notice. Pursuant to the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act, if upon receipt of information regarding the content of safe and drug free school programs and activities other than classroom instruction a parent objects to the participation of their child in such programs and activities, the parent may notify the District of such objection in writing. Upon the receipt of such notice the student will be withdrawn from the program or activity to which parental objection has been made.

## **Section 3 Standards of Student Conduct Pertaining to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco**

These standards are in addition to standards of student conduct elsewhere adopted by board policy or administrative regulation. The District's standards prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol on school premises, in school vehicles, or as a part of any of the school's activities on or off school premises. Conduct prohibited at places and activities as hereinabove described shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of any controlled substance, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant, or any depressant.
2. Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.

3. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of alcohol.
4. Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any abusable glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, including but not limited to lighter fluid, whiteout, and reproduction fluid, when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
5. Possession, use, or distribution of any look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
6. Possession, use or distribution of any tobacco product.

### **Disciplinary Sanctions**

Violation of any of the above prohibited acts will result in disciplinary sanction being taken within the bounds of applicable law, up to and including expulsion and referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. In particular, students should be aware that:

1. Violation of these standards may result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and unlawful substances will be turned over to law enforcement authorities.
3. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment.
4. Parents or legal guardian will be notified.
5. Law enforcement will be notified.
6. If it appears there is imminent danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or students involved, emergency medical services will be contacted.

### **Intervention**

The District does not have the authority or responsibility to make medical or health determinations regarding chemical dependency. However, when observed behavior indicates that a problem exists which may affect the student's ability to learn or function in the educational environment, the school has the right and responsibility to refer the student for a formal chemical dependency diagnosis based on behavior observed by school staff.

### **Administration**

The administration is authorized to adopt such administrative rules, regulations or practices necessary to properly implement this policy. Such regulations, rules or practices may vary the procedures set forth herein to the extent necessary to fit the circumstances of an individual situation. Such rules, regulations and practices may include administrative forms, such as checklists to be used by staff to record observed behavior and to determine the proper plan of action.

## **Article 8 - Student Conduct Rules**

### **Section 1 Purpose of Student Conduct Rules**

These student conduct rules are established to maintain a school atmosphere which is conducive to learning, to aid student development, to further school purposes, and to prevent interference with the educational process. Violations of the rules will result in disciplinary action.

### **Section 2 Forms of School Discipline**

A. Short-Term Suspension: Students may be excluded by the Principal or the Principal's designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five (5) school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct that constitutes grounds for expulsion, whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds; or,
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Chase County Schools 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 or the Principal's designee will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. A short-term suspension will be made upon 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 the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal or administrator 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.
4. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal or administrator ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal or administrator shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian is to attend the conference.
5. A student on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal.

B. Long-Term Suspension: A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five (5) school days but less than twenty (20) school days. A student who is on a long-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends a long-term suspension. The notice will include a description of the procedures for long-term suspension. The procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.

C. 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 (a) the misconduct occurred within ten (10) 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) the misconduct occurred within ten (10) 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) 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. Suspensions Pending Hearing. 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 no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the superintendent. The suspension pending hearing may be imposed 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.
3. 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 in accordance with law.
4. Alternative Education. Students who are expelled may be provided an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. In the event an alternative education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent, student, the Principal or another school representative assigned by the Principal, and a representative of a community organization that assists young people or that is involved with juvenile justice to develop a plan for the student in accordance with law.
5. 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 (1) full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parents will be required to sign a discipline agreement.
6. Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation. Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than 19 years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to a court order, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the Principal or the Principal’s designee shall meet with the student's probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an

educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the Principal or the Principal's designee are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.

D. Other Forms of Student Discipline. Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but are not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, 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. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, 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.

### **Section 3 Student Conduct Expectations**

Students are not to engage in conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school function, activity or purpose or interfere with the health, safety, well being or rights of other students, staff or visitors.

#### **A. Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment**

The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for short-term suspension, long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, and any other lesser forms of discipline. The conduct is subject to the consequence of long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes or making any communication that reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another;

3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude;
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including any school employee, school volunteer, or 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;
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations;
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks;
7. Selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" 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 or illegal substances 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;
8. Public indecency or sexual conduct;
9. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events;
10. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction;
11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if the conduct creates or had the potential to create a substantial interference with school purposes, such as the use of the telephone or internet off-school grounds to threaten; or
12. Repeated violation of any rules established by the school district or school officials if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes;
13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities;
14. 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, gender, disability, national origin, or religion;
15. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and

- grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
16. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Chase County Schools' buses.
  17. A student who engages in the following conduct shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, with the condition that such action may be modified or terminated by the school district during the expulsion period on such terms as the administration may establish:
    - a. The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
    - b. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon other than a firearm.
  18. Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one (1) calendar year. "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995. That statute includes the following statement: "The term 'firearm' means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device." The Superintendent may modify such one (1) year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Bringing a firearm or other dangerous weapon to school for any reason is discouraged; however, a student will not be subject to disciplinary action if the item is brought or possessed under the following conditions:

- a. Prior written permission to bring the firearm or other dangerous weapon to school is obtained from the student's teacher, building administrator and parent.
- b. The purpose of having the firearm or other dangerous weapon in school is for a legitimate educational function.
- c. A plan for its transportation into and from the school, its storage while in the school building and how it will be displayed must be developed with the prior written approval by the teacher and building administrator. Such plan shall require that such item will be in the possession of an adult staff member at all times except for such limited time as is necessary to fulfill the educational function.
- d. The firearm or other dangerous weapon shall be in an inoperable condition while it is on school grounds.

## **B. Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline**

The following additional student conduct expectations are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct 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, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

- (1) Student Appearance: Students at Chase County Schools are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. Following is a list of examples of attire that will not be considered appropriate, such list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting:
  - a. Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or underwear (midriffs, spaghetti straps, sagging pants) or clothing that is too tight, revealing or baggy, or tops and bottoms that do not overlap or any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through, or otherwise of an appropriate size and fit so as to be revealing or drag on the ground.
  - b. Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
  - c. Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse-play” or that would damage property (e.g. cleats).
  - d. Head wear including hats, caps, bandannas, scarves, and headphones
  - e. Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
  - f. Clothing or jewelry that is gang related.

Consideration will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or to convey a particularized message protected by law. The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the Principal or Superintendent. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school’s guidelines, the student should contact the Principal for approval, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the Principal’s office.

Coaches, sponsors or teachers may have additional requirements for students who are in special lab classes, students who are participants in performing groups or students who are representing the school as part of an extracurricular activity program.

On a first offense of the dress code, the student may call home for proper apparel. If clothes cannot be brought to school, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day. Students will not be allowed to leave

campus to change clothes. Continual violations of the dress code will result in more stringent disciplinary actions, up to expulsion. Further, in the event the dress code violation is determined to also violate other student conduct rules (e.g., public indecency, insubordination, expression of profanity, and the like), a first offense of the dress code may result in more stringent discipline, up to expulsion.

(2) Electronic Devices

a. Philosophy and Purpose. Chase County Schools strongly discourages students from bringing and/or using electronic devices at school. The use of electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and are items that are frequently lost or stolen. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, the District hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices.

b. Definitions.

(1) “Electronic devices” include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, laptop computers, and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another.

(2) “Sexting” means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video or other medium that:

(i) Displays sexual content, including erotic nudity, any display of genitalia, unclothed female breasts, or unclothed buttocks, or any sexually explicit conduct as defined at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02; or

(ii) Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or distribution of the message, photograph or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or,

(iii) Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.

c. Possession and Use of Electronic Devices.

(1) All teachers will be required to define and submit to administration a classroom cellphone procedure for their classroom that requires students to turn in their devices for collection or addresses student misuse. Teachers are discouraged from allowing students to participate in non-educational uses.

(2) Students are permitted to possess and use electronic devices before school hours, at lunch time, and after school hours, provided that the student not commit any abusive use of the device (see paragraph (4)(a)). Administrators have the discretion to prohibit student possession or use of electronic devices on school grounds during these times in the event the administration determines such further restrictions are appropriate; an announcement will be given in the event of such a change in permitted use.

(3) Electronic devices may be used during class time when specifically approved by the teacher or a school administrator in conjunction with appropriate and authorized class or school activities or events (i.e., student use of a camera during a photography class; student use of a lap top computer for a class presentation).

(4) Students may use electronic devices during class time when authorized pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or a Health Care Plan, or pursuant to a plan developed with the student's parent when the student has a compelling need to have the device (e.g., a student whose parent is in the hospital could be allowed limited use of the cell phone for family contacts, so the family can give the student updates on the parent's condition).

d. Violations

(1) Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students shall not use electronic devices for: (a) activities which disrupt the educational environment; (b) illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations; (c) unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests; (d) immoral or pornographic activities; (e) activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment; (f) recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public; (g) "sexting;" or (h) activities which invade the privacy of others. Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.

(2) Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Devices: Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time. If an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to the school's main office to be identified, placed in a secure area, and returned to the student and/or the student's parent/guardian in a consistent and orderly way.

(i) First Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

(ii) Second Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

(iii) Third Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration, a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal, and suspension of the student from school. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

e. Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices:

Students who receive a "sexting" message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in sexting or have any "sexting" message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, provided that at a minimum the following penalties shall be imposed:

- (i) Students found in possession of a "sexting" message shall be subject to a one (1) day suspension from school.
- (ii) Students who send or encourage another to send a "sexting" message shall be subject to a five (5) day suspension from school.

f. Reporting to Law Enforcement.

Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.

g. Responsibility for Electronic Devices.

Students or their parents/guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, students and parents authorize the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the end of each semester. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of students' electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.

- (3) Harassment and Bullying Policy: One of the missions of Chase County Schools is to provide safe and secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors (non-violence, cooperation, teamwork, understanding, and acceptance of others) are encouraged in the educational program and required of all students and staff. Inappropriate behaviors (bullying, intimidation and harassment) are to be identified and corrected. Students and staff are to avoid such behaviors. Strategies and practices are implemented to reinforce positive behaviors and to discourage and protect others from inappropriate behaviors.

"Bullying" is behavior where one person or group engages in harmful action towards another person or group acting on a real or perceived imbalance of power or view of

superiority. The behavior typically includes verbal (e.g. teasing or name-calling) and physical aggression (e.g., hitting, pushing), threatening, excluding or ignoring, spreading rumors, or taking, defacing or destroying the others' property. "Harassment" includes the same actions, though not necessarily from a standpoint of perceived power. Harassment is prohibited. Bullying and harassment is a violation of student conduct rules and appropriate disciplinary measures, up to expulsion, will be enforced. When bullying or harassment is done on the basis of gender, disability, race, or other protected status, it is considered a very serious offense for which expulsion may be a likely consequence depending on the severity of the conduct.

Students who are the victim of bullying or harassment or who observe such occurring are to promptly report the problem to their teacher or to the Principal so the problem can be addressed. Students who make reports of bullying activity will not be retaliated against for making the report.

- (4) Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (IPDA): Students are not to engage in inappropriate public displays of affection on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes kissing, touching, fondling or other displays of affection that would be reasonably considered to be embarrassing or a distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences for IPDA:
- a. 1st Offense: Student will be confronted and directed to cease.
  - b. 2nd Offense: Student will be confronted, directed to cease, and parents will be notified.
  - c. 3rd Offense: Student will be suspended from school for a minimum of one (1) day, and parents and student will need to meet with Administrator(s) and/or counselor.
  - d. If this type of behavior continues, or if the IPDA is lewd or constitutes sexual conduct, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.
- (5) Specific Rule Items: The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which, in the repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion.
- a. Students must have a pass when not in class during class time. Students are to use the pass only for the purpose requested. For example, if given a pass to use the restroom, the student must promptly proceed to and use the nearest restroom and promptly return to class.
  - b. Food (seeds, candy, etc), drinks (with the exception of water in a clear bottle), are not allowed in the school classrooms during the school day without administrative approval.
  - c. Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class. This includes study halls.
  - d. Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by the teacher.
  - e. Students are not to operate the mini-blinds or the windows without permission of the teacher.
  - f. Classes are ended by the teacher. Students are not to begin to pack up or leave the class until the dismissal bell has rung or the teacher has dismissed the class.
  - g. Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on the tardy bell.

- h. Special classes such as Industrial Technology, Art, P.E., and computer courses will have other safety or clean-up rules that will be explained to students by that teacher which must be followed.
- i. Students are not to bring “nuisance items” to school. A nuisance item is something that is not required for educational purposes and which would cause a distraction to the student or others.
- j. Students are to stand back from the entry steps and doors in the mornings before school and at noon before the bell so that others may pass in and out of the entry doors.
- k. Snow handling is prohibited.

(6) Network, E-Mail, Internet and Other Computer Use Rules:

(a) General Rules:

- (i) The network is provided to staff and students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to staff and students who have agreed to act in a responsible manner. Parental permission is required for student use. Access for all staff and students is a privilege and not a right.
- (ii) Individual users of the district network are responsible for their behavior, actions, problems, and communications involving and over the network. Users will comply with district rules and will honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond clarification of such rules, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, editing, or controlling the information, equipment or communications of individuals utilizing the network or the end product or result of such utilization.
- (iii) Network storage areas shall be treated like school lockers for students. Network administrators may review files, information, equipment, messages and communications of staff and students to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the network system responsibly. Users should not expect that files or any information stored or otherwise used or retained on the network, district servers, or in computers, will be private. No reasonable expectation of privacy shall exist in relation to network use.
- (iv) Users should not expect, and the district does not warrant, any information or products obtained from the network, that files or information stored, obtained or used on the network will be private, and use of the network waives and relinquishes all such privacy rights, interests or claims to confidentiality the user may have under state or federal law.
- (v) The district will not be liable for, and does not warrant in any way, purchases made by any user over the network. Users shall not make purchases of goods and/or services via the district's network.

- (b) Policy and Rules for Acceptable Use of Computers and the Network: The following policy and rules for acceptable use of computers and the network, including Internet, shall apply to all district administrators, faculty, staff and students. The term "Users", as contained herein, shall apply to all such individuals. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, is hereby

delegated all authority and is the ultimate person in charge of the district network and technology resources or equipment, and the same shall also be under the direct supervision of the site or building administrator where located, sometimes herein called "network administrators."

- (i) Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable anyone else's computer, information, files, programs or disks. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, information, files, programs or disks.
  - (ii) Users shall not let other persons use their name, account, log-on password, or files for any reason (except for authorized staff members).
  - (iii) Users shall not use or try to discover another user's account or password.
  - (iv) Users shall not use the computers or network for non-instructional or non-administrative purposes (e.g., games or activities for personal profit).
  - (v) Users shall not use the computer for unlawful purposes, such as illegal copying or installation of unauthorized software.
  - (vi) Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software or documentation provided by teachers, or other students without permission from the network administrators.
  - (vii) Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code, software or information designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of the network or any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.
  - (viii) Users shall not use the computer to annoy or harass others with language, images, or threats. Users shall not access, accept, create or send any obscene, vulgar, lewd, tasteless, or objectionable messages, information, language, or images.
  - (ix) Users shall not damage the network or equipment, damage information belonging to others, misuse network resources, or allow others to misuse network resources. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this or any other rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, network, information, files, programs or disks.
  - (x) Users shall not tamper with computers, networks, printers, or other associated equipment except as directed by the teacher or network administrator.
  - (xi) Users shall not take technology equipment (hardware or software) from the school grounds or remove such from computer work areas without written permission of the network administrator.
- (c) Etiquette and Rules for Use of Computers and the Network: All users of computers and the network are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Informal rules of behavior have evolved for the use of and communication on the network, Internet and other on-line services.

Breaches can result in harsh criticism by others. These rules of behavior include (but are not limited to) the following:

- (i) Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others.
- (ii) Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language, message, information or images.
- (iii) Do not reveal your personal account, address or phone numbers, or that of other students or colleagues.
- (iv) Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is specifically not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. Messages which violate the rules will result in disciplinary action.
- (v) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property of others.
- (vi) Do not place unlawful information on any network system.
- (vii) Keep paragraphs and messages short and to the point. Focus on one subject per message.
- (viii) Include your signature at the bottom of e-mail messages. Your signature footer should include your name, position, affiliation, and network or Internet address.
- (ix) Other rules may be established by the network administrators or teachers from time to time.

(d) Penalties for Violation of Rules: All of the policies, rules, and procedures for acceptable use of computers and the network are intended to make the computers and the network more reliable for users. They are also intended to minimize the burden of administrating the networks so that more time can be spent on education and enhancing services. Use of the computer and access to telecommunications resources is a privilege and not a right. Violation of the policies, rules, and procedures concerning the use of computers and the network may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, loss of access, suspension and/or expulsion of students from school and loss of access, suspension, termination, non-renewal or cancellation of the contract of administrators, teachers, or other school employees.

(e) Student and Parent Agreements: Students and parents may be required to sign a computer and network use agreement as a condition of the student being permitted to use such equipment.

(7) Risks of Twitter, Facebook and other Social Networking:

The purpose of this message is to give our students information about the risks of using Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, and similar social networking sites.

These sites are public sources of information. The information may be seen by your school administrators, your parents, and law enforcement. It is also accessible to people who you don't even know now, but may later want to impress—such as university admissions and scholarship officials and prospective employers. In fact, many large

companies now search the internet as a means of conducting background checks on job applicants. What you say now on Twitter may affect you years later.

What you say now on Twitter may also affect you right now. Pictures or writings that show that you have violated student conduct rules may result in school discipline. A picture of a student drinking a beer may very well lead to a suspension from activities if the school learns about it. Criminal charges may be filed against you based on information posted on Twitter.

Many social networking sites have published guides for schools with some suggestions that we would like to share with you:

Here are some common sense guidelines that you should follow when using Twitter and the Internet in general:

- Don't forget that your profile and Twitter forums are public spaces. Don't post anything you wouldn't want the world to know (e.g., your phone number, address, IM screens name, or specific whereabouts).
- Avoid posting anything that would make it easy for a stranger to find you, such as where you hang out every day after school.
- People aren't always who they say they are. Be careful about adding strangers to your friends list. It's fun to connect with new friends from all over the world, but avoid meeting people in person whom you do not fully know. If you must meet someone, do it in a public place and bring a friend or trusted adult.
- Harassment, hate speech and inappropriate content should be reported. If you feel someone's behavior is inappropriate, react. Talk with a trusted adult, or report it to social networking sites or the authorities.
- Don't post anything that would embarrass you later. Think twice before posting a photo or info you wouldn't want your parents or boss to see!
- Don't mislead people into thinking that you're older or younger. If you lie about your age, profiles may be deleted.

We urge all students to following these common sense guidelines.

#### **Section 4 Reporting Student Law Violations:**

- (1) Cases of law violations or suspected law violations by students will be reported to the police and to the student's parents or guardian as soon as possible.
- (2) When a Principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (e.g., police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the Principal or other school official will take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken. An exception applies when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse; in that event the Principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.
- (3) In an effort to demonstrate that student behavior is always subject to possible legal sanctions regardless of where the behavior occurs it shall be the policy of the Chase

County Schools to notify the proper legal authorities when a student engages in any of the following behaviors on school grounds or at a school sponsored event:

- (a) Knowingly possessing illegal drugs or alcohol.
- (b) Assault.
- (c) Vandalism resulting in significant property damage.
- (d) Theft of school or personal property of a significant nature.
- (e) Automobile accident.
- (f) Any other behavior which significantly threatens the health or safety of students, staff or other persons or which is required by law to be reported.

## **Article 9 - Extra-Curricular Activities - Rights, Conduct, Rules and Regulations**

### **Section 1 Extracurricular Activity Philosophy**

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provide experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests. Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens.

#### Safety

The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program, which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common-sense.

#### Warning for Participants and Parents

The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

## **Section 2 Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct**

**Purpose of the Code of Conduct.** Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the school district's policies, procedures and rules.

### **Scope of the Code of Conduct.**

Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct: The Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school.

Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to: all sports, cheerleading, Pep Club, Pep Band, vocal, band, speech and drama, One-Act, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, Spanish Club, Art Club, Student Council, Student Advisory Board, National Honor Society, and other school sponsored organizations and activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities.

A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

When: The Code of Conduct rules apply to conduct which occurs at any time during the school year, and also includes the time frame which begins with the official starting day of the fall sport season established by the NSAA and extends to the last day of the spring sport season established by the NSAA, whether or not the student is a participant in an activity at the time of such conduct.

The rules also apply when a student is participating or scheduled to participate in an extracurricular activity that is held outside the school year or the NSAA season. For example, if an FBLA or FCCLA student plans to participate in a conference in July and commits a Code of Conduct infraction in June, the student may be suspended from participating in the conference. Conduct during the summer months may also affect a student's participation under the team selection and playing time guidelines.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on and off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event,

or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

**Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline.** Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self-respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in a manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules.
7. Selling, using, possessing or dispensing alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. (Note: Refer to "Drug and Alcohol Violations" for further information).
8. Public indecency.
9. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.

10. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events;
11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals.
12. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.
13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
14. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. 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, gender, national origin, or religion.
15. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
16. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Chase County School buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.
17. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or the supervisor.
18. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event.
19. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting.
20. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations by written handouts or posting on bulletin boards prior to the violation of the rule or regulation.
21. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

## **Drug and Alcohol Violations.**

### Meaning of Terms.

Use or consume includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation.

Under the influence means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

Possession includes having control of the substance and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:

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- (1) Alcohol is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the alcohol is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol; and
- (2) Alcohol is present at a party attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that alcohol is at the party and fails to immediately leave the party, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol.

In these situations, a violation would not exist if the alcohol is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the alcohol. A violation would also not exist if the student did not know or have a reasonable basis to know that alcohol would be present, and the student leaves the location where the alcohol is present as soon the student could safely do so. (Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who has been drinking just to get away from the alcohol party immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the alcohol).

### **Consequences.**

Students may be suspended from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in co-curricular activities for violations of the Code of Conduct. The period of suspension or other discipline for such offenses shall be determined by the school administration.

The disciplinary consequence will be determined based on consideration of the seriousness of the offense, any prior violations, the student's compliance with the self-reporting obligations, the student's level of cooperation and willingness to resolve the matter, and the student's demonstration of a commitment to not commit future violations.

Because of the significance of drug and alcohol violations on the student participants, other students and the school, the following consequences are established for such violations:

## **Drugs and Alcohol.**

An activity participant who violates the drug or alcohol rules (other than steroids) shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: 20 school days or a minimum of the next (1) school activity.
2. Second Violation: 40 school days or a minimum of the next two school activities.
3. Third Violation: Student will be ineligible for the remainder of the current school year.
4. Reduction for Self-Reporting: If the student has self-reported, the penalty will be reduced to 10 school days for the first offense and 20 school days for subsequent offenses. Minimum missed activities will not be reduced.
5. Reduction for Participation in Chemical Dependency Program: If the student and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency, the consequence will be reduced to only the next activity in which the student was to participate (including at least one contest) in the case of a first violation, and to a commensurate reduction (approximately 80%, as determined by the administration, for a second or subsequent violation).  
The program must be administered by a certified alcohol and drug abuse counselor and be approved by the school authorities. The student will need to successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program. Proof of successful completion of the program must be submitted in writing to the Activities Director. Failure to participate and successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program may cause the participating student to be suspended from extracurricular activities for one (1) calendar year. All costs associated with the program are to be borne by the student/parent or guardian.
6. More Serious Violations: In the event of more serious drug or alcohol violations, such as students engaging in use of especially serious drug offenses (cocaine, meth, etc.) or procuring alcohol for minors, the consequence of the violation is not restricted by the foregoing, and may be established in the good discretion of the administration.

**Steroid Offenses.** A student who possesses, dispenses, delivers, or administers anabolic steroids shall be prohibited from participating in any extracurricular activity for the following minimum periods:

1. First Violation: Thirty (30) consecutive days.
2. Second or Any Subsequent Offense: One (1) calendar year.

**When Suspensions Begin.** All suspensions begin with the next scheduled activity in which the student is a participant, after the determination by school officials of the sanction to be imposed; provided that the school officials shall have the discretion to establish a time period for the suspension that makes the suspension have a real consequence for the student. During a suspension, participants may be required or permitted to practice at the sole discretion of the coach or activity sponsor. Suspensions in the Spring will be carried over to the Fall when the suspension has not been fully served or when determined appropriate for the suspension to have a real consequence for the student.

**Letters and Post-Season Honors.** A student who commits a Code of Conduct violation is:

1. Eligible to letter, provided the student meets the criteria of the coach or sponsor.
2. Not eligible to receive honors during the sport or activity in which they are participating at the time of the offense and/or in sports or activities in which they have been suspended due to a code violation. The coach/sponsor, with the Athletic Director's approval, may make an exception where the student has self-reported or otherwise demonstrated excellence in character allowing for such honors.

**Self-Reporting.** A student who violates the Code of Conduct must self-report. A failure to self-report will lead to a longer suspension or other discipline. The self-report must be made to: the principal, athletic director, or the head coach or sponsor of an activity in which the student participates. The student's parent or guardian may initiate the self-reporting process, but the student will be later required to give a written statement of the self-report. The self-report must be made the earlier of: (1) before the end of the next school day after the conduct occurred and (2) before participation in an extracurricular or co-curricular activity.

In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct, and will be required to put this information in a written statement. In the event the student has received a criminal citation, charge, or ticket, and proclaims innocence of a violation, the student will be required to self-report such offense and provide information as to why they should be found innocent, not as it relates to the criminal offense, but as it relates to the Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or activity sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants with the Code of Conduct or eligibility conditions for participation in activities, the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

**Determining a Violation Has Occurred.** A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

1. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist.
2. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a conviction, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by a juvenile court.
3. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct.
4. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable.
5. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

**Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline.** The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities:

1. Investigation. The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
2. Meeting. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.
  - a. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct. Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
  - b. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting can not reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
3. Notice Letter. Within two (2) school days (two (2) business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Athletic Director or the Athletic Director's designee will send a written statement to the student and the student's parents or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed. The student and parents or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
4. Informal Hearing Before Superintendent. The student or student's parent/guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Athletic Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.
  - a. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian. A form will be provided with the notice letter or otherwise be made available by request from the Principal's office.
  - b. The request for a hearing must be received by the Superintendent's office within five (5) days of receipt of the notice letter.
  - c. If a hearing is requested:
    - i. The hearing will be held within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the request; subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
    - ii. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.
    - iii. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five (5) school days (ten (10) calendar days if school is not in session). The

written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian.

- iv. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent/guardian.
5. No Stay of Penalty. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures.
6. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent/guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.

### **Section 3 Attendance**

Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

1. Attend school regularly. Students who have “excessive absences” as determined under the school’s attendance policy are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Students who have four (4) or more unexcused absences in the semester of participation will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances.
2. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests the participant should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.
3. On the day of a contest, performance or other activity, be in attendance no later than 11:30 AM. A student who is not in attendance by 11:30 AM is ineligible for the contest, performance, or activity.

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments or family emergencies. The exception must be approved by the Principal or Athletic Director.

Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest. Sleeping in to rest up for the game will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning to play in the contest later that day.

### **Section 4 Academic Standards**

Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. A student participating in extracurricular school activities show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement. To be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities students must:

1. Be enrolled in at least 25 credit hours in the semester of participation.

2. Meet weekly academic eligibility requirements. An ineligible list will be run by 9:00 AM on first school day of the week and be finalized by 9:00 AM the following day. Students failing two or more classes will be deemed ineligible to participate in all school activities starting on Tuesday at Midnight and remain ineligible until the following Tuesday at Midnight.
3. Academic requirements do not apply to:
  - (A) Instructional field trips which are a part of the scheduled course learning experience; or
  - (B) Activities or events which are considered in determining the student's grade.

### **Section 5 “Team Selection” and “Playing Time”**

“Team selection” and “playing time” decisions are the responsibility of the individual coach or sponsor of the activity. Consistent, however, with the purposes of the activities program, the coaches and sponsors shall follow the following established guidelines for team selection and playing time decisions, along with such other guidelines as each individual coach and sponsor may develop which are not inconsistent with these established guidelines:

1. School Representative. Student participants must demonstrate that they can and will represent themselves and their school in a manner which reflects the development of high ideals and appropriate values, which shall include good citizenship in the school and in the community.
2. Success. Student participants must demonstrate that they can make the activity program more successful, both from a standpoint of competitive success and success in promoting a positive school spirit. Characteristics for purposes of these criteria include the student's: (1) talent or skill, (2) desire to improve the student's own skills or talents as well as those of others in the activity, and (3) attitude of respect towards teammates, the coach, the school, and the community.

### **Section 6 School Dances**

A school-sponsored dance is a school activity subject to all provisions of the Student Activity Code, and is a privilege available to students meeting all requirements for participation.

**General Rules of Student Conduct at Dances.** In addition to all rules of student conduct in the Student handbook, students attending dances shall adhere to the following rules of conduct:

1. Who Can Attend: Only students of Chase County Schools and their guests may attend.
  - a. Students currently attending Chase County High School or another Nebraska high school who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Chase County High School or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests.
  - b. Persons who are younger than 16 or older than 19 years of age and not attending high school are generally considered to not be appropriate dates or invited guests for our school dances.

- c. Some school dances may be restricted to students attending specified grades levels at Chase County Schools. For any dances at the middle school level, only students attending Chase County Schools in the grade(s) for which the dance is being held may attend.
  - d. Students who have been suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.
  - e. The school reserves the right to exclude persons who may or do cause a disruption or detract from the event. Dates or invited guests not attending our school are expected to follow the same rules of conduct which apply to our students.
  - f. Rules for dances may restrict students and their guests from leaving the dance until the dance ends without written parental permission on a form provided.
  - g. Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior, whether on or off of the dance floor, may be asked to leave.
2. Prohibited Substances: Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco are prohibited. Anyone using prohibited substances or showing the affects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance. Their parents may be contacted.

Students and their dates may be required to submit to a breathalyzer prior to gaining entrance. Those who choose not to submit to a breathalyzer will not gain entrance. Law enforcement will be contacted if there is reasonable suspicion that the student or a student’s date is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

3. Appropriate Attire: Students and their guests must meet the dress code requirements established for each dance. Teachers or administrators will make the final decision as to whether or not a student’s attire is appropriate. Students will be asked to change unacceptable items, which may mean that the student may have to return home to change the inappropriate clothing. It is advisable to check in advance of the dance with the Principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

**Eligibility for Selection as Royalty.** Nomination and selection as royalty for school sponsored dances is an honor awarded by students to those of their peers that exemplify the highest standards of integrity and achievement. Students nominated for dance royalty must have demonstrated through their conduct, academic achievement and activities that they have represented, and will represent, themselves, their classmates, and their school in a manner which reflects outstanding effort, commitment to their school and fellow students, and integrity and good citizenship in the school and in the community. The students selected to be the “royalty” for the Homecoming and Prom or any other school sponsored dance or activity shall meet that general standard as determined by the administration and, in addition, meet the following specific academic, activity and conduct standards:

1. Achievement, Citizenship and Conduct Qualifications:

- a. The student must have exhibited sportsmanship and leadership in activity endeavors and participation.
  - b. The student must have exhibited a cooperative and respectful attitude toward fellow students, teammates, opponents, sponsors, coaches, and officials.
  - c. The student must not have had excessive violations of school policies and procedures during their high school career.
  - d. The student may not, within 24 months of the dance, have engaged in criminal violations involving: (i) alcohol, drugs or tobacco; (ii) driving law violation in which the penalty is a loss of four (4) points or more under the point system; (iii) a Class I, II, III, or IIIA or Class W misdemeanor; or (iv) a felony. Criminal violations will be deemed to have occurred where: (a) a student was cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist or (b) a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by the juvenile court.
2. Royalty Candidate Eligibility and Selection: The determination of whether a student meets the foregoing conduct and citizenship qualification standards shall be made by a committee appointed by the Principal for each dance at which royalty is to be selected (“Royalty Candidate Eligibility and Selection Committee”). The committee will ordinarily include the Principal, Activity Director and the certificated staff sponsors.
3. Pre-Qualification of and Acceptance by Student: All students nominated for dance royalty shall meet with the Principal. At the meeting the Principal will review the eligibility requirements for the honor of dance royalty. The student will be required to confirm that the student meets all eligibility requirements. The student will be required to confirm his or her acceptance of the nomination for dance royalty and the responsibilities of such an all school honor. The Principal or designee may contact local, county and/or state law enforcement and judicial authorities to confirm a student’s eligibility for the honor of being nominated for or awarded dance royalty.
4. Specific Dance Eligibility and Selection Requirements:
- a. Homecoming Queen & King:
    - Only a senior girl shall be eligible to be Queen and only a Senior boy shall be eligible to be King.
    - To be eligible, a candidate must agree to attend the entire Homecoming Dance and represent the school properly.
    - The queen and king will be chosen from the qualified nominees by secret vote of the student body during Homecoming week. Crowning will be held at the fall sports event deemed to have the largest attendance.
  - b. Prom King and Queen:

- Only a Senior girl shall be eligible to be Queen and a Senior boy shall be eligible to be King. The candidates may not have been previously selected as royalty at another school sponsored dance.
- To be eligible, a candidate must agree to attend the entire Prom Dance and represent the school properly.
- The three queen and three king nominees will be selected by faculty with the secret vote of the junior and senior class to determine king and queen.

### **Section 7 Relationships Between Parents and Coaches/Sponsors**

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone.

Parents have the right to know the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches and sponsors have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

#### Parents' Role in Interscholastic Athletics and Other Extracurricular Activities

##### Communicating with your children

- Make sure that your children know that win or lose, scared or heroic, you love them, appreciate their efforts and are not disappointed in them. This will allow them to do their best without fear of failure. Be the person in their life they can look to for constant positive reinforcement.
- Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletic ability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and actual skill level.
- Be helpful but don't coach them. It's tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for the child to be flooded with advice and critical instruction.
- Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there trying," to be working to improve their skills and attitudes. Help them develop the feeling for competing, for trying hard, for having fun.
- Try not to relive your athletic life through your child in a way that creates pressure. If they are comfortable with you win or lose, then they are on their way to maximum enjoyment.
- Don't compete with the coach. If your child is receiving mixed messages from two (2) different authority figures, he or she will likely become disenchanted.
- Don't compare the skill, courage, or attitude of your child with other members of the team.
- Get to know the coach(es). Then you can be assured that his or her philosophy, attitudes, ethics, and knowledge are such that you are happy to have your child under his or her leadership.
- Always remember that children tend to exaggerate, both when praised and when criticized. Temper your reaction and investigate before overreacting.

##### Communicating with the Coach

- Communication you should expect from your child's coach includes:
  - Philosophy of the coach

- Expectations the coach has for your child
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements
- Procedure should your child be injured
- Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
- Communication coaches expect from parents
  - Concerns expressed directly to the coach
  - Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
  - Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:
  - The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
  - Ways to help your child improve
  - Concerns about your child's behavior
  - Injuries or health concerns. Report injuries to the coach immediately!! Tell the coach about any health concerns that may make it necessary to limit your child's participation or require assistance of trainers. Students are sometimes unwilling to tell coaches when they are injured, so please make sure the coach is told.
- Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:
  - Playing time
  - Team strategy
  - Play calling
  - Other student-athletes (except for reporting activity code violations)
- Appropriate procedures for discussing concerns with the coaches:
  - Call to set up an appointment with the coach
  - Do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice (these can be emotional times for all parties involved and do not promote resolution)
- What should a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide satisfactory resolution?
  - Call the athletic director to set up a meeting with the athletic director, coach, and parent present.
  - At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary.

## **Section 8 Good Sportsmanship—Behavior Expectations of Spectators**

Good sportsmanship is expected to be exhibited by all coaches, sponsors, students, parents and other spectators. The school can be punished by NSAA for a lack of good sportsmanship at NSAA sanctioned events. More importantly, activities are more enjoyable for the students when good sportsmanship is displayed. Responsibilities of Spectators Attending Interscholastic Athletics and Other Extracurricular Activities

1. Show interest in the contest by enthusiastically cheering and applauding the performance of both teams.

2. Show proper respect for opening ceremonies by standing at attention and remaining silent when the National Anthem is played.
3. Understand that a ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally attack others, or to be obnoxious. Maintain self-control.
4. Do not “boo,” stamp feet or make disrespectful remarks toward players or officials.
5. Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
6. Know that noisemakers of any kind are not proper for indoor events.
7. Obey and respect officials and faculty supervisors who are responsible for keeping order. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
8. Stay off the playing area at all times.
9. Do not disturb others by throwing material onto the playing area.
10. Show respect for officials, coaches, cheerleaders and student-athletes.
11. Pay attention to the half-time program and do not disturb those who are watching.
12. Respect public property by not damaging the equipment or the facility.
13. Know that the school officials reserve the right to refuse attendance of individuals whose conduct is not proper.
14. Refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs on the site of the contest.

### **Section 9 Student Fees Policy**

The Board of Education of Chase County Schools has adopted this student fees policy in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act.

The District’s general policy is to provide for the free instruction in school in accordance with the Nebraska Constitution and state and federal law. This generally means that the District’s policy is to provide free instruction for courses which are required by state law or regulation and to provide the staff, facility, equipment, and materials necessary for such instruction, without charge or fee to the students.

The District does provide activities, programs, and services to children which extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Students and their parents have historically contributed to the District’s efforts to provide such activities, programs, and services. The District’s general policy is to continue to encourage and, to the extent permitted by law, to require such student and parent contributions to enhance the educational program provided by the District.

Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the District is required to set forth in a policy its guidelines or policies for specific categories of student fees. The District does so by setting forth the following guidelines and policies. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or Board regulations which may be adopted from time to time. The Policy includes Appendix “1,” which provides further specifics of student fees and materials required of students for the current school year. Parents, guardians, and students are encouraged to contact their building administration or their teachers or activity coaches and sponsors for further specifics.

(1) Guidelines for non-specialized attire required for specified courses and activities. The District will provide attire for all Physical Education courses grades 5-12. This will include the first set of items including shirt and shorts. If the student loses the shirt or shorts, they can be purchased at a cost of \$10 per item. Students also have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire reasonably related to the programs, courses and activities in which the students participate where the required attire is specified in writing by the administrator or teacher responsible for the program, course or activity.

The District will provide or make available to students such safety equipment and attire as may be required by law, specifically including appropriate industrial-quality eye protective devices for courses of instruction in vocational, technical, industrial arts, chemical or chemical-physical classes which involve exposure to hot molten metals or other molten materials, milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding, or stamping of any solid materials, heat treatment, tempering, or kiln firing of any metal or other materials, gas or electric arc welding or other forms of welding processes, repair or servicing of any vehicle, or caustic or explosive materials, or for laboratory classes involving caustic or explosive materials, hot liquids or solids, injurious radiations, or other similar hazards. Building administrators are directed to assure that such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, teachers are directed to instruct students in the usage of such devices and to assure that students use the devices as required, and students have the responsibility to follow such instructions and use the devices as instructed.

(2) Personal or consumable items & miscellaneous

(a) Extracurricular Activities. Students have the responsibility to furnish any personal or consumable items for participation in extracurricular activities.

(b) Courses

(i) General Course Materials. Items necessary for students to benefit from courses will be made available by the District for the use of students during the school day. Students may be encouraged, but not required, to bring items needed to benefit from courses including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers, notebooks, trappers, protractors and math calculators. A specific class supply list will be published annually in a Board-approved student handbook or supplement or other notice. The list may include refundable damage or loss deposits required for usage of certain District property.

(ii) Damaged or Lost Items. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of school property. Students and their parents or guardian will be held responsible

for damages to school property where such damage is caused or aided by the student and will also be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of school property which is placed in the care of and lost by the student.

(iii) Materials Required for Course Projects. Students are permitted to and may be encouraged to supply materials for course projects. Some course projects (such as projects in art and shop classes) may be kept by the student upon completion. In the event the completed project has more than minimal value, the student may be required, as a condition of the student keeping the completed project, to reimburse the District for the reasonable value of the materials used in the project. Standard project materials will be made available by the District. If a student wants to create a project other than the standard course project, or to use materials other than standard project materials, the student will be responsible for furnishing or paying the reasonable cost of any such materials for the project.

(iv) Music Course Materials. Students will be required to furnish musical instruments for participation in optional music courses. Use of a musical instrument without charge is available under the District's fee waiver policy. The District is not required to provide for the use of a particular type of musical instrument for any student.

(v) Parking. Students may be required to pay for parking on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities, and may be subject to payment of fines or damages for damages caused with or to vehicles or for failure to comply with school parking rules.

(vi) Computer use and replacement. A one time, nonrefundable \$30 per year use fee will be charged for using a school computer/iPad/Chromebook for grades 7-12. These dollars will be used toward any repairs needed up to \$30. Any costs above and beyond will need to be covered by the student and their family.

(3) Extracurricular Activities–Specialized equipment or attire. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the District, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the District. The District will generally furnish students with specialized equipment and attire for participation in extracurricular activities. The District is not required to provide for the use of any particular type of equipment or attire. Equipment or attire fitted for the student and which the student generally wears exclusively, such as dance squad, cheerleading, and music/dance activity (e.g. choir or show choir) uniforms and outfits, along with T-shirts for teams or band members, will be required to be provided by the participating student. The cost of maintaining any equipment or attire, including uniforms, which the student purchases or uses exclusively, shall be the responsibility of the participating student. Equipment which is ordinarily exclusively used by an individual student participant throughout the year, such as golf clubs, softball gloves, and the like, are required to be provided by the student participant. Items for the personal medical use or enhancement of the student (braces, mouth pieces, and the like) are the responsibility of the student participant. Students have the responsibility to furnish personal or consumable equipment or attire for participation in extra curricular activities or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire. For musical extracurricular activities, students may be required to provide specialized equipment, such as musical instruments, or specialized attire, or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire.

(4) Extracurricular Activities—Fees for participation. Any fees for participation in extracurricular activities for the current school year are further specified in Appendix “1.” Admission fees are charged for extracurricular activities and events.

(5) Postsecondary education costs. Students are responsible for postsecondary education costs. The phrase “postsecondary education costs” means tuition and other fees only associated with obtaining credit from a postsecondary educational institution. For a course in which students receive high school credit and for which the student may also receive postsecondary education credit, the course shall be offered without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees, except tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credits from a postsecondary educational institution.

(6) Transportation costs. Students are responsible for fees established for transportation services provided by the District as and to the extent permitted by federal and state laws and regulations.

(7) Copies of student files or records. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of fees representing a reasonable cost of reproduction for copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. A parent, guardian or student who requests copies of files or records shall be responsible for the cost of copies reproduced in accordance with such fee schedule. The imposition of a fee shall not be used to prevent parents of students from exercising their right to inspect and review the students' files or records and no fee shall be charged to search for or retrieve any student's files or records. The fee schedule shall permit one (1) copy of the requested records be provided for or on behalf of the student without charge and shall allow duplicate copies to be provided without charge to the extent required by federal or state laws or regulations.

(8) Participation in before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services offered by the District, except to the extent such services are required to be provided without cost.

(9) Participation in summer school or night school. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in summer school or night school. Students are also responsible for correspondence courses.

(10) Breakfast and lunch programs. Students shall be responsible for items which students purchase from the District’s breakfast and lunch programs. The cost of items to be sold to students shall be consistent with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Students are also responsible for the cost of food, beverages, and personal or consumable items which the students purchase from the District or at school, whether from a “school store,” a vending machine, a booster club or parent group sale, a book order club, or the like. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

(11) Waiver Policy. The District’s policy is to provide fee waivers in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act. 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 and (2) use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Participation in a free-lunch program or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for free or reduced-price lunches for purposes of this section. Students or their parents must request a fee waiver prior to participating in or attending the activity, and prior to purchase of the materials.

(12) Distribution of Policy. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall publish the District's student fee policy in the Student Handbook or the equivalent (for example, publication may be made in an addendum or a supplement to the student handbook). The Student Handbook or the equivalent shall be provided to every student of the District or to every household in which at least one (1) student resides, at no cost.

(13) Student Fee Fund. The School Board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund not funded by tax revenue, into which all money collected from students and subject to the Student Fee Fund shall be deposited and from which money shall be expended for the purposes for which it was collected from students. Funds subject to the Student Fee Fund consist of money collected from students for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) postsecondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school.

**Appendix“1” to 2019-2020 Student Fees Policy of Chase County Schools—  
Additional Specification of Required Materials and Fees**

<b>Program</b>	<b>General Description of Fee or Material</b>	<b>\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum)<sup>1</sup> or Specific Material Required</b>
<b>Elementary Program</b>		
Physical Education classes	All students will be given the first set of PE uniforms. Students will need to purchase any replacement/lost uniforms.	Tennis shoes and socks. Replacement uniform \$20.00
Art classes and special projects or events	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Old shirt for painting; other clothing which may get paint on it or otherwise be damaged
Music—Optional band courses	Musical instruments	Musical instruments and accessories (reeds, valve oil, drum sticks, lyres, flip folders, slide grease, reed guards, cleaning swabs, mouthpiece brushes, pad savers, ligatures, and a "gig bag", etc.) Limited instruments available for use by any student. Refundable damage deposit of \$20.00 for use of school owned instrument.
Classroom supplies	General supplies, such as writing instruments (pens, pencils, crayons, markers), notebooks, etc.	None—necessary classroom supplies will be made available by the school. Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of damaged or lost supplies. Students are encouraged but not required to bring items from class supply lists which may be handed out by the office or individual teachers.
Field Trips	Transportation and admission costs of field trips	None—costs of school sponsored, class-related field trips will be paid for by the school. School lunches will be provided as needed for free-reduced lunch eligible students.
Copies	Use of school copiers (except for one copy of the student file, which will be provided without charge)	Five cents (.05) per page when charges apply.
School Meals		Breakfast—\$1.50 (K-12) Lunch—\$2.75 (K-8) \$3.00 (9-12) Adults—\$3.75 (Lunch) \$2.20 (Breakfast) Prices are maximums based on one meal per day, will vary depending on the number of meals or items purchased by the student, and may be adjusted during the year.
Post-secondary education classes	Tuition and fees for college courses taken for credit.	None—Any postsecondary education costs are to be paid directly by students to the college.
College entrance tests and preparation	Prep programs & tests	Costs of college entrance tests or prep courses, such as ACT preparation tutoring, PSAT test, and ACT test, are optional and to be paid directly to the private companies involved.

Computer Use		\$30 per year use fee. This is a nonrefundable fee. Damages up to \$30 will be covered by the district. Costs that exceed \$30 may be covered by student and/or family.																						
<b>Extracurricular and other programs</b>	<b>General Description of Fee or Material</b>	<b>\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum) or Specific Material Required</b>																						
<b>Athletic Programs</b>																								
Admission	Spectator fees for admission to events	There is no charge for CCS students to enter activities.																						
Athletic Physicals	NSAA required athletic physicals	Cost varies; payable directly to student's physician or clinic.																						
Equipment and attire	Students are responsible for required equipment and attire appropriate to the sport or activity which are not provided by the school, and are responsible for any optional clothing, equipment, or other items associated with the sport or activity.	<p>Required items include athletic undergarments (supporter, bra, socks and undershirts), practice attire, including shorts, shirts, socks and shoes suitable for the activity, and dress attire suitable for team travel. Optional items for which students are responsible include: personal athletic bags, hair ties, sweat bands, non-required gloves, swim goggles, towels, forearm pads and personal medical devices (braces, orthopedic inserts, etc.). Additional required items for particular sports or activities include:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Basketball</td> <td>No additional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cross Country</td> <td>No additional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Football</td> <td>Mouthpiece</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Golf</td> <td>Golf bag &amp; clubs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Softball</td> <td>Softball glove</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Speech/Debate</td> <td>Dress attire; copies of research</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Track</td> <td>No additional</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Volleyball</td> <td>Volleyball knee pads</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wrestling</td> <td>Wrestling head gear</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheerleading and Dance Team Squads</td> <td>Shoes, approved uniforms (top &amp; skirt; jacket), poms and other accessories</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Show Choir</td> <td>Dress attire</td> </tr> </table>	Basketball	No additional	Cross Country	No additional	Football	Mouthpiece	Golf	Golf bag & clubs	Softball	Softball glove	Speech/Debate	Dress attire; copies of research	Track	No additional	Volleyball	Volleyball knee pads	Wrestling	Wrestling head gear	Cheerleading and Dance Team Squads	Shoes, approved uniforms (top & skirt; jacket), poms and other accessories	Show Choir	Dress attire
Basketball	No additional																							
Cross Country	No additional																							
Football	Mouthpiece																							
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Track	No additional																							
Volleyball	Volleyball knee pads																							
Wrestling	Wrestling head gear																							
Cheerleading and Dance Team Squads	Shoes, approved uniforms (top & skirt; jacket), poms and other accessories																							
Show Choir	Dress attire																							
Travel meals	Meals	Students are responsible for their own meals while traveling																						
Camps and clinics	Registration and other costs of camps or clinics	Students are responsible for the cost of all clinics, camps and conditioning programs. Any personal items purchased at camps or clinics, such as t-shirts, shall be at the student's expense.																						

Marching Band and Musical Groups	Equipment and attire.	Students will be responsible for the same costs as are set out for the athletic program. Students will be responsible for supplying their own musical instruments and accessories and for their own uniforms. Uniforms for the marching band will be supplied by the school.
<b>Clubs/Organizations</b>		
Future Business Leaders (FBLA)	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
(FFA)	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
Future Career/Community Leaders (FCCLA)	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
National Honor Society	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
Science Club	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
1. Student Council	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
2. Social & Recognition Activities	Admission to event	There is no charge for CCS students to enter activities.
3. School plays, musicals and social activities	Admission to events	There is no charge for CCS students to enter activities.
4. School dances	Admission to prom, homecoming, etc.	Nominal charge may be assessed.
5. Senior recognition assessment	Optional graduation activities	There is no charge for CCS graduates.
6. Trips	Transportation, lodging, meals, admission to events, etc.	Students are responsible for costs of school sponsored trips where the trip is an extracurricular activity.

## **Article 10 - State and Federal Programs**

### **Section 1 Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The Chase County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status in the admission, access to its facilities or programs or activities, treatment, or employment.

### **Section 2 Designation of Coordinators**

Any person having concerns or needing information about the District's compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies should contact the District's designated Coordinator for the applicable anti-discrimination law.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Superintendent
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Activity Director
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Superintendent
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Superintendent
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Superintendent

The Coordinator may be contacted at: 520 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Imperial, NE 69033, (308) [882-4304].

### **Section 3 Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy**

Elimination of Discrimination. The Chase County Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. This school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations.

#### Preventing Harassment and Discrimination of Students.

Purpose: Chase County Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunities to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers, students or other persons is prohibited. In addition, Chase County Schools will try to protect employees and students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the work place and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status, is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status constitute harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

Age harassment (40 years of age and higher) has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.

Sexual harassment is defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may exist when:

Submission to such conduct is either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment or of participation and enjoyment of the school's programs and activities;

Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used or threatened as a basis for employment related decisions, such as promotion, performance, evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc., or school program or activity decisions, such as admission, credits, grades, school assignments or playing time.

The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

Complaint and Grievance Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Chase County Schools. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

## **Section 5      Multicultural Policy**

The philosophy of the District's multicultural education program is that students will have improved ability to function as productive members of society when provided with: (a) an understanding of diverse cultures and races, the manner in which the existence of diverse cultures and races have affected the history of our Nation and the world, and of the contributions made by diverse cultures and races (including but not be limited to African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans and European Americans) and (b) with the ability and skills to be sensitive toward and to study, work and live successively with persons of diverse cultures and races. The mission shall also include preparing students to eliminate stereotypes and discrimination or harassment of others based on ethnicity, religion, gender, socioeconomic status, age, or disability.

## **Section 5      Notice to Parents of Rights Afforded by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

The following is a description of the rights granted to qualifying students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning the decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions. You have the right to:

1.      Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability.
2.      Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3.      Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your child.
4.      Have your child receive a free appropriate public education.
5.      Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities, which are comparable to those provided to every student.
6.      Have evaluation, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
7.      Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting (if the setting is a program not operated by the district) at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district.
8.      Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district.
9.      Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation and placement.
10.     Request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. (You and your child may take part in the hearing. Hearing requests are to be made to the Superintendent.)
11.     File a local grievance.

## **Section 6 Notification of Rights Under FERPA**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records.

They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask the School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another School District in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

#### **Notice Concerning Directory Information**

The District may disclose directory information. The types of personally identifiable information that the District has designated as directory information are as follows:

1. Student's Name, address, telephone listing, and the name, address, telephone listings (if not unlisted), e-mail address and work or other contact information of the student's parent/guardian or other adult acting in loco parentis or with authority to act as parent or guardian in educational matters for the student;
2. School and dates of attendance;
3. Student's current grade;
4. Student's enrollment status (e.g. full-time or part-time);
5. Student's date of birth and place of birth;
6. Student's extra-curricular participation;
7. Student's achievement awards or honors;
8. Student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team;
9. Student's photograph; and
10. School or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in [Name] Public Schools.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District does not designate as directory information personally identifiable information from students' education records where the District determines that the disclosure to the potential recipient poses a risk to student safety or well-being, including but not limited to circumstances where the potential recipient is a registered sex offender and the personally identifiable information would permit the potential recipient to communicate with or otherwise contact the student.

A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to let the District designate information about the student as directory information. The period of time within which a parent or eligible student has to notify the District in writing that he or she does not want information about the student designated as directory information is as follows: two (2) weeks from the time this information is first received. Please contact the Superintendent's office to indicate your refusal to have your child's information designated as directory information.

The District may disclose information about former students without meeting the conditions in this section.

The District's policy is for education records to be kept confidential except as permitted by the FERPA law, and the District does not approve any practice, which involves an unauthorized disclosure of education records. In some courses student work may be displayed or made

available to others. Also, some teachers may have persons other than the teacher or school staff, such as volunteers or fellow students, assist with the task of grading student work and returning graded work to students. The District does not either approve or disapprove such teaching practices, & designates such student work as directory information and/or as non-education records. Each parent and eligible student shall be presumed to have accepted this designation in the absence of the parent or eligible student giving notification to the District in writing in the manner set forth above pertaining to the designation of directory information. Consent will be presumed to have been given in the absence of such a notification from the parent or eligible student.

Notice Concerning Designation of Law Enforcement Unit:

The District designates the City of Imperial Police Department as the District's "law enforcement unit" for purposes of enforcing any & all federal, state or local law, maintaining the physical security and safety of the schools in the District, and maintaining safe and drug free schools.

**Section 7 Notice Concerning Disclosure of Student Recruiting Information**

The No Child Left Behind Act requires that the District provide military recruiters & institutions of higher education access to secondary school students' names, addresses, & telephone listings. Parents and secondary students have the right to request that the District not provide this information (i.e., not provide the student's name, address, and telephone listing) to military recruiters or institutions of higher education, without their prior written parental consent. The District will comply with any such request.

**Section 8 Notice Concerning Staff Qualifications**

The No Child Left Behind Act gives parents/guardians the right to get information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. Upon request, the District will give parents/guardians the following information about their child's classroom teacher:

1. Whether the teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional teaching certificate.
3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher. You may also get information about other graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree. We will also, upon request, tell parents/guardians whether their child is being provided services by a paraprofessional and, if so, the qualifications of the paraprofessional. The request for information should be made to an administrator in your child's school building. The information will be provided to you in a timely manner. Finally, the District will give timely notice to you if your child has been assigned, or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of the Act.

**Section 9 Student Privacy Protection Policy**

It is the policy of Chase County Schools to develop and implement policies which protect the privacy of students in accordance with applicable laws. The District's policies in this regard include the following:

Right of Parents to Inspect Surveys Funded or Administered by the United States Department of Education or Third Parties: Parents shall have the right to inspect, upon the parent's request, a survey created by and administered by either the United States Department of Education or a third party (a group or person other than the District) before the survey is administered or distributed by the school to the parent's child.

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: The District will require, for any survey of students which contain one or more matters deemed to be sensitive (see section headed "Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive"), that suitable arrangements be made to protect student privacy (that is, the name or other identifying information about a particular student). For such surveys, the District will also follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: "Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events."

Right of Parents to Inspect Instructional Materials: Parents have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for their child. Reasonable requests for inspection of instructional materials shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. Parents shall not have the right to access academic tests or academic assessments, as such are not within the meaning of the term "instructional materials" for purposes of this policy. The procedures for making and granting a request to inspect instructional materials are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal. The building principal, within five (5) school days, shall consult with the teacher or other educator responsible for the curriculum materials. In the event the request can be accommodated, the building principal shall make the materials available for inspection or review by the parent, at such reasonable times and place as will not interfere with the educator's intended use of the materials. In the event there is a question as to the nature of the curriculum materials requested or as to whether the materials are required to be provided, the building principal shall notify the parent of such concern, and assist the parent with forming a request which can reasonably be accommodated. If the parent does not formulate such a request, and continues to desire certain curriculum materials, the parent shall be asked to make their request to the Superintendent.

Rights of Parents to be Notified of and to Opt-Out of Certain Physical Examinations or Screenings. The general policy and practice of the District is to not administer physical examinations or screenings of students which require advance notice or parental opt-out rights under the applicable federal laws, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions: (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings; (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by an applicable State law; and (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. For physical examinations or screenings which do not fit into the applicable exceptions, the District will follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: "Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events."

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Personal Information Collected from Students: The general policy and practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that

information. The District will make reasonable arrangements to protect student privacy to the extent possible in the event of any such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information. “Personal information” for purposes of this policy means individually identifiable information about a student including: a student or parent’s first and last name, home address, telephone number, and social security number. The term “personal information,” for purposes of this policy, does not include information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions. This exception includes the following examples: (i) college or postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment; (ii) book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products; (iii) curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools; (iv) tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about student, or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments, and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments; (v) the sale by student of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; (vi) student recognition programs.

Parental Access to Instruments used in the Collection of Personal Information: While the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information, parents shall have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instrument which may be administered or distributed to a student for such purposes. Reasonable requests for inspection shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. The procedures for making and granting such a request are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal and shall identify the specific act and the school staff member or program responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing that information. The building principal, within five (5) school days, shall consult with the school staff member or person responsible for the program, which has been reported by the parent to be responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students. In the event such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information is occurring or there is a plan for such to occur, the building principal shall consult with the Superintendent for determination of whether the action shall be allowed to continue. If not, the instrument for the collection of personal information shall not be given to any students. If it is to be allowed, such instrument shall be provided to the requesting parent as soon as such instrument can be reasonably obtained.

Annual Parental Notification of Student Privacy Protection Policy: The District provides parents with reasonable notice of the adoption or continued use of this policy and other policies related to student privacy. Such notice shall be given to parents of students enrolled in the District at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in such policies.

Notification to Parents of Dates of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events: The District will directly notify the parents of the affected children, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any of the following activities are scheduled, or are expected to be scheduled:

The collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. (Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information).

Surveys of students involving one or more matters deemed to be sensitive in accordance with the law and this policy; and,

Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance; administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students. (Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in physical examinations or screenings which require advance notice, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions to the advance notice requirement and parental opt-out right: (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings; (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by an applicable State law, and (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ).

Parents shall be offered an opportunity in advance to opt their child out of participation in any of the above listed activities.

In the case of a student of an appropriate age (that is, a student who has reached the age of 18, or a legally emancipated student), the notice and opt-out right shall belong to the student.

Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: Any survey containing one or more of the following matters shall be deemed to be “sensitive” for purposes of this policy:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s parent;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the students or the student’s parent;
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

## **Section 10 Parental Involvement Policies**

A. General - Parental/Community Involvement in Schools:

Chase County Schools welcomes parental involvement in the education of their children. We recognize that parental involvement increases student success. It is the District's policy to foster and facilitate, to the extent appropriate and in their primary language, parental information about, and involvement in, the education of their children. Policies and regulations are established to protect the emotional, physical and social well-being of all students.

1. Parental involvement is a part of the ongoing and timely planning, review and improvement of district and building programs.
2. Parents are encouraged to support the implementation of district policies and regulations.
3. Parents are encouraged to monitor their student's progress by reviewing quarterly report cards and attending parent-teacher conferences.
4. Textbooks, tests and other curriculum materials used in the district are available for review by parents upon request.
5. Parents are provided access to records of students according to law and school policy.
6. Parents are encouraged to attend courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities with prior approval of the proper teacher or counselor and administrator. Parents' continued attendance at such activities will be based on the students' well-being.
7. Testing occurs in this school district as determined to be appropriate by district staff to assure proper measurement of educational progress and achievement.
8. Parents submitting written requests to have their student excused from testing, classroom instruction and other school experiences will be granted that request when possible and educationally appropriate. Requests should be submitted to the proper teacher or administrator within a reasonable time prior to the testing, classroom instruction or other school experience and should be accompanied by a written explanation for the request. A plan for an acceptable alternative shall be approved by the proper teacher and administrator prior to, or as a part of, the granting of any parent request.
9. Participation in surveys of students occurs in this district when determined appropriate by district staff for educational purposes. Parents will be notified prior to the administration of surveys in accordance with district policy. Timely written parental requests to remove students from such surveys will be granted in accordance with district policy and law. In some cases, parental permission must be given before the survey is administered.
10. Parents are invited to express their concerns, share their ideas and advocate for their children's education with board members, administrators and staff.
11. School district staff and parents will participate in an annual evaluation and revision, if needed, of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy.

B. Title I Parental Involvement Policy:

The District's Title I Parental Involvement Policy is established in compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act. The District has a parental involvement policy applicable to parents of all children. The parental involvement policy applicable to parents of all children is not replaced by this Title I Parental Involvement Policy and shall continue to be applicable to all parents, including parents participating in Title I programs.

It is the policy of the District to implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in Title I programs consistent with the Title I laws. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

**Expectations for Parental Involvement:** It is the expectation of the District that parents of participating children will have opportunities available for parental involvement in the programs, activities, and procedures of the District's Title I program. The term "parental involvement" means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in this parental involvement policy. The District intends to meet this expectation through the following activities:

1. Involving parents in the joint development of the District's Title I plan and the processes of school review and school improvement.
2. Providing coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
3. Building the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
4. Coordinating and integrating parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under other programs.
5. Conducting, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served under the Title I program, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in Title I programs, with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, and use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies of the District.
6. Involving parents in the activities of the schools served under Title I.

**Policy Involvement:** Each school served under the Title I program will:

1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of

participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the Title I program.

2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening. If sufficient funds are provided for this purpose, the District may assist parental involvement in such meetings by offering transportation, child care, or home visits.
3. The District will provide high-quality curriculum and instruction to enable children to meet state and academic achievement standards.
4. Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs.
5. Provide parents of participating children: (1) timely information about programs under Title I, (2) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and (3) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
6. If the District operates a school-wide program under Title I and such plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parental comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the District.

Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement: As a component of the District's parental involvement policy, each school served under the Title I program will jointly develop with parents for all children served under the Title I program a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards. Such compact shall: (1) describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under Title I to meet the State's student academic achievement standards and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time; and (2) address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum: (i) parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement; (ii) frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and (iii) reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.

Building Capacity for Involvement: To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the District, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school participating in the Title I program and the District: (1) shall provide assistance to participating parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I and how to monitor a child's progress and work

with educators to improve the achievement of their children; (2) shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement; (3) shall educate teachers, student service personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school; (4) shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teacher Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children; (5) shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; (6) may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training; (7) may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under Title I if the District has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training; (8) may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions; (9) may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents; (10) may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation; (11) may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement; (12) may establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under Title I; (13) may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities; and (14) shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Title I as parents may request.

Accessibility: In carrying out the parental involvement activities for this Title I Parental Involvement policy, the District shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Title I in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

Use, Distribution, and Updating of this Policy: This Title I Parental Involvement Policy shall be incorporated into the District's Title I plan, shall be distributed to parents of participating children, shall be made available to the local community, and shall be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school.

### **Section 11 Homeless Students Policy**

Homeless children for purposes of this Policy generally include children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, as further defined by applicable federal and state law.

No Stigmatization or Segregation of Homeless Students: It is the District's policy and practice to

ensure that homeless children are not stigmatized or segregated by the District on the basis of their status as homeless.

Homeless Coordinator: The Homeless Coordinator shall serve as the school liaison for homeless children and youth and shall ensure that: (1) homeless children are identified by school personnel; (2) homeless children enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, school; (3) homeless children and their families receive educational service for which they are eligible and referrals to health, dental, and mental health services and other appropriate services; (4) the parents or guardians of homeless children are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children; (5) public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated where such children receive services under the federal homeless children laws, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens; (6) enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with law; and (7) the parents or guardians of homeless children, and any unaccompanied youth, are fully informed of transportation services available under law. The Homeless Coordinator shall coordinate with State coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provisions of education and related services to homeless children. The Homeless Coordinator may designate duties hereunder as the Homeless Coordinator determines to be appropriate.

Enrollment of and Services to Homeless Children: A homeless child shall be enrolled in compliance with law and be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school in which the homeless child has been placed. Placement of a homeless child is determined based on the child's "school of origin" and the "best interests" of the child. The "school of origin" means the school that the child attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled. Placement decisions shall be made according to the District's determination of the child's best interests, and shall be at either: (1) the child's school of origin for the duration of the child's homelessness (or, if the child becomes permanently housed during the school year, for the remainder of that school year) or (2) the school of the attendance area where the child is actually living. To the extent feasible, the placement shall be in the school of origin, except when such is contrary to the wishes of the homeless child's parent or legal guardian. If the placement is not in the school of origin or a school requested by the homeless child's parent or legal guardian, the District shall provide a written explanation of the placement decision and a statement of appeal rights to the parent or guardian as provided in Nebraska Rule 19.

If the homeless child is an unaccompanied youth, the Homeless Coordinator shall assist in the placement decision, consider the views of the unaccompanied youth, and provide the unaccompanied youth with notice of the right to appeal. The process to resolve disputes concerning the enrollment or placement of a homeless child or youth is as follows:

1. The district shall provide a written response and explanation of a decision regarding any complaint or dispute of a parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge or control of a homeless child or youth within thirty (30) calendar days of the time such complaint or dispute is brought;
2. The enrollment of the homeless child or youth in the school where enrollment is sought during the time such dispute is being considered;
3. And notice of the right to appeal as provided in Nebraska Rule 19.

Any parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge or control of a homeless child or youth that is dissatisfied with the decision of a school district after the dispute resolution process may file an appeal with the Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the decision. Such appeals are informal and shall be submitted to the Commissioner in writing, as outlined in Nebraska Department of Education Rule 19, Section 005.03. The District shall immediately contact the school last attended by the homeless child to obtain relevant academic and other records. If the homeless child needs to obtain immunizations or medical records, the District shall immediately refer the parent or guardian of the homeless child to the Homeless Coordinator, who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations or medical records. The District may nonetheless require the parent or guardian of the homeless child to submit contact information.

Transportation will be provided to homeless students, to the extent required by law and comparable to that provided to students who are not homeless, upon request of the parent or guardian of the homeless child, or by the Homeless Coordinator in the case of an unaccompanied youth, as follows: (1) if the homeless child's school of origin is in the District, and the homeless child continues to live in the District, transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided by the District; and (2) if the homeless child lives in a school other than the District, but continues to attend the Chase County Schools based on it being the school of origin, the new school and Chase County Schools shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from the school of origin and, if they are unable to agree, the responsibility and cost for transportation shall be shared equally.

## **Section 12 Breakfast and Lunch Programs**

The District has agreed to participate in the National School Lunch Program and accepts responsibility for providing free and reduced price meals to eligible children in the schools under its jurisdiction. The District provides the United States Department of Agriculture's required nondiscrimination statement:

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, One Petting Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The school food authority assures the State Department of Education that the school system will uniformly implement the following policy to determine children's eligibility for free and reduced price meals in all National School Lunch Programs. In fulfilling its responsibilities the school food authority:

1. Agrees to serve meals free to children from families whose income meets eligibility

- guidelines.
2. Agrees to serve meals at a reduced price to children from families whose income falls between free meal scale and the poverty guidelines.
  3. Agrees to provide these benefits to any child whose family's income falls within the criteria in Attachment A after deductions are made for the following special hardship conditions which could not reasonably be anticipated or controlled by the household: Unusually high medical expenses; shelter costs in excess of 30 percent of reported income; special education expenses due to the mental or physical condition of a child; disaster or casualty losses.
  4. In addition, agrees to provide these benefits to children from families who are experiencing strikes, layoffs and unemployment which cause the family income to fall within the criteria set forth in federal guidelines.
  5. Agrees there will be no physical segregation of, nor any other discrimination against, any child because of his inability to pay the full price of the meal. The names of the children eligible to receive free and reduced price meals shall not be published, posted or announced in any manner and there shall be no overt identification of any such children by use of special tokens or tickets or any other means. Further assurance is given that children eligible for free or reduced price meals shall not be required to: Work for their meals; use a separate lunch room; go through a separate serving line; enter the lunchroom through a separate entrance; eat meals at a different time; or eat a meal different from the one sold to children paying the full price.
  6. Agrees in the operation of child nutrition programs, no child shall be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, or national origin.
  7. Agrees to establish and use a fair hearing procedure for parental appeals to the school's decisions on applications and for school officials' challenges to the correctness of information contained in an application or to be continued eligibility of any child for free or reduced price meals. During the appeal and hearing the child will continue to receive free or reduced priced meals. A record of all such appeals and challenges and their dispositions shall be retained for three (3) years. Prior to initiating the hearing procedures, the parent or local school official may request a conference to provide an opportunity for the parent and school official to discuss the situation, present information, and obtain an explanation of data submitted in the application and decisions rendered. Such a conference shall not in any way prejudice or diminish the right to a fair hearing.

The hearing procedure shall provide the following:

- A publicly announced, simple method for making an oral or written request for a hearing.
- An opportunity to be assisted or represented by an attorney or other person.
- An opportunity to examine, prior to and during the hearing, the documents and records presented to support the decision under appeal.
- Reasonable promptness and convenience in scheduling a hearing and adequate notice as to the time and place of the hearing.
- An opportunity to present oral or documentary evidence and arguments

- supporting a position without undue interference.
  - An opportunity to question or refute any testimony or other evidence and to confront and cross-examine any adverse witnesses.
  - The hearing be conducted and the decision made by a hearing official who did not participate in the decision under appeal or in any previous conference.
  - The parties concerned and any designated representative thereof be notified in writing of the decision of the hearing official.
8. Agrees to designate the Superintendent to review applications and make determinations of eligibility. This official will use the criteria outlined in this policy to determine which individual children are eligible for free or reduced price meals.
  9. Agrees to develop and send to each child's parent or guardian a letter as outlined by State Department of Education including an application form for free or reduced price meals at the beginning of each school year. Applications may be filed at any time during the year. All children from a family will receive the same benefits.

The following information will be available in the office of the Superintendent:

- Eligibility criteria for free and reduced meals
- Parent letter and application
- Public release
- Collection procedure

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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, audiotope, 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. 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/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.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. 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; or (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS

## 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

12 FB/SB/VB/CC Practice Starts  
9,19 Staff Preservice Days  
20 1<sup>st</sup> Day of school

AUGUST '19						
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

9/11 Student/Staff Days

SEPTEMBER '19						
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					

2 Labor Day  
16 Teacher In-Service

19/20 Student/Staff Days

7 Teacher In-Service  
8 Parent/Teacher Conference (2pm-8pm)  
18 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
25 Fall Break

OCTOBER '19						
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		

21/22.5 Student/Staff Days

NOVEMBER '19						
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

4 Teacher In-Service  
11 Veterans Day  
28-29 Thanksgiving Break

18/19 Student/Staff Days

20 End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr/1<sup>st</sup> Sem  
22-26 NSAA Moratorium  
23-Jan 3 Christmas Break

DECEMBER '19						
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				

15/15 Student/Staff Days  
82/87.5 Student/Staff Days

JANUARY '20						
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	

6 Staff In-Service Day  
7 Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

19/20 Student/Staff Days

11 Parent/Teacher Conference (2-8pm)  
14 Winter Break  
17 Teacher In-Service

FEBRUARY '20						
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

18/19.5 Student/Staff Days

MARCH '20						
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				

12 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
13 Spring Break  
16 Teacher In-Service

20/21 Student/Staff Days

10-13 Easter Break

APRIL '20						
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		

20/20 Student/Staff Days

MAY '20						
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

9 Graduation  
21 Last Day K-11  
22 Teacher In-Service

15/16 Student/Staff Days  
92/96.5 Student/Staff Days  
174/184 Student/Staff Days

*Early Out Days*

*Professional Development Days*

*No School*

## AVAILABILITY OF HANDBOOKS

The 2019-2020 Student-Parent Handbook of Chase County Schools is available on the internet at <https://www.chasecountyschools.org/>

Because of the expense of printing the handbooks, we are asking that you consider using the internet to access and review the 2019-2020 Student Parent Handbook. Using the internet to access the handbook will allow the district to direct printing dollars to instructional needs and eliminate the need for you to search for your handbook when you have questions throughout the year. Thank you for considering this new use of technology to improve school-home communication.

Please sign and return this page to the Principal's Office by **August 31, 2019**.

- Thank you for providing the 2019-2020 Student-Parent Handbook online. I will review it on the internet. My signed receipt below acknowledges receipt of the Handbook in a satisfactory manner via the internet.**
  
- I prefer a paper copy of the Handbook.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

## RECEIPT OF 2019-2020 STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the 2019-2020 Student-Parent Handbook of Chase County Schools. It is understood that the handbook contains student conduct and discipline rules and information about Safe and Drug-Free Schools and that the undersigned, as student, agrees to follow such conduct and discipline rules. This receipt also serves to acknowledge that it is understood that the District's policies of non-discrimination and equity, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook, which should be used to respond to harassment or discrimination.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Print Name & Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Legal Guardian's Print Name & Signature

**School Athletic and Student Activity Programs  
Parent-Student Activity Handbook Forms  
(2019-2020)**

1. **Consent for Interscholastic Participation Form**
2. **NSAA Student and Parent Consent Form**
3. **NSAA Eligibility Rules (Summaries)**
4. **NSAA Pre-participation Physical Evaluation/Clearance Form**
5. **HIPAA Release of Health Information Form**
6. **Transportation Policy and Consent**
7. **Emergency Contact Information**
8. **Consent to Participate in School Trip Forms**
9. **Student-Parent Activity Handbook**
10. **Activity Suspension Notice Letter**



**2019-2020**  
**CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS**  
**STUDENT AND PARENT CONSENT FOR**  
**INTERSCHOLASTIC PARTICIPATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (**Student's Name**) request to participate in Chase County Schools interscholastic activities in the 2019-2020 school year. In making this request, Student states: This application to participate in interscholastic activities for the Chase County Schools is entirely voluntary on my part. I have read the eligibility rules and regulations of the Nebraska School Activities Association and the rules and regulations of Chase County Schools. I am not in violation of such rules.

(I am)(We are) the Student's parent or guardian ("Parent") and hereby give consent for the Student to participate in Chase County Schools interscholastic activities in the 2019-2020 school year.

Parent and Student hereby give the following statements, agreements and consents:

**WARNING OF RISK:** I realize that participation involves the potential for injury which is inherent in all interscholastic activities. Even with the protective equipment, safety rules and instruction and direction of coaches and sponsors that are provided, injuries are still a possibility. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains, and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord, and on rare occasions, injuries so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis and death. *I acknowledge that I have read and understand this warning.*

**MEDICAL:** Parent is responsible for any professional medical and/or related services; the school shall not be liable for payment of such services. Parent and Student give permission to any and all of the Student's health care providers to release and discuss all records and information such health care providers may have about Student (including otherwise confidential medical information and records) to Chase County Schools and its employees, staff, agents, and consultants. Parent and Student further give permission to Chase County Schools, its employees, staff, agents, and consultants, to release and discuss all records and information it has (including otherwise

confidential medical information or records) to Student's health care providers and to others as Chase County Schools may determine appropriate for the purposes of determining activity eligibility, fitness or injury status, or to respond to an emergency.

**INSURANCE:** I acknowledge that insurance coverage is recommended for all participants. The expense of insurance coverage is Parent's responsibility. Information regarding insurance is available in the Athletic Director's office.

**INJURY REPORTING:** Parent and Student agree to report to coaches and trainers any injury whatsoever suffered by Student before, during or after the season, practice or games, whether such injury occurred as a part of participation in the extra-curricular activity, or outside of such activity.

**ELIGIBILITY RULES:** The major rules and regulations governing Student's eligibility to participate in interscholastic activities have been disclosed to Student and Parent. I have read the Nebraska School Activities Association rules of eligibility for participation in interscholastic activities, including the parent domicile, student transfer and scholastic rules. I understand that activity participants must be enrolled in at least 20 hours per week, be regular in attendance, and

have on school records a minimum of 20 hours credit for the immediate preceding semester. Chase County Schools includes additional eligibility requirements as set forth in the Student-Parent Handbook.

**TRANSPORTATION:** I understand the activity may be conducted at a location other than Chase County Schools. In some instances Chase County Schools will not provide transportation to the activity. In such cases transportation to the site is the responsibility of Parent and Student. I understand that Chase County Schools is not responsible when Student is provided transportation by a private vehicle driven by others.

**GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP:** I understand good sportsmanship is essential to the success of the activity program. A failure to follow the principles of good sportsmanship or other inappropriate behavior may result in removal from the contest and may result in suspension from attending future contests or activities.

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION:** I consent to academic information including grade point average, class rank and any academic awards/recognition received by Student to be released. Most typically this information will be used for the purpose of recognizing excellence in both athletics and academics and released for publication in newspapers, school publications and for awards banquets or assemblies, all-conference or all-state awards.

**UNIFORM/EQUIPMENT RETURN:**  
I agree to return all uniforms and equipment issued to me promptly on request and upon the ending of my participation in good condition; subject to wear and tear that occurs from normal use. I accept financial responsibility for the return of items assigned to Student and agree to reimburse the school the actual replacement value of the items in the event that they are not returned or are damaged, and for cost of repairs if they can be repaired. I understand that failure to reimburse the school in a timely fashion

could affect extracurricular activity eligibility.

**ACTIVITY CODE:** The Chase County Schools Student-Parent Handbook includes an Activity Code that sets out rules of behavior. Student agrees to comply with the Activity Code. In the event I am uncertain as to whether particular behavior or conduct would violate the Activity Code, I understand that I should ask the Athletic Director for advice before engaging in the behavior or conduct. I agree that participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that may be denied by suspension or other discipline if Student does not comply with the Activity Code.

I agree that the Activity Code is a set of school rules and are not to be interpreted the same way as a criminal code. As such, I agree that the rules are subject to interpretation by school officials. I also agree that school officials may determine that a violation of the Activity Code has occurred when school officials reasonably determine from whatever information they find credible that the Student engaged in the conduct in question. School officials may determine that a violation of the Activity Code has occurred even though a criminal charge related to the conduct is still pending and even if Student has been found not guilty or the criminal charge has been otherwise dismissed.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Signature)

To be completed for students participating in all NSAA activities.



**NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION ("NSAA")  
Student and Parent Consent Form**

School Year: 20\_\_-20\_\_ Member School: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned(s) are the Student and the parent(s), guardian(s), or person(s) in charge of the above named Student and are collectively referred to as "Parent".

The Parent and Student hereby:

(1) Understand and agree that participation in NSAA sponsored activities is voluntary on the part of the Student and is a privilege;

(2) Understand and agree that (a) by this Consent Form the NSAA has provided to the Parent and Student of the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic participation; (b) participation in any athletic activity may involve injury of some type; (c) the severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains, and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord, and on rare occasions, injuries so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis and death; and, (d) even the best coaching, the use of the best protective equipment and strict observance of rules, injuries are still a possibility;

(3) Consent and agree to participation of the Student in NSAA activities subject to all NSAA by-laws and rules interpretations for participation in NSAA sponsored activities, and the activities rules of the NSAA member school for which the Student is participating; and,

(4) Consent and agree to (a) the disclosure by the Member School at which the Student is enrolled to the NSAA, and subsequent disclosure by the NSAA, of information regarding the Student, including the student's name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, photograph, date of and place of birth, major fields of study, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status (e.g., full-time or part-time), participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height as a member of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, statistics regarding performance, records or documentation related to eligibility for NSAA sponsored activities, medical records, and any other information related to the Student's participation in NSAA sponsored activities; and, (b) the Student being photographed, video taped, audio taped, or recorded by any other means while participating in NSAA activities and contests, consent to and waive any privacy rights with regard to the display of such recordings, and waive any claims of ownership or other rights with regard to such photographs or recordings or to the broadcast, sale or display of such photographs or recordings.

I acknowledge that I have read paragraphs (1) through (4) above, understand and agree to the terms thereof, including the warning of potential risk of injury inherent in participation in athletic activities.

DATED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Student [Print Name] Student Signature

(I am)(We are) the Student's [circle appropriate choice] (Parent) (Guardian). (I)(We) acknowledge that (I)(We) have read paragraphs (1) through (4) above, understand and agree to the terms thereof, including the warning of potential risk of injury inherent in participation in athletic activities. Having read the warning in paragraph (2) above and understanding the potential risk of injury to my Student, (I)(we) hereby give (my)(our) permission for \_\_\_\_\_ [insert student name] to practice and compete for the above named high school in activities approved by the NSAA, **except those crossed out below:**

<b>Baseball</b>	<b>Golf</b>	<b>Tennis</b>	<b>Play Production</b>	<b>Basketball</b>	<b>Swimming/Diving</b>
<b>Track</b>	<b>Football</b>	<b>Speech</b>	<b>Cross Country</b>	<b>Soccer</b>	<b>Volleyball</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>Softball</b>	<b>Wrestling</b>	<b>Debate</b>	<b>Journalism</b>	

DATED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent [Print Name] Parent Signature

## Eligibility Rules of the NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION (“NSAA”)

The eligibility rules and regulations of the NSAA are available from the Activities Director and are also posted on the NSAA webpage: <http://www.nsaahome.org/>. It is important that students and parents be familiar with the rules in order to maintain eligibility and Chase County School’s compliance with the rules.

Provided below are summaries of the rules. Be aware that the rules are changed from time to time. Consult the full rules and ask the AD if you have any questions about eligibility!!

### OUR SUMMARY:

1. Parental Consent: Certificate of consent signed by student and parent. The major eligibility rules have been disclosed to the student and parent or guardian.
2. Physical Examination (for sports) reflects student is physically fit for athletic participation. Must be given during the school year in which the student participates or during the preceding summer (after May 1st). Is kept on file at the high school.
3. Age: Age 19 maximum (prior to August 1 of the current school year). A 7th or 8th grade student who reaches age 15 prior to August 1 may participate on a senior high school team.
4. 8 Semesters/4 Seasons of Participation: Ineligible after 8 semesters of school membership since initial enrollment in 9th Grade. Ineligible after 4 seasons of participation in any one activity.
5. Bona Fide Student of a member high school. Must not have graduated from any high school or its equivalent. Students of a middle school that is a part of a member high school system may participate.
6. Attendance: Must have enrolled in a high school on or before the 11th school day of the semester in which the contest takes place to be eligible for varsity interscholastic competition. Student must be regular in attendance in accordance with the school’s attendance policy.
7. Scholastic: Must be enrolled in at least 20 credit hours in the semester that will ordinarily be considered as advancing the student towards graduation. Must have earned 20 credit hours in the immediate preceding semester.
8. Domicile: Parent’s domicile must be within the member school.
9. Transfer Rule: 90 days ineligibility upon transfer to another school. Exceptions include:
  - Change in parents’ domicile.
  - Option enrollment application signed, filed and approved prior to March 15.
  - Foreign exchange student with a J-1 Visa. Maximum two consecutive semesters of eligibility.
10. School Sports Participation: During the season, student must participate in the school’s athletic contests only. Cannot participate in any athletic contest involving any skill of the sport of that season or participate in sports camp or clinic or group instruction (e.g. club team); with some exceptions. Cannot participate on an all-star team. Must maintain amateur status.



## **GUARD YOUR ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY – 2019-2020**

***IN ORDER TO REPRESENT A NEBRASKA HIGH SCHOOL IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES COMPETITION, A STUDENT MUST ABIDE BY ELIGIBILITY RULES OF THE NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION. A SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR RULES IS GIVEN BELOW. CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL OR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE COMPLETE RULE.***

- 2.2.1** Student must be a bonafide student of their member school and have not graduated from any high school.
- 2.2.2** After a student's initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she shall be ineligible after eight semesters of school membership beginning with his/her enrollment in grade nine.
- 2.3** Student is ineligible if nineteen years of age before August 1 of current school year. (Student in grades 7 or 8 may participate on a high school team if he/she was 15 years of age prior to August 1 of current school year.)
- 2.4.1** Student must be enrolled in some high school on or before the eleventh school day of the current semester.
- 2.5.1** Student must be continually enrolled in at least twenty credit hours per semester and regular in attendance, in accordance with the school's attendance policy at the school he/she wishes to represent in interscholastic competition.
- 2.5.2** Student must have been enrolled and received twenty hours of credit in school the immediate preceding semester.
- 2.6.2.1** **Guardianship does not fulfill the definition of a legal parent.** If a guardian has been appointed for a student, the student is eligible in the school district where his/her legal parent(s) have their domicile. Individual situations involving guardianship may be submitted to the Executive Director for review and a ruling.
- 2.6.3** A student entering grade nine for the first time after being promoted from grade eight of a two-year junior high, or a three-year middle school, or entering a high school for the first time after being promoted to grade ten from a three-year junior high school is eligible. After a student makes an initial choice of high schools, any subsequent transfer, unless there has been a change of domicile by his/her parents, shall render the student ineligible for ninety school days.
- If a student has participated on a high school team at any level as a seventh, eight, or ninth grade student, he/she has established his/her eligibility at the high school where he/she participated. If the student elects to attend another high school upon entering ninth or tenth grade, he/she shall be ineligible for ninety school days.
- Student eligibility related to domicile can be attained in the following manners:**
- 2.6.9.1** If the change in domicile by the parents occurs during a school year, the student may remain at the school he/she is attending and be eligible until the end of the school year or transfer to a high school located in the school district where the parents established their domicile and be eligible.
- 2.6.9.2** If the domicile is changed during the summer months and the student is in grade twelve and the student has attended the high school for two or more years, the student may remain at the high school he/she has been attending and retain eligibility.
- 2.6.9.3** If a student elects to remain at the high school where he/she initially enrolled after being promoted from grade eight of a middle or junior high school, or grade nine of a junior high school, he/she is eligible at that school, or is eligible at a high school located within the school district in which the parents established their domicile.
- 2.6.10** If the legal parents of a student change their domicile from one school district that has a high school to another school district that has a high school, the student shall be eligible immediately in the school district where the parents established their domicile.
- 2.7.7** Nebraska transfer students whose name appears on the NSAA transfer list prior to May 1 shall be eligible immediately in the fall. Those students whose name does NOT appear on the NSAA transfer list prior to May 1 shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.
- 2.7.8** Nebraska transfer students must have signed and delivered all forms necessary to make such transfer to the school in which he/she intends to enroll for the 2016-2017 school year prior to May 1, 2016; for the student to be eligible. The school to which the transfer is being made must have notified the NSAA office via an NSAA online transfer form, no later than May 1, 2016. The student would become ineligible for ninety school days the next fall if the student were to change his/her mind and decide not to transfer. If such student were to transfer to the new school, but later decides to return to his/her former district before 90 school days have elapsed, such student will be ineligible in the former district for 90 school days, with the ineligibility period commencing at the start of the fall semester. Those students, who did not have their enrollment forms signed, delivered and accepted prior to May 1, 2016, shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.
- 3.5 / 3.1** Once the season of a sport begins, a student shall participate in practices and compete only in athletic contests/meets in that sport, which are scheduled by his/her school. Any other competition will render the student ineligible for a portion of, or all of, the season in that sport. The season of a sport begins with the first date of practice as permitted by NSAA rules.
- 3.5.1** During the season of a particular sport, athletes participating in that sport for a high school may attend, but may not physically take part, either as an individual or as a member of a team, in the sport activity in which instruction is being offered in the clinic, camp or school.  
\*(Refer to  
3.5.1.1 for exception in Swimming & Diving.)
- 3.6** A student shall not participate on an all-star team while a high school undergraduate.
- 3.7** A student must maintain his/her amateur status.

## **NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES WILL PREVENT YOUR TEAM, SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY FROM BEING PENALIZED**

# PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION HISTORY FORM

(Note: This form is to be filled out by the patient and parent prior to seeing the physician. The physician should keep this form in the chart.)

Date of Exam \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Sport(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Medicines and Allergies:** Please list all of the prescription and over-the-counter medicines and supplements (herbal and nutritional) that you are currently taking

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any allergies?  Yes  No If yes, please identify specific allergy below.

Medicines  Pollens  Food  Stinging Insects

Explain "Yes" answers below. Circle questions you don't know the answers to.

GENERAL QUESTIONS	Yes	No	MEDICAL QUESTIONS	Yes	No
1. Has a doctor ever denied or restricted your participation in sports for any reason?			26. Do you cough, wheeze, or have difficulty breathing during or after exercise?		
2. Do you have any ongoing medical conditions? If so, please identify below: <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma <input type="checkbox"/> Anemia <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Infections Other: _____			27. Have you ever used an inhaler or taken asthma medicine?		
3. Have you ever spent the night in the hospital?			28. Is there anyone in your family who has asthma?		
4. Have you ever had surgery?			29. Were you born without or are you missing a kidney, an eye, a testicle (males), your spleen, or any other organ?		
<b>HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	30. Do you have groin pain or a painful bulge or hernia in the groin area?		
5. Have you ever passed out or nearly passed out DURING or AFTER exercise?			31. Have you had infectious mononucleosis (mono) within the last month?		
6. Have you ever had discomfort, pain, tightness, or pressure in your chest during exercise?			32. Do you have any rashes, pressure sores, or other skin problems?		
7. Does your heart ever race or skip beats (irregular beats) during exercise?			33. Have you had a herpes or MRSA skin infection?		
8. Has a doctor ever told you that you have any heart problems? If so, check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> High blood pressure <input type="checkbox"/> A heart murmur <input type="checkbox"/> High cholesterol <input type="checkbox"/> A heart infection <input type="checkbox"/> Kawasaki disease Other: _____			34. Have you ever had a head injury or concussion?		
9. Has a doctor ever ordered a test for your heart? (For example, ECG/EKG, echocardiogram)			35. Have you ever had a hit or blow to the head that caused confusion, prolonged headache, or memory problems?		
10. Do you get lightheaded or feel more short of breath than expected during exercise?			36. Do you have a history of seizure disorder?		
11. Have you ever had an unexplained seizure?			37. Do you have headaches with exercise?		
12. Do you get more tired or short of breath more quickly than your friends during exercise?			38. Have you ever had numbness, tingling, or weakness in your arms or legs after being hit or falling?		
<b>HEART HEALTH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	39. Have you ever been unable to move your arms or legs after being hit or falling?		
13. Has any family member or relative died of heart problems or had an unexpected or unexplained sudden death before age 50 (including drowning, unexplained car accident, or sudden infant death syndrome)?			40. Have you ever become ill while exercising in the heat?		
14. Does anyone in your family have hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Marfan syndrome, arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy, long QT syndrome, short QT syndrome, Brugada syndrome, or catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia?			41. Do you get frequent muscle cramps when exercising?		
15. Does anyone in your family have a heart problem, pacemaker, or implanted defibrillator?			42. Do you or someone in your family have sickle cell trait or disease?		
16. Has anyone in your family had unexplained fainting, unexplained seizures, or near drowning?			43. Have you had any problems with your eyes or vision?		
<b>BONE AND JOINT QUESTIONS</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	44. Have you had any eye injuries?		
17. Have you ever had an injury to a bone, muscle, ligament, or tendon that caused you to miss a practice or a game?			45. Do you wear glasses or contact lenses?		
18. Have you ever had any broken or fractured bones or dislocated joints?			46. Do you wear protective eyewear, such as goggles or a face shield?		
19. Have you ever had an injury that required x-rays, MRI, CT scan, injections, therapy, a brace, a cast, or crutches?			47. Do you worry about your weight?		
20. Have you ever had a stress fracture?			48. Are you trying to or has anyone recommended that you gain or lose weight?		
21. Have you ever been told that you have or have you had an x-ray for neck instability or atlantoaxial instability? (Down syndrome or dwarfism)			49. Are you on a special diet or do you avoid certain types of foods?		
22. Do you regularly use a brace, orthotics, or other assistive device?			50. Have you ever had an eating disorder?		
23. Do you have a bone, muscle, or joint injury that bothers you?			51. Do you have any concerns that you would like to discuss with a doctor?		
24. Do any of your joints become painful, swollen, feel warm, or look red?			<b>FEMALES ONLY</b>		
25. Do you have any history of juvenile arthritis or connective tissue disease?			52. Have you ever had a menstrual period?		
			53. How old were you when you had your first menstrual period?		
			54. How many periods have you had in the last 12 months?		

Explain "yes" answers here

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the above questions are complete and correct.

Signature of athlete \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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I hereby give permission for the release of the attached student medical history and the results of the actual physical examination to the school for the purposes of participation in athletics and activities.  
 Parent or Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION

## THE ATHLETE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: SUPPLEMENTAL HISTORY FORM

Date of Exam \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Sport(s) \_\_\_\_\_

1. Type of disability		
2. Date of disability		
3. Classification (if available)		
4. Cause of disability (birth, disease, accident/trauma, other)		
5. List the sports you are interested in playing		
	Yes	No
6. Do you regularly use a brace, assistive device, or prosthetic?		
7. Do you use any special brace or assistive device for sports?		
8. Do you have any rashes, pressure sores, or any other skin problems?		
9. Do you have a hearing loss? Do you use a hearing aid?		
10. Do you have a visual impairment?		
11. Do you use any special devices for bowel or bladder function?		
12. Do you have burning or discomfort when urinating?		
13. Have you had autonomic dysreflexia?		
14. Have you ever been diagnosed with a heat-related (hyperthermia) or cold-related (hypothermia) illness?		
15. Do you have muscle spasticity?		
16. Do you have frequent seizures that cannot be controlled by medication?		

Explain "yes" answers here

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Please indicate if you have ever had any of the following.

	Yes	No
Atlantoaxial instability		
X-ray evaluation for atlantoaxial instability		
Dislocated joints (more than one)		
Easy bleeding		
Enlarged spleen		
Hepatitis		
Osteopenia or osteoporosis		
Difficulty controlling bowel		
Difficulty controlling bladder		
Numbness or tingling in arms or hands		
Numbness or tingling in legs or feet		
Weakness in arms or hands		
Weakness in legs or feet		
Recent change in coordination		
Recent change in ability to walk		
Spina bifida		
Latex allergy		

Explain "yes" answers here

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I hereby state that, to the best of my knowledge, my answers to the above questions are complete and correct.

Signature of athlete \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

### PHYSICIAN REMINDERS

- Consider additional questions on more sensitive issues
  - Do you feel stressed out or under a lot of pressure?
  - Do you ever feel sad, hopeless, depressed, or anxious?
  - Do you feel safe at your home or residence?
  - Have you ever tried cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
  - During the past 30 days, did you use chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip?
  - Do you drink alcohol or use any other drugs?
  - Have you ever taken anabolic steroids or used any other performance supplement?
  - Have you ever taken any supplements to help you gain or lose weight or improve your performance?
  - Do you wear a seat belt, use a helmet, and use condoms?
- Consider reviewing questions on cardiovascular symptoms (questions 5–14).

EXAMINATION		
Height _____	Weight _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
BP _____ / _____ ( _____ / _____ )	Pulse _____	Vision R 20/ _____ L 20/ _____ Corrected <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
MEDICAL	NORMAL	ABNORMAL FINDINGS
Appearance • Marfan stigmata (kyphoscoliosis, high-arched palate, pectus excavatum, arachnodactyly, arm span > height, hyperlaxity, myopia, MVP, aortic insufficiency)		
Eyes/ears/nose/throat • Pupils equal • Hearing		
Lymph nodes		
Heart <sup>a</sup> • Murmurs (auscultation standing, supine, +/- Valsalva) • Location of point of maximal impulse (PMI)		
Pulses • Simultaneous femoral and radial pulses		
Lungs		
Abdomen		
Genitourinary (males only) <sup>b</sup>		
Skin • HSV, lesions suggestive of MRSA, tinea corporis		
Neurologic <sup>c</sup>		
MUSCULOSKELETAL		
Neck		
Back		
Shoulder/arm		
Elbow/forearm		
Wrist/hand/fingers		
Hip/thigh		
Knee		
Leg/ankle		
Foot/toes		
Functional • Duck-walk, single leg hop		

<sup>a</sup>Consider ECG, echocardiogram, and referral to cardiology for abnormal cardiac history or exam.  
<sup>b</sup>Consider GU exam if in private setting. Having third party present is recommended.  
<sup>c</sup>Consider cognitive evaluation or baseline neuropsychiatric testing if a history of significant concussion.

- Cleared for all sports without restriction
- Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for \_\_\_\_\_
- Not cleared
- Pending further evaluation
  - For any sports
  - For certain sports \_\_\_\_\_
- Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations \_\_\_\_\_

I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, the physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).

Name of physician (print/type) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of physician \_\_\_\_\_, MD or DO

# ■ PREPARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EVALUATION CLEARANCE FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  M  F Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

- Cleared for all sports without restriction
- Cleared for all sports without restriction with recommendations for further evaluation or treatment for \_\_\_\_\_

- Not cleared
  - Pending further evaluation
  - For any sports
  - For certain sports \_\_\_\_\_
  - Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I have examined the above-named student and completed the preparticipation physical evaluation. The athlete does not present apparent clinical contraindications to practice and participate in the sport(s) as outlined above. A copy of the physical exam is on record in my office and can be made available to the school at the request of the parents. If conditions arise after the athlete has been cleared for participation, the physician may rescind the clearance until the problem is resolved and the potential consequences are completely explained to the athlete (and parents/guardians).**

Name of physician (print/type) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of physician \_\_\_\_\_, MD or DO

### EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Allergies \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other information \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF HEALTH INFORMATION**  
Chase County Schools (“CCS”)

<b>PART I</b>	<b>Identification</b>	
<b>Student’s Name</b>	_____	Social Security No. or Date of Birth _____
<b>Disclosing Party</b>	_____	
	(Name of Hospital, Clinic, or Doctor)	

**I PART II Authorization for Release of Health Information**

I hereby authorize the Disclosing Party and its agents to disclose health information about the Student to CCS.

1. **YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DISCLOSE THE FOLLOWING HEALTH INFORMATION:**

- Information about a particular admission, treatment or episode of care. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- The following health information: \_\_\_\_\_
- All health information about Student and any information requested by CCS

2. **DOES THIS AUTHORIZATION INCLUDE –**

- Yes  No Alcohol/drug abuse information if part of the specified record
- Yes  No Mental health information if part of the specified record
- Yes  No HIV/AIDS-related information (including test results) if part of the specified record
- Yes  No Genetic testing information if part of the specified record
- Yes  No Psychotherapy notes (Note – You cannot combine an authorization to disclose psychotherapy notes with any other authorization.)

3. **WHAT OTHER LIMITATIONS APPLY?** If none, write “none:” \_\_\_\_\_

4. **PURPOSE:** What is the purpose of the disclosure? (Note – If the disclosure is at the patient’s request, simply state “at the patient’s request.”): Patient’s request.

5. **THIS AUTHORIZATION IS VALID UNTIL:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Note: Unless otherwise stated, I request that this authorization be considered as valid for 12 months from date of signature)

**ADDITIONAL TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW:**

- 1. Not a Condition for Treatment. Refusal to sign this authorization will not affect your ability to receive treatment from the Disclosing Party.
- 2. Further Uses and Disclosures. Health information to be disclosed under this authorization may be subject to re-disclosure by the recipient and no longer protected by State or federal privacy laws.
- 3. Right to Revoke. You may revoke this authorization at any time by giving written notice to the Disclosing Party. Your revocation will not be effective to the extent action has already been taken in reliance on your authorization prior to receipt of your written revocation.
- 4. Photocopies. A photocopy or exact reproduction of this signed authorization will have the same force and effect as the original.
- 5. Keep a Copy. By signing below, you acknowledge receipt of a copy of this Authorization.

**PART III Send Records to Chase County Schools at:**  
Troy Hauxwell, Activity  
520 E 9<sup>th</sup> St., PO Box 577  
Imperial, NE 69033

**For Questions Contact: Troy Hauxwell, Activity Director**  
**Phone: (308) 882-4304**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent (or Student if 18 years of age or Older) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Information (Address & Phone)

**2019-2020  
CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS  
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY TRANSPORTATION**

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

Activities may be conducted at locations other than Chase County Schools. In some instances, Chase County Schools will not provide transportation to the activity.

Chase County Schools is not responsible when students are provided transportation by a vehicle driven by others. In these instances, the responsibility and liability of the school and school officials is limited to the period from the participant's arrival at the event site and contact with the coach, sponsor, or assigned staff member, until dismissal from the event. All other liability for the child's safety lies with the parent, or their designated drivers.

Parents are **STRONGLY** discouraged from allowing students to drive to/from events unaccompanied by parents. The safety of the students is of utmost importance, and parents should exercise their wisdom, good judgment and discretion when planning travel arrangements.

**TRANSPORTATION LIABILITY WAIVER**

I have read the Extracurricular Transportation Policy and agree that I shall assume all liability for negligently caused injuries or damages and release the school and school officials from any liability for injury or damage resulting from the following situations involving extracurricular activities:

1. Where I transport my son/daughter;
2. Where I transport other students, or I, as a parent/guardian, give permission to another adult to transport my son/daughter;
3. Where my son/daughter transports himself/herself; or
4. Where my son/daughter transports other students to or from a practice or scheduled event
5. Where I or a group of parents or other individuals contract or arrange for transportation and the school does not directly contract for such transportation.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

**REQUEST FOR ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION**

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sport or Activity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

I request that my child (named above) not be required to ride on the team bus/van:

- to the event
- on return from the event
- both to and on return from the event

The reason(s) for my request is/are: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The alternate transportation will be (name of person who will be driving the student): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I agree that if this request is granted, the school and school officials will have no liability or responsibility for injury or damage that may occur related to the alternate transportation.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

The request is: \_\_\_\_ approved \_\_\_\_ denied.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Activities Director, Head Coach or Sponsor)

This form should be given to the Activities Director, Head Coach or Sponsor NO LATER THAN 1 DAY prior to the event whenever possible.

- Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**2019-2020  
CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS  
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

<b>Student's Name:</b>	DOB:	Grade Level:
------------------------	------	--------------

**Emergency Contact Information**

	Home #	Work #	Cell #
Primary Contact/Relationship:			
1 <sup>st</sup> Secondary Contact/Relationship:			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Secondary Contact/Relationship:			

**Medical Provider Information**

Student's Physician:	Telephone:
Student's Dentist:	Telephone:
Insurance Co.:	Name on insurance card:      Insurance ID#:

**Medical Background (for Athletic Participants)**

Date of Last Tetanus:	Blood Type:
Allergies to Drugs:	Allergies to Foods:
Student's medications an emergency responder should be aware of:	
Other information an emergency responder should be aware of:	

Any other pertinent information coaches or sponsors should know about related to emergency response for the student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

**RELEASE AND  
CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL TRIP**

**Student's Name:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

The parents/legal guardian of the above-named student ("Student") hereby give consent for the Student to participate in the following trip ("Trip")

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of trip: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

The Student may participate in all scheduled events and activities except (if no exceptions; write "None"): \_\_\_\_\_

The Student and the Student's parents/legal guardian fully understand that participation in the activities and the transportation to and from the Trip involves inherent risks. The Student and the Student's parents/legal guardian accept responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury to the Student that may occur during or in connection with or in any way connected to participation in the activities or the transportation of the Student to and from the Trip that is not the result of fraud, willful injury to a person or the willful or negligent violation of a law by an employee or agent of the District, and agree to indemnify and hold the District and its employees and agents harmless from any injury or damages which may be caused to others or the property of others in connection with the Student's participation in the Trip. The District and adults attending shall not be held responsible for any stolen, lost, or damaged items. The Student and the Student's parents/legal guardian understand that it is their responsibility for 1 to 2 meals each day and any extra monetary expenses, including gifts or memorabilia, that the Student may incur.

Further, the Student and the Student's parents/legal guardian understand all school rules will apply to this activity and that such school rules may be enforced by immediate removal from the Trip and further discipline upon return to school. In the event the sponsors determine that Student has engaged in a school rule infraction, the Student may be sent home immediately. The Student's parents/legal guardian agree to be responsible for all costs of the return trip and to pick up the Student upon arrival. In order to secure the safety of all participants in the trip, the Student and the Student's parents/legal guardian further give consent to the Trip sponsors conducting random searches of the Student's luggage or belongings, and of the Student's clothing, purses, backpacks, etc.

Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## IMPORTANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<b>Student's Name:</b>	DOB:	Grade Level:
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### Student Contact Information

	Home #	Work #	Cell #	Fax #
Father's Name:				
Mother's Name:				
Other Contact(s):				

### Medical Contact Information

Family Physician:	Telephone:	
Other Physician:	Telephone:	
Family Dentist:	Telephone:	
Insurance Company:	Telephone:	Policy #:

### Medical Background

Date of Last Tetanus:	Blood Type:
Allergies to Drugs:	Allergies to Foods:
Medications Child is Currently Taking:	
Any Other Pertinent Information a Medical Care Giver Should Know About the Child:	

### Special Accommodations

Special Accommodations the Child will Need to Participate in the Trip:
Any Other Pertinent Information the Trip Sponsors Should Know About the Child:

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Legal Guardian

# CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

The athletic program at Chase County Schools is designed to provide opportunities for those students who desire competitive activity in athletics.

It is the policy of Chase County Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, or handicap in its educational programs.

Any boy or girl is welcome to participate in any of the interscholastic teams available to them providing he/she meet the requirements established by the State Activities Association and the school, and he/she agree to follow the guidelines established in this booklet.

A great athletic tradition is not built overnight; it takes the hard work and dedication of many individuals over many years. As a member of an interscholastic team, the athlete has certain responsibilities to uphold. An athlete is one who accepts these responsibilities. The responsibilities are to broaden yourself and develop strength of character.

You owe it to yourself to always do whatever you do in life to the best and fullest of your ability.

An athlete, has a responsibility to both school and community. The student body, the community, and other communities judge our school on the participants conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, athletes contribute to our school and community image. Making our school proud of you and your community proud of your school, by your performance and your devotion to high ideals. Do not let the younger students down. They will imitate you in many ways. Give them something worth copying.

Because a great winning tradition is wanted at Chase County High School, the coaches believe that they have a responsibility to give the community the best possible team with the available talent. Winning will always be utmost in every coach's mind, but they are well aware of what must be done to win and win in the proper manner.

All students who want to take part in the athletic tradition established at CCS will have to accept the responsibilities which are set up for every member of all teams.

These guidelines are drawn from the philosophies of the present coaching staff, administration, present athletes, and existing school policies and from the policies set up the Nebraska Association of High School Activities.

## POLICIES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### I. NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION RULES

- A. Chase County High School is a member of the NSAA which is a voluntary organization of public and parochial schools of Nebraska, organized for the purpose of promoting and regulating the competition between schools in which is generally known as the co-curricular activities. Chase County High School is subject to and governed in part by the rules and regulations for co-curricular activities of the NSAA, which rules and regulations are incorporated into and made a part of this policy by this reference. These rules and regulations include, but are not limited to such subjects as eligibility, entry fees, awards, seasons, practices, summer activities, out of state contests, state-wide contests, Sunday contests, physical examinations, participation on non-high school teams in non-school competition, all-star competition, amateur rules, assumed names, prohibited activities, playing rules, equal opportunity for participation, and sports sponsored by the association.
- B. These rules and regulations are available for inspection and review in the office of the school superintendent, principal, and athletic director. NSAA has a due process appeal procedure for alleged violations of their rules and regulations which will be followed by Chase County High School.
- C. Summary of NSAA Rules as to Eligibility of Participants:  
All Students must be undergraduates, must be high school students in regular attendance, taking at least 20 semester hours per week, and must have become regular in attendance on or before the 11<sup>th</sup> school day of the semester in which the activity takes place. Exception: when a student is prevented from becoming regular in attendance because of personal illness or quarantine, this rule may be waived upon presentation to the NSAA offices of satisfactory evidence of the cause of such late registration. No other excuse for late registration shall be accepted towards meeting this eligibility requirement.

STUDENTS ARE INELIGIBLE IF THEY:

1. Have graduated from high school.
2. Are not enrolled in at least twenty hours per week and are not regular in attendance.
3. Were not enrolled in some high school on or before the 11<sup>th</sup> school day of the current school year.
4. Were 19 years of age before August 1.
5. Have attended a four year high school more than 8 semesters or a three year high school more than 6 semesters.
6. Were not enrolled in school the immediate preceding semester.
7. Did not receive 20 semester hours of credit the immediate preceding semester.
8. Compete in any athletic contest during the season of the sport involved either as an individual or a member of an outside team unless he is representing his school.
9. Participate in an all-star team while still a high school undergraduate.
10. Participate under an assumed name.
11. Do not keep their amateur status.
12. Participate on the varsity level for a high school not in the district where their parents reside.
13. Participate on the varsity level for a high school after their parents have moved from that school district and the student stays behind in school. There are exceptions to this rule and the student should check with the athletic director before competing.

PRACTICE REGULATIONS:

No organized practice in any sport shall be held during the school year between the close of a season of a sport and the opening day of practice for that sport the following school year.

FOOTBALL: An organized practice shall mean more than five players under the direct supervision of a sponsor.

BASKETBALL, SOFTBALL, VOLLEYBALL: An organized practice shall mean more than four players under the direct supervision of a sponsor.

CROSS-COUNTRY, TRACK, WRESTLING, GOLF: An organized practice shall mean more than three players under the direct supervision of a sponsor.

CONDITIONING PROGRAMS: A coach may organize and supervise a year-round conditioning program to include weight lifting, running and exercising for all students. Such a conditioning program shall be general in nature, and no individual skills of any sport may be taught.

Conditioning sessions shall be no longer than 60 minutes in length and no member shall participate in more than one session per day.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES: From the close of school for the second semester until the opening of the fall sport season, there shall be no restriction on athletes or on high school coaches working with athletes. A member school however, may not sponsor a team nor individual, provide uniforms or individual player equipment, or otherwise be responsible for students in summer competition.

A school may organize a clinic in any sport after the school is closed for the second semester or June 1, whichever is later, through the first weekend in August. No clinic in any sport shall exceed three weeks in duration and that three weeks shall be defined as twenty-one (21) calendar days to run consecutively from the beginning date of the clinic.

OFF-SEASON PRACTICE REGULATIONS: In order that we may always have a well-rounded athletic program at Chase County High School, and because of limited facilities for some sports, the following guidelines will be followed concerning off-season unorganized practices:

- a. No athlete will work out under the supervision of a coach or use school facilities during the school year until five weeks before the first organized practice date scheduled for the next sport season. During the time between the close of the school term and organized fall practices there will be restrictions on unorganized practices.
- b. No athlete will use school facilities without the permission of one of the coaches. That permission will

be granted by the athletic director upon request from one of the coaches.

- c. Nothing will be done by any coach or athlete to take away from the sport in season.
- d. Coaches will encourage their athletes to participate in other sports during the off-season.
- e. Daily off-season practices will always start after the practices of the sport in season and will be concluded before the daily practice ends so as not to interfere in any way with the sports in season.
- f. No individual will be allowed to change sports during a season unless he/she has the approval of the coach of the sport they are dropping.
- g. If an individual is dropped from a squad because of disciplinary reason by the coaching staff, he/she may not practice for the next sports season using school facilities or under the supervision of a coach until the sport from which he was dropped is completed.
- h. If an individual is cut from a squad by the coaching staff, he/she may participate in another sport of that season if permissible under the rules of the Nebraska School Activities Association. (This means an individual must wait seven (7) days before competing on the second sport of that season.)

PARTICIPATION ON OTHER TEAMS: Any individual who is a member of any Chase County Schools Interscholastic athletic squad cannot participate in any other organized sport, in school or out of school, during the period that he is a member of a CCS interscholastic squad. Example: town team basketball or open golf tournament.

#### TEAM TRAVEL:

Transportation: The policy of Chase County Schools is to provide transportation to most out of town school activities. All students are required to ride school transportation to and from activities in which they are directly involved. The only exception to this rule will be a written excuse signed by the **parent**, stating the student has been released to the parent. If a student leaves the out-of-town activity or does not ride back on the transportation provided, unless excused by the sponsor of that activity, that student will be prohibited from attending out-of-town school sponsored activities for a 9-school week period of time.

Bus safety is of utmost importance at all times. When leaving the bus, students must use the exit doors provided. The emergency doors are to be used **ONLY** in the case of extreme emergency.

- a. Dress: Dress of team members should be clean, neat and in good taste. Coaches will be responsible for assigning dress code for teams.
- b. Meals: With the exception of state tournaments or meets, the school will not provide meals, nor will athletes be reimbursed for meals. When an athletic team eats while traveling to or from a contest, it shall be the responsibility of the team members and/or coaches to arrange for payment.

#### ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL:

Any CCS athlete who desires to participate in athletics at the college level upon completion of high school, needs to be aware of academic requirements in order to be eligible his/her freshman year of college. CCS students should begin early (sophomore year) in preparation to meet these academic requirements. The activity director can assist in meeting NCAA and NAIA college academic requirements while in high school.

#### PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE

A team member is not allowed to practice or participate unless he or she is in school no later than 11:30 AM on the day of the contest or practice. If the contest is on a non-school day and the individual was absent the day prior to the activity, he/she must gain permission to participate from the Activity Director. Upon approval from the Activities Director and Principal, students may be allowed to participate under unique circumstance.

Participants are expected to be at all practices scheduled by the coach. Should a participant not be able to attend a practice, he/she must contact the coach in advance. Exception: When the participant is absent from school he/she does not need to notify the coach; however, most coaches appreciate knowing the reason the participant is absent from school.

#### STARTING, DISMISSAL AND LENGTH OF PRACTICE:

All starting times of practices will be designated by the individual coach. Due to limited facilities, some practice starting times will be set by the activities director. All athletes are expected to be on the field or court at the time set by the coach.

In order that athletes and their parents may plan accordingly and for the welfare of the athlete and to aide in family scheduling, the suggested length of practice is 2 ½ hours. The coach must use his/her own judgment.

#### EQUIPMENT:

The athletic department furnishes the athlete with as much of the equipment as is feasible. Participants will be required to provide basic needs. We have good equipment, and in case of contact sports, our athletes are well protected.

All equipment will be checked out to individuals at the beginning of the season by the coach in charge. The athlete will be responsible for this equipment and should be prepared to pay for the cost of replacing any item that is not checked in at the end of the season in reasonable condition.

It is the responsibility of the athlete to check in the equipment at the end of the season or immediately should he/she quit or be cut from a sport. If an athlete fails to check in equipment at the designated time, he/she will be expected to pay for the cost of replacement.

At no time should athlete wear equipment checked out to him/her except for practices and contests.

#### HEAD INJURIES TO ATHLETES:

An athlete receiving a head injury resulting in any partial or complete loss of consciousness must be cleared, before being allowed to resume practice or competition. Where and when this injury takes place is not a factor (during practice, games, at home, at work, during other recreational activities, etc.) Once the coaching staff becomes aware of such a head injury to an athlete, that athlete is to be held from all physical activities until cleared by a medical doctor. The individual giving a medical opinion must do so within the scope of his/her training and within the limits defined by state statutes as to services which can be legally performed by the field of practice to which the individual belongs. Parents MAY NOT waive the safety rights of the child or assume the safety rights themselves.

#### CHASE COUNTY SCHOOLS LETTERING REQUIREMENTS:

To earn a letter in any varsity sport at Chase County High School, the following requirements are taken into consideration:

1. Completion of all games or practices, whichever is longer.
2. Care of equipment.
3. Cooperation with team, coach, and facility.
4. Contribution, participation, attitude, and conduct displayed during practice, road trips, and competitive play.
5. The use of self-discipline.
6. Attendance of practice regularly.
7. Coaches' discretion.
8. Playing Requirements are as listed.

Any senior who has competed in a sport for four years and has conducted himself/herself in the best interest of the team, but has failed to accumulate the required amount of playing time may be granted a letter.

#### PLAYING REQUIREMENTS:

##### VOLLEYBALL:

1. A girl must play in as many varsity games as there are matches. (One match equals two out of three games.)

OR

2. Play in two matches at the SPVA, District, or State Tournament.

BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK:

1. Score 1 point in a major meet. (Four or more schools)

OR

2. Score 5 points in a dual or triangle.

WRESTLING:

1. A boy can earn a varsity letter in wrestling on the varsity team by fulfilling the following requirements:
  - a. Earn 40 points that are accredited toward team points (points earned in the following manner):
    1. Team points earned as record for team score.
    2. Effort determined by the coach (1 pt. per match).
  - b. Qualify for state.
  - c. As a senior who has wrestled for four (4) years.
  - d. Coaches' discretion.
2. A wrestler may lose his letter points accumulated by not making the weight he has challenged for during the week.

GOLF

1. Earn a medal in a major meet. (A major meet is four or more teams.)

FOOTBALL

1. Play in as many quarters as games played, plus three additional quarters.

BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL

1. Play in as many quarters as games scheduled.
- OR
2. Play 3 quarters in a Holiday, SPVA, or District game,
- OR
3. Play 1 quarter in the State Tournament.

CROSS COUNTRY

1. Qualify as an individual for the State Cross Country meet.
- OR
2. Qualify as a team for the State Cross Country Meet
- OR
3. Be in a team count in at least two (2) meets during the year.

SOFTBALL

1. An athlete must play in as many varsity innings as there are varsity games played during the season or play in a district or state tournament game.

MANAGERS & STATS KEEPER

1. Earning a letter for these individuals is at the individual discretion of the head coach in each sport.

LETTERING REQUIREMENTS:

Each time an individual letters in a sport, he/she will be awarded a letter certificate by the coach of that sport at the conclusion of the year. The first time that an individual letters in any sport he or she will be awarded, by the coach of the sport, the standard chenille letter representative of athletics of Chase County Schools.

At CCS all requirements are based upon varsity competition.

HATS:

In order to provide protection from the sun, team members attending golf meets and track meets may wear a team hat during these contests. The hat should be the official team hat, designed and selected by the coaches of that sport, as part of the official track or

golf uniform. Athletes wishing to wear these team hats must purchase the official team hat at their own expense. Other hats may be approved by the coaching staff.

#### DRESSING ROOM POLICIES:

All athletes should be under the direct supervision of a coach or aide while dressing. An athlete must not linger in the dressing room, be rowdy, or endanger the safety of others. The coach will deal with all cases of misconduct.

Athletes are to respect all equipment and supplies in the training room. Coach's offices and equipment rooms are off-limits to athletes except student managers. EXCEPTION: When the athlete is asked to enter for a conference by the coach.

#### PRE-PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS:

Athletes must meet the following requirements before they start practice:

1. Return a completed medical physical form to the athletic director.
2. Return to the athletic director's office the sheet found attached to these guidelines giving the following:
  - a. Permission to participate in the Athletic Program.
  - b. Athlete's agreement to athletic guidelines.
  - c. Parental agreement to athletic guidelines.
  - d. Payment of any required fees.

#### ELIGIBILITY

The school follows the eligibility requirements established by the Nebraska School Activities Association. The part of their established eligibility requirements which athletes should be aware of are:

"To be eligible, the student must be taking at least twenty semester hours of instruction per week at the school the student represents in interscholastic competition."

"To be eligible, a student shall have credit on the school records for twenty semester hours of work for the immediate preceding semester."

All transfer students new to the school system must have their eligibility approved by the Nebraska School Activities Association prior to any competition. This approval should be initiated through the activity director's office.

The activity director and the coaching staff shall reserve the right to withhold any student from participation should that student break guidelines established and published in the student handbook.

#### Student Eligibility Policy-

Students must meet weekly academic eligibility requirements. An ineligible list will be run by 9:00 AM on first school day of the week and be finalized by 9:00 AM the following day. Students failing two or more classes will be deemed ineligible to participate in all school activities starting on Tuesday at Midnight and remain ineligible until the following Tuesday at Midnight.

#### ACTIVITIES ON CHURCH NIGHT AND SUNDAYS

According to the Nebraska School Activities Association, no athletic contest shall be held on Sunday. In addition to this, the school wishes to work cooperatively with the churches of the community.

The policy of the Imperial Athletic Department is as follows: There will be no activities scheduled (practice included) on Wednesday evening after the regular practice ends. The only exception to this is when an athletic team is required to play in conference, district or state competition.

Athletic policy also includes that there will be no activities scheduled for Sunday. EXCEPTION: When a varsity team is required to play a contest on Monday, practices may be scheduled on Sunday afternoon. For all such practices, permission must first be granted through the athletic director's office.

### CODE OF CONDUCT

The coaching staff and school administration acknowledge that our athletes must meet demands that nonparticipants do not. Athletics are very demanding upon an individual both mentally and physically, this code of conduct should be followed:

1. Students planning to participate in activities are expected to report for the activity at the beginning of each season. If there is a change in activity approved by the coach or supervisor, the participant will report as soon as allowed.
2. Participants are required to attend all scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or supervisor prior to all missed practices or meetings.
3. Appropriate language is required..
4. Good sportsmanship shall be observed during practice sessions and contests.
5. The use or possession of tobacco, drugs (other than those prescribed by a physician) or alcoholic beverages, in any form, is prohibited.
1. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or supervisor of a co-curricular activity shall be followed provided that participants shall be notified of such rules and regulations by written handouts or posting on bulletin boards prior to the beginning of the season.
2. Appearance: Athletes will always be neat, clean and well-groomed.
3. All athletes will be expected to follow the hours established by their respective coach. As a general rule, an athlete should be home by 10:00 P.M. the night before an activity and by 12:00 A.M. on any weekend night.
4. CHAMPIONSHIP LIVING: Since athletics are very demanding, an athlete should use good judgment in such things as his/her outside interest—such as dating, parties, and automobiles. An athlete is not only representing himself, but also his/her school and community. The following activity policy covering all activities of Chase County High School.

The following conduct may constitute grounds for suspension from practices, participation in interscholastic competition or other participation in co-curricular activities, when such conduct occurs on school grounds; or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or off school grounds during the season of the particular activity.

1. The 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 private or school property, stealing or attempting to steal private or school property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving private or school property of small items.
3. Causing or attempting to cause physical injury to a school employee or to any students. Physical injury caused by accident, self-defense or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief 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 transporting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon.
6. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor.

7. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the State of Nebraska, Chase County, or the City of Imperial which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes.

#### TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, AND ALL ILLEGAL DRUGS

The use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs is prohibited. Please review the Chase County Schools Student/Parent Handbook for a description of consequences for violation the policy.

#### PROCEDURE FOR DUE PROCESS AT CCS

Due process is a procedure, which the courts of law recognize as a necessary part of any rules and regulations. Due process furthermore, and of primary importance, recognizes the rights of the individual since it outlines his/her recourse in the event he/she feels a wrong decision has been made. The due process steps outlined hereafter is the procedure for an athlete and his/her parents to follow in appealing decisions relating to eligibility to participate in activities sponsored by Chase County Schools. It should be understood that athletes and parents will be expected to follow the due process steps in the event legal action should be initiated at some later date.

The following steps should be followed in the enforcing of all rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Education concerning the conduct and eligibility of students participating in inter-school activities.

1. The school administration and activity sponsors should recommend rules and standards to govern the student of their school that participate in inter-school activities. These rules and regulations should be reasonable, should not be discriminatory, and should be related to the purpose of the activity.
2. The rules and standards governing the students participating in inter-school activities should be adopted by the school district's Board of Education. The rules and standards should become a part of the Board of Educations written policy.
3. The school administration must inform all participants in inter-school activities of the rules and standards regarding conduct and their eligibility to participate, as well as the penalty if these rules and standards are violated.
4. In the event of an alleged infraction, an administrator of the school in which the alleged infraction occurred shall investigate the alleged infraction.
5. If the investigation discloses the probability of an infraction, a school administrator should hold a hearing. Notice of the hearing should be given to the student. The notice should contain an outline of the alleged infraction. Witnesses should testify, the student should be given an opportunity to confront such witnesses, the student may be allowed counsel if he/she desires it and the student should be given an opportunity to call witnesses.
6. A statement of findings of facts from the hearing shall be compiled and the student and parents provided a copy.
7. The administrator should make a decision on the case and inform the student of such. A written statement should be given to the student and parents.
8. If the athlete and his/her parents are not satisfied with the findings of the hearing, a second hearing may be requested before the next highest administrative level of the school system. (The order will be athletic director, principal, superintendent, school board.) The school administrator must receive in writing a request for such a second hearing within fourteen (14) days of the notification of the decision of that first hearing.
  - a. The student will be provided with an opportunity to testify, question, and present other evidence on his/her behalf at the hearing. A counsel may be present.

Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the athlete and his/her parents.

#### NSAA DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE

Due process procedures governing all alleged violations of Nebraska School Activities Association rules involving the Constitution, Bylaws or approved rulings are available for view upon request in the Activity Director's office.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF THE LONGHORN GYM

Student refers to those in grades 7-12. Gym refers to the Longhorn Gym.

1. The school gym will not be available to students during the time that practices are scheduled.
2. During a time in which a sport is on-going the school gym is available to students in the morning from approximately 7:00 AM-7:45 AM and again after 7:00 PM with the prior coordination with either a coach or the AD's Office in the Longhorn gym. The gym would be available after school (if the schedule allows in the Longhorn) and in the mornings when a team's sport is completed and prior to the start of the next "formal" start of practices, for example between the end of winter season and the start of "spring practice". There would be NO "games" being played during this time, i.e.... no pick-up basketball. In the event that a coach wants to schedule a scrimmage or game type situation this needs to be coordinated through the AD's office.

The intent for allowing the use of the gym is for skill development not "game playing".

## GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF THE WEIGHT EQUIPMENT:

1. The equipment will be kept in an assigned area and will never be used unless the student or athlete has permission from one of the coaches. The coach should give the student or athlete a program to follow if permission to use the weight equipment has been given.
2. The equipment will be used for the following purposes and in the following priorities:
  - a. Physical education instruction-physical fitness program.
  - b. By the sport in the season-program to be designed by the head coach.
  - c. Off-season work outs.
  - d. Conditioning program for the athletes after regular programs have started.
  - e. Summer conditioning program for all athletes.
  - f. Adult education-physical fitness program.

## SELECTION OF ATHLETIC SQUADS:

Athletic teams will carry the largest possible number of athletes in order to give as many students the opportunity to develop their skills in practice and games as possible. In selecting an athletic squad, consideration will be given to facilities, equipment available, scheduling, and coach-athlete ratios. Traveling squads may be limited because of space available on buses and/or vans, and/or when athletes will not be competing in a contest (example: five golfers make up a golf team at a meet, fourteen players constitute a team at District Basketball, etc.). Seniors, who do not have the athletic ability to compete with underclassmen, will be advised of the situation by the head coach as early in the season as possible. No student will be selected to the athletic squad simply because he/she is a senior. On all squads, at all levels of competition, the CCS philosophy is to play as many athletes as possible while remaining competitive.

Practice squads at CCS will not be limited; however, not all participating students will be selected to the inter-school competition squads. Those sports are given below:

- 1) VOLLEYBALL: All 9<sup>th</sup> graders participants will be part of the freshman team.
- 2) GIRLS' BASKETBALL: All 9<sup>th</sup> graders will be part of the freshman team.
- 3) BOYS' BASKETBALL: All 9<sup>th</sup> graders will be part of the freshman team. All 10<sup>th</sup> graders who will be part of the sophomore team.

**CHASE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HANDBOOK  
2019-2020**

I have received the 2019-2020 Chase County High School Athletic Handbook, I realize it is my responsibility to read this handbook and abide by the rules and regulations set forth there in.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete's Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Chase County Schools 2019-20 Concussion Policy

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**In compliance with the Nebraska Concussion Awareness Law LB 260, which became operative 7-1-2012, Chase County Schools has entered into official policy the directives and responsibilities as identified in such laws.**

**The Nebraska Concussion Awareness Law LB260 was enacted to provide a means for schools to improve their athletic health care; improve their methods for managing sports-related concussions and the progression for concussed athletes return to play in a more consistent, objective, and safe manner; educate schools, coaches, athletes, and parents to recognize the signs, symptoms, and inherent risk of sports-related concussions.**

**LB 923 The Return to Learn Amendment is a revision of LB 260 and established a return to learn protocol for students that have sustained a concussion. The return to learn protocol shall recognize that students who have sustained a concussion and returned to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modification of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff until the student is fully recovered.**

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**In compliance with LB 260 & LB 923, the following step by step progression will be followed when an athlete is suspected of having received a concussion or anytime an athlete is removed from a game, practice or sports activity due to a suspected concussion prior to “return to play”, sports’ participation or any physical activity.**

**Step 1: The athlete will immediately be removed from play, sports participations including practice and all physical activity. No athlete will return to athletic activity on the same day of a concussion.**

*“When in doubt, sit them out!”*

**The concussed brain is most vulnerable to a repeat injury (2<sup>nd</sup> Impact Syndrome) in the time immediately after the initial concussion. The 2<sup>nd</sup> injury is very critical to guard against.**

Previously, athletes were allowed to return to play during the same day, game or practice in which the injury occurred if their symptoms resolved during the course of that activity. Studies have now shown us that the young brain does not recover quickly enough for an athlete to return to activity in the same day of injury. Once a concussion occurs, the brain is most vulnerable to further injury and very sensitive to any increased stress until it fully recovers. If an athlete returns to activity before being fully healed from a concussion, the athlete is at increased risk for a repeat concussion. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain has a chance to recover from the first can slow recovery or increase the chance for long-term potentially life threatening complications.

**Step 2: The athlete’s parents or guardians will be contacted about the possible concussion.**

Parents or Guardians will be notified after the injury and will be provided information on Chase County School’s Concussion Policy.

**Step 3: All athletes suspected of having a concussion must be medically evaluated by a physician following the injury for post-injury assessment.**

**Step 4: ImPACT Test (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) post-injury.**

ImPACT is an on-line computer-based testing program specifically designed for the management of sports-related concussion. It is a research-based software tool developed at the University of Pittsburg Medical Center that evaluates multiple aspects of neurocognitive function.

ImPACT is the industry leader in neurocognitive post-concussion testing. Current ImPACT clients include the NFL, NBA, NHL, MLB, numerous NCAA Division I Football programs and multiple high schools throughout the US & Nebraska.

Testing involves a pre-activity baseline test and post-injury test for comparison. When a concussion has occurred, the post-injury test is compared to the baseline report to assess potential changes caused by a concussion. The injured athlete must present satisfactory computer-evaluated post-concussion test scores that indicate neurocognitive function has returned to pre-injury baseline testing levels

ImPACT measures multiple aspects of neurocognitive functioning in athletes, including

- Player symptoms
- Verbal and visual memory, processing speed, and reaction time
- Reaction time measured to a 1/100th of second
- Attention span
- Working memory
- Sustained and selective attention time
- Response variability
- Non-verbal problem solving

**Step 5: The Chase County Schools Concussion Management Team (CMT) will be notified of the injured athlete.**

**A successful Return to Learn is necessary before Return to Play may be activated.**

In compliance with Nebraska LB 923, Chase County Schools CMT will design an individual plan to review the student's concussion recovery and make the necessary academic accommodations until that student no longer needs them as a result of the concussion. After the CMT certifies that no further academic concerns or accommodations are needed, the student may be released to begin the progressive return to play program. That team will be lead by the student's school principal. Members of the CMT may include the AD, teacher(s), school counselor, nurse, athletic trainer, doctor, parent/guardian, and student. The Return to Learn protocol must be successfully completed prior to being the Return to Play Protocol. The team may consider a 504 evaluation and/or special education evaluation if the symptoms continue, improve slower than usual, and worsen.

**Step 6: After a concussed athlete has received written clearance to return to play by a licensed health care professional, written approval of his or her parents / guardians, and has been certified by the school's CMT to Return to Learn - a gradual step-wise Progressive Return to Play (RTP) Program will be followed.**

Once an athlete has written clearance, is symptom-free at rest, remains symptom-free or no longer presents signs or symptoms of a concussion, they may proceed with activity in a graduated step-wise fashion to allow the brain heal and to re-adjust to exertion.

**24 hours will be required between each step before advancing to the next step as monitored and directed by a licensed health care professional. The concussed athlete must remain symptom-free before proceeding to the next step. The concussed athlete will be re-evaluated daily prior to the start of each new step.**

If concussion symptoms, signs or behaviors recur or are observed, the athlete must stop all activity and be re-evaluated by a licensed health care professional. The athlete may not resume the Progressive Return to Play Program until they are symptom free. Once the concussed athlete is symptom free, they may resume the Progressive Return to Play Program starting over with Step 1.

**This process will be repeated until the athlete can complete all steps and remain symptom free. The injured athlete will NOT be allowed to begin the gradual progression for return to sport activity until the program has been satisfactorily completed.**

The return to play schedule will proceed as follows:

**Step 1:** Symptom-free at rest. No physical or mentally taxing activity.

**Step 2:** Light aerobic exercise. Low level activity. No weight lifting or resistance training.

**Step 3:** Moderate aerobic exercise. Running at moderate intensity without equipment.

**Step 4:** Sport specific drills. Non-contact training drills. May begin weight lifting or resistance training.

**Step 5:** Full contact practice, scrimmage or training drills.

**Step 6:** Full game or competition play.

**Questions or concerns regarding this policy may be directed to and Return to Play clearance forms are available from;**

**Troy Hauxwell  
Athletic Director  
Chase County Schools**

## **Concussion Facts**

The understanding of sports-related concussion has evolved dramatically in recent years. **We now know that young adolescent athletes are particularly vulnerable to the effects of a concussion as their brains are still developing.** Once considered little more than a “ding”, it is now understood that a concussion has the potential to result in short and long-term changes in brain function or death.

A concussion is type of traumatic brain injury that interferes with normal function of the brain. It occurs when the brain is rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body. What may appear to be only a mild jolt or blow to the head or body can result in a concussion. Even though most concussions occur in collision sports, **ALL athletes are at risk, girls, as well as, boys. Each concussion is an individual event and thus must be treated individually.**

Concussion symptoms may last from a few days to several months. Concussions can cause symptoms which interfere with school, work, and social life. An athlete should not return to sports while still having symptoms from a concussion as they are at risk for prolonging symptoms and further injury. A concussion may cause multiple symptoms. Many symptoms appear immediately after the injury, while others may develop over the next several days or weeks. The symptoms may be subtle and are often difficult to fully recognize. Medical experts continue to research and develop methods in which to better diagnose concussions. Currently, no one conclusive method exists.

## **What is a concussion?**

You’ve probably heard the terms “ding” and “bell-ringer.” These terms were once used to refer to minor head injuries and thought to be a normal part of sports. There is no such thing as a minor brain injury. Any suspected concussion must be taken seriously. A concussion is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body. Any force that’s transmitted to the head causes the brain to bounce around or twist within the skull, resulting in a concussion. **You do NOT have to lose consciousness or be “knocked-out” to have a concussion. Most concussions do not involve a loss of consciousness.**

What completely happens to the brain during a concussion is not fully understood. It appears to be a very complex injury affecting both the structure and function of the brain. The sudden movement of the brain causes stretching and tearing of brain cells, damaging the cells and creating chemical changes in the brain. **Once this injury occurs, the brain is vulnerable to further injury and very sensitive to any increased stress until it fully recovers.**

Common sports injuries such as torn ligaments and broken bones are structural injuries that can be detected on MRIs, X-rays or during a medical examination. However, a concussion is an injury that interferes with how the brain works. Thus, it may be more functional than structural. While there may be damage to brain cells, the damage may be at a microscopic level and not seen by MRI or CT scans. **The brain may look physically normal on these tests, even though it may be functionally impaired.** A more serious and infrequent exception would be if the trauma to the brain were significant enough to cause bleeding (subdural hematoma).

## **Symptoms Reported By Athlete**

Headache (**Many things may cause a headache, thus not every headache is a concussion**) \* Nausea \* Balance problems or dizziness \* Double or fuzzy vision \* Sensitivity to light or noise \* Feeling sluggish \* Feeling foggy or groggy \* Concentration or memory problems \* Confusion.

## Signs Observed By Parents, Friends, Teachers or Coaches

Appears dazed or stunned \* Is confused about what to do \* Forgets plays \* Is unsure of game – score or opponent \* Moves clumsily \* Answers questions slowly \* Loses consciousness \* Shows behavior or personality changes \* Can't recall events after hit.

## What should I do if I think my child / athlete has had a concussion?

Parents and coaches are not expected to be able to “diagnose” a concussion. However, they must be aware of the signs, symptoms and behaviors of a possible concussion. Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion, shall be immediately removed from all physical activity, sports, recreation, game or practice and shall not return to play until evaluated and cleared to “Return to Play” by a licensed health care professional. **Continuing to participate in physical activity after a concussion can lead to worsening concussion symptoms, increased risk for further injury, and death. When in doubt, sit them out!**

The signs, symptoms, and behaviors of a concussion are not always apparent immediately after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body and may develop over a few hours. An athlete should be observed following a suspected concussion and should never be left alone.

Athletes must know that they should never try to “tough out” a suspected concussion. Teammates, parents and coaches should never encourage an athlete to “play through” the symptoms of a concussion. In addition, there should never be an attribution of bravery to athletes who do play despite having concussion signs or symptoms. The risks of such behavior must be emphasized to all members of the team, as well as coaches and parents.

**If an athlete returns to activity before being fully healed from an initial concussion, the athlete is at increased risk for a repeat concussion. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain has a chance to recover from the first can slow recovery or increase the chance for long-term problems. In rare cases, a repeat concussion can result in severe swelling and bleeding in the brain that can be fatal.**

## Cognitive Rest - How can a concussion affect schoolwork?

The American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, in a January 2013 position statement, emphasized student-athletes' **“need for cognitive rest following a concussion.”** A consensus statement on concussion in sports, released in March 2013, recommends that **“student-athletes take a gradual approach to returning to school and social activities after sustaining a concussion to avoid provocation of symptoms.”** A clinical report from the American Academy of Pediatrics, released in October 2013, confirmed those recommendations by stating that **“returning to a normal classroom routine immediately after sustaining a concussion could delay a student-athlete's recovery.”** A study published in January 2014 Journal of Pediatrics found that concussed student-athletes may **“have a shorter recovery time if they rest and abstain from regular cognitive activity following their injuries.”**

The first step in recovering from a concussion is rest. Rest is essential to help the brain heal. Students with a concussion need rest from physical and mental activities that require concentration and attention as these activities may worsen symptoms and delay recovery. Exposure to loud noises, bright lights, computers, video games, television and phones (including texting) all may worsen the symptoms of concussion. A concussion can interfere with school, work, sleep and social interactions. Following a concussion, many athletes will have difficulty in school. These problems often involve difficulties with

short and long-term memory, concentration, and organization and typically last no longer than a week or two, but for some these difficulties may last for months.

It is best to lessen the student's class load early on after the injury. Most students with concussion recover fully. However, returning to sports and other regular activities too quickly can prolong the recovery. In many cases it is best to lessen the athlete's class load early on after the injury. This may include staying home from school for a few days, followed by a lightened schedule for a few days, or perhaps a longer period of time, if needed. Decreasing the stress on the brain early on after a concussion may lessen symptoms and shorten the recovery time.

### **What to do in an Emergency**

**Your Family Physician is the best source for help when your child has sustained a concussion.** If your child is vomiting, has a severe headache, is drowsy and having difficulty staying awake or decreasing level of consciousness, answering simple questions, difficulty getting his or her attention, irregularity in breathing, severe or worsening headaches, or any seizures may indicate more serious brain injury and you should seek emergency medical care immediately. Although rare, there are some situations where you may need to call 911 and activate the Emergency Medical System (EMS).

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **❖ *What can a parent / coach do?***

You and your child / athlete should learn to recognize the "Signs and Symptoms" of concussion. Teach your child / athlete to tell you or the coaching staff if he or she experiences such symptoms. Emphasize to administrators, coaches, and parents your concerns and expectations for concussion safety. Teach your child / athlete to tell the coaching staff if he or she suspects that a teammate has a concussion.

Monitor sports equipment for safety, fit, and maintenance. **There is no such thing as a "Concussion Proof" football helmet.**

Ask teachers to monitor any decrease in grades or changes in behavior that could indicate concussion.

Report all concussions that occur during the school year to the appropriate school staff. This will help in monitoring injured athletes as they move to the next season's sports.

#### **❖ *Why is it so important that an athlete not return to play until they have completely recovered from a concussion?***

Athletes who are not fully recovered from an initial concussion are significantly vulnerable for recurrent, cumulative, and even catastrophic consequences of a second concussive injury. Such difficulties are prevented if the athlete is allowed time to recover from the concussion and return to play decisions are carefully made. No athlete should return-to-sport or other at-risk participation when symptoms of concussion are present and recovery is ongoing.

❖ ***What is the best treatment to help my child recover more quickly from a concussion?***

The best treatment for a concussion is rest. There are no medications that can speed the recovery from a concussion. Exposure to loud noises, bright lights, computers, video games, television and phones (including text messaging) all may worsen the symptoms of a concussion. You should allow your child to rest as much as possible in the days following a concussion. As the symptoms lessen, you can allow increased use of computers, phone, video games, etc., but the access must be lessened if symptoms worsen.

❖ ***How long do the symptoms of a concussion usually last?***

The symptoms of a concussion will usually go away within one week of the initial injury. You should anticipate that your child will likely be out of sports for about two weeks following a concussion. However, in some cases symptoms may last for several weeks, or even months. Symptoms such as headache, memory problems, poor concentration, and mood changes can interfere with school, work, and social interactions. The potential for such long-term symptoms indicates the need for careful management of all concussions.

❖ ***How many concussions can an athlete have before he or she should stop playing sports?***

There is no “magic number” of concussions that determine when an athlete should give up playing contact or collision sports. The circumstances surrounding each individual injury, such as how the injury happened and length of symptoms following the concussion, are very important and must be considered when assessing an athlete’s risk for further and potentially more serious concussions. The decision to “retire” from sports is a decision best reached following a complete evaluation by your child’s primary care provider.

❖ ***I’ve read recently that concussions may cause long-term brain damage in professional football players. Is this a risk for high school athletes who have had a concussion?***

The issue of “chronic encephalopathy” in several former NFL players has received a great deal of media attention lately. Very little is known about what may be causing dramatic abnormalities in the brains of these unfortunate retired football players. At this time we have very little knowledge of the long-term effects of concussions which happen during high school athletics. In the cases of the retired NFL players, it appears that most had long careers in the NFL after playing in high school and college. In most cases, they played football for over 20 years and suffered multiple concussions in addition to hundreds of other blows to their heads. Alcohol and steroid use may also be contributing factors in some cases. Obviously, the average high school athlete does not come close to suffering the total number or shear force of head trauma seen by professional football players. However, the fact that we know very little about the long-term effects of concussions in young athletes is further reason to very carefully manage each concussion.

## **References**

Guskiewicz KM, et al. National Athletic Trainers' Association position statement: Management of sport-related concussion. *Journal of Athletic Training* 2004; 39:280-297.

McCrorry P, et al. Consensus statement on concussion in sport: the 3rd International Conference on Concussion in Sport held in Zurich, November 2008. *Journal of Athletic Training* 2009; 44:434-48.

*Heads Up: Concussion in High School Sports*  
[http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/high\\_school.html](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/high_school.html)

*Concussion in Sports - What you need to know.*  
<http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=15000>

*NFHS Sports Medicine Handbook, 4th Ed*, Revised January 2011.

American Medical Society for Sports Medicine  
<http://www.amssm.org>

Children's Hospital & Medical Center  
<http://www.childrensomaha.org>

ImPACT  
<https://www.impacttest.com/>

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital  
<http://www.madonna.org>

Nebraska Brain Injury Association  
<http://www.biane.org>

The Nebraska Department of Education  
<http://www.education.ne.gov>

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services  
<http://www.dhhs.ne.org>

Nebraska School Activities Association  
<http://www.nsaahome.org>

Nebraska Sports Concussion Network  
<http://www.NebSportsConcussion.org>

Nebraska State Athletic Trainers Association  
<http://www.nsata.org>

University of Nebraska Medical Center, Sports Medicine Program  
<http://www.nebraskamed.com>

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

James and Pam Student  
and Sam Student  
[Street Address]  
[Name], NE [Zip]

**RE: Sam Student; Activity Discipline**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Student and Sam:

This letter is to inform you that Sam has been suspended from extracurricular activities for \_\_\_ weeks beginning \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_. Sam will be expected to participate in practices while suspended, but may not compete in any extracurricular activities during the suspension.

<b>Activity Code of Conduct</b>
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The reason for the suspension is that Sam has engaged in conduct in violation of the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School student activity rules. As a brief summary of the rule violation, I inform you that:

On \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, Sam was at a party where alcohol was being consumed. Sam was cited for minor in possession. Independent information has corroborated that Sam was in possession of or consumed alcohol and has otherwise violated the Activity Code of Conduct.

You have a right to a hearing, upon request, on the activity suspension. The provision for an appeal is specified in the Chase County Schools Student Activity Code of Conduct. If you wish for an appeal hearing, please contact the Activity Director. A form to request a hearing is enclosed for your convenience in making such a request if you desire to do so.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Troy Hauxwell, Activity Director

cc:  
Randall Klooz, Superintendent

**REQUEST OR WAIVER OF HEARING**  
Chase County Schools

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Notice of Possible Disciplinary Action Dated** \_\_\_\_\_, **20**\_\_

We have received a copy of the notice of possible disciplinary action and:

\_\_\_\_\_ **We waive a hearing.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **We request a hearing pursuant to the Activity Code of Conduct.**

The reason for this request is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

Return to: Troy Hauxwell, Activity Director  
Chase County High School  
520 E 9<sup>th</sup> St., PO Box 577  
Imperial, NE 69033

Date Received by Activity Director: \_\_\_\_\_

StudentsDrug and Alcohol Testing1. Need for Random Testing.

The Board of Education is responsible for maintaining discipline, health and safety. The Board recognizes that student substance abuse presents a continuing challenge and a danger to the student population as a whole. The Board is committed to maintaining school sponsored activity programs in a safe, healthy and secure environment. The Board is further committed to being proactive in ensuring that students who participate in extracurricular activities represent the District in a positive manner.

2. Eligibility for Random Testing.

Students who participate in school-sponsored, competitive extracurricular activities at the high school (Grades 7-12) level are eligible for random testing. School-sponsored, competitive extracurricular activities are activities which are sponsored or approved by the Board, but are not offered for credit towards graduation, and which involve competition, comparison, or judging of the individuals or groups with other individuals or groups as part of selection or participation. School sponsored competitive extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, athletic programs, cheerleading, dance team, band, National Honor Society, academic teams, One-Act, choir, Quiz Bowl, Speech Team, FFA land judging, and FCCLA state and regional competitions.

To participate in a school-sponsored, competitive extracurricular activity, students must submit a completed Consent to Test Form on or before the first practice or on or before the first event or meeting, whichever is applicable. The form must be signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

Failure to submit a completed Consent to Test Form will result in ineligibility for participation in school-sponsored, competitive extracurricular activities until the form is submitted.

Students remain eligible for testing from the date the Consent to Test Form is turned in until a Drop Form is completed, or until the student graduates or is otherwise no longer enrolled in the District. A student for whom a Drop Form has been submitted shall be ineligible for participation in school-sponsored, competitive extracurricular activities for twelve months from the date the Drop Form is submitted. Students have a fifteen (15) day grace period for reconsideration of a Drop Form.

Students who are not participants in a school-sponsored, competitive extracurricular activity may volunteer for participation in the testing program by submitting a completed Consent to Test Form.

3. Testing Procedure.

a. Random Testing.

A confidential testing schedule will be created by the Superintendent or designee to ensure that the testing of eligible students is conducted in a manner that is random. To maintain confidentiality and to maintain the integrity of the randomness of this program, the students eligible for testing will be identified by a unique personal identifier that does not make the student known to persons other than the school officials who are directly involved in the testing program.

No less than twenty percent (20%) of the pool of eligible students will be tested each school year. The Superintendent shall have the authority to determine the percentage to test, subject to the minimum 20% level, dependent on the nature and extent of the prevailing problem with drug usage in the school community from time to time. Testing will take place throughout the school year.

b. Collection.

The testing collection process will be conducted in a manner that protects student privacy, will also guard against tampered specimens and ensuring an accurate chain of custody of the specimen. To the extent the testing involves the collection of urine, an adult monitor is to wait outside a closed restroom stall and listen for the normal sounds of urination.

The specific testing procedures and mechanism are to be created by the Superintendent or designee. It is intended that the procedures be modeled on those applicable to the testing of CDL employees, which include the testing of specimens for alcohol and unlawful substances. The tests are to be designed to detect only the use of illegal drugs, including but not limited to amphetamines, marijuana, cocaine, steroids, opiates, barbiturates and nicotine, not medical conditions or the presence of authorized prescription medications.

4. Confidentiality.

All activities related to the testing policy will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), and any other applicable confidentiality laws.

Test results will be shared only with staff who have a legitimate educational interest in having access to the information, on a “need to know” basis. Test results will not be turned over to any law enforcement authority in the absence of a court order, subpoena, or other legal process requiring such.

Test results will be kept in confidential files separate from the students’ other records. The test results will be destroyed when no longer needed for individual student situations or for the overall testing program.

5. Consequences for Positive Tests.

Any of the following shall be considered to be a positive test result:

- A confirmed positive alcohol or drug test;
- Refusal to participate in testing when selected, including the submission of a Drop Form upon being requested to be tested; and/or
- Tampering with the specimen collection process.

The following shall result from a positive test result:

- The student's parents or guardians will be contacted and a meeting will be held to discuss the positive test result, with the object of collaborating on a plan to assist the student in avoiding future substance abuse.
- The student's privilege of participating in extracurricular activities will be restricted as follows:
  - For a first positive test, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities for twenty (20) school days. The student may continue to participate in extracurricular activities if within ten (10) school days of the meeting with the parents or guardians the student shows proof that the student is receiving substance abuse counseling with a qualified professional and submits to a second drug test within two (2) weeks.
  - For a second and subsequent positive test, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for one (1) calendar year. To return to participation, the student must complete substance abuse counseling as and to the extent determined appropriate by a qualified professional, and in any event for no less than four (4) hours, and must submit to five (5) follow up drug tests during the next twelve (12) month period.

The parents or guardians are responsible for the costs of the rehabilitation program, which includes the substance abuse counseling and follow-up testing described above.

Positive results will not lead to the imposition of any academic consequence or disciplinary action, other than the above described limitations on the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities.

6. Appeal Procedures.

A student or the student's parents or guardians may request a retest of his/her specimen at their own expense at a laboratory approved by the Superintendent or designee and which follows federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) standards concerning drug testing protocols and procedures. Requests must be made within twenty-four

(24) hours of receiving the results of their drug test. The specimen previously submitted will be forwarded to the approved lab in cooperation with the District approved outside agency responsible for confirmatory testing.

Results of the re-test will be provided to the Superintendent or designee by the approved laboratory. During the appeal period the student may not participate in school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities.

In the event a student or the student's parents or guardians wish to challenge a positive test result on a basis other than the veracity of the test result, an appeal may be made in accordance with the policy on extracurricular activity discipline.

7. Implementation.

Implementation of this Policy shall not occur until Board action to authorize its implementation is taken.

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

**Consent to Test Form**

I understand fully that my performance as a student and the reputation of my school are dependent, in part, on my conduct as an individual. I hereby agree to accept and abide by the standards, rules and regulations set forth by the Board of Education of Chase County Public Schools, the administration, and the coaches and sponsors for the activities in which I participate.

I consent to and authorize Chase County Public Schools to conduct a drug and alcohol test if my number is drawn from the random pool. I also authorize the release of information concerning the results of such tests to designated District personnel.

I understand that this form remains in effect until the submission of an Activity Drop Form or graduation and/or withdrawal from the District.

_____	_____
Student Name (print)	Parent or Guardian Name (print)
_____	_____
Student Signature	Parent or Guardian Signature
_____	_____
Date	Date

I plan to participate in one or more of the following school sponsored competitive extracurricular activit(ies):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am volunteering to be placed in the testing pool.

Activity Drop Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_ wish to withdraw from \_\_\_\_\_

I will submit this form to the Athletic Director. My name will be withdrawn from the testing pool on the date this is received by the Athletic Director.

Completing this form will pertain to all school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities. I understand, by withdrawing, I can no longer participate in any school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities, and I may not receive recognition as a member of these activities or athletic programs. I may re-enter the testing pool after a period of one (1) calendar year by filling out a new Consent to Test form.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE 15 DAYS TO RECONSIDER THE DECISION AND RE-ENTER THE POOL.

_____ Student Name (print)	_____ Parent or Guardian Name (print)
_____ Student Signature	_____ Parent or Guardian Signature
_____ Date	_____ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Athletic Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Receipt