

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, July 8, 2019 8:10 PM Central

Board Room
1301 Centennial Avenue
Utica, NE 68456-0187

Mark Avery: Present
Doug Cast: Present
Jodi Cast: Present
Wayne Heine: Present
Jason Richters: Present
Doug Tonniges: Absent
Present: 5, Absent: 1.

1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

1. Reading of Public Meeting Notice

1. Open Meetings Act

2. Roll Call

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Consent Agenda

1. Additions/Deletions and Agenda Approval

2. Consider Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) and Their Approval

3. Consider Current General Fund & Activity Fund Bills and Their Approval

4. Consider Activity Accounts and Treasurer's Report

5. Excuse Board Member's Absence (If Necessary)

5. Introduction of Guests; Invite Comments

2. OLD BUSINESS

3. NEW BUSINESS

1. FBLA PRESENTATION

2. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY OR REAFFIRM IN ITS PRESENT FORM

3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE STUDENT FEE

POLICY OR REAFFIRM IN ITS PRESENT FORM

Motion to approve the revision to Policy #5045 - Student Fees. This motion, made by Jodi Cast and seconded by Doug Cast, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MILK BIDS FOR 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion to approve the milk bid from Hiland. This motion, made by Wayne Heine and seconded by Doug Cast, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUEL BIDS FOR 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion to approve the fuel bid from Central Valley Ag, pending CVA to cooperate in providing their cost or an alternative price verification. This motion, made by Jason Richters and seconded by Doug Cast, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

6. CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL

Motion to approve appointing Karen Haase and the other attorneys in the KSB School Law Office as the District Legal Counsel. This motion, made by Doug Cast and seconded by Mark Avery, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2019-20 TEACHER HANDBOOK

Motion to approve the teacher handbook. This motion, made by Jodi Cast and seconded by Wayne Heine, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2019-20 STUDENT HANDBOOKS

Motion to approve the elementary and secondary student handbooks. This motion, made by Doug Cast and seconded by Jason Richters, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BOARD GOALS

Motion to approve board goals as presented. This motion, made by Wayne Heine and

seconded by Mark Avery, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF POLICIES INCLUDING 2017 INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY INSURANCE; 3051 OPIOID OVERDOSE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE; AND 3052 LEASING PERSONAL PROPERTY

Motion to approve Policies 2017 Indemnification and Liability Insurance; 3051 Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response; and 3052 Leasing Personal Property.

This motion, made by Mark Avery and seconded by Jodi Cast, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

11. REVIEW AND CONSIDER REVISING POLICIES 5001 COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AND EXCESSIVE ABSENTEEISM AND 5054 STUDENT BULLYING

12. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF POLICY REVISIONS INCLUDING: 2002 ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD; 2006 COMPLAINT PROCEDURE; 2014 RELATIONSHIP WITH DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL; 3003.1 BIDDING FOR CONSTRUCTION, REMODELING, REPAIR, OR RELATED PROJECTS FINANCED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS; 3004.1 FISCAL MANAGEMENT FOR PURCHASING AND PROCUREMENT USING FEDERAL FUNDS; 3016 SMOKING; 3028 SEX OFFENDERS; 3039 THREAT ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE; 3046 ANIMALS AT SCHOOL; 3050 TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM; 3053 NONDISCRIMINATION; 4048 ASSESSMENT ADMINISTRATION AND SECURITY; 4052 JOB REFERENCES TO PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS; 5002 ADMISSION OF STUDENTS; 5016 STUDENT RECORDS; 5017 ROUTINE DIRECTORY INFORMATION; 5022 INVESTIGATIONS, ARRESTS, AND OTHER STUDENT CONTACT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; 5035 STUDENT DISCIPLINE; 5063 AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING; AND DELETE POLICY 5061 THERAPY DOGS

Motion to approve revising policies including: 2002 Organization of the Board; 2006 Complaint Procedure; 2014 Relationship With District Legal Counsel; 3003.1 Bidding For Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed With Federal Funds; 3004.1 Fiscal Management For Purchasing And Procurement Using Federal Funds; 3016 Smoking; 3028 Sex Offenders; 3039 Threat Assessment And Response; 3046 Animals At School; 3050 Technology In The Classroom; 3053 Nondiscrimination; 4048 Assessment Administration and Security; 4052 Job References To Prospective Employers; 5002 Admission Of Students; 5016 Student Records; 5017 Routine Directory Information; 5022 Investigations, Arrests, And Other Student Contact By Law Enforcement And Health And Human Services; 5035 Student Discipline; 5063 Audio And Video Recording; and Delete Policy 5061

Therapy Dogs. This motion, made by Doug Cast and seconded by Wayne Heine, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

13. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROCEDURES

Motion to approve the Updated Special Education Procedures. This motion, made by Wayne Heine and seconded by Mark Avery, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

14. BUDGET REVIEW

15. STUDENT AND STAFF RECOGNITION

Motion to commend Wyatt Ehlers, Jackson Hirschfeld, and Max Tomes on their 5th place finish at National FBLA. This motion, made by Jodi Cast and seconded by Doug Cast, Passed.

Doug Tonniges: Absent, Mark Avery: Yea, Doug Cast: Yea, Jodi Cast: Yea, Wayne Heine: Yea, Jason Richters: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

16. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

17. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4. ADJOURN

CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

1301 Centennial Avenue
P.O. Box 187
Utica, NE 68456-0187
402-534-2321
FAX 402-534-2291

Tim DeWaard
Superintendent
402-534-2291

Colin Bargaen
Secondary Principal

Jenny Wagner
Activities Director

Ken Booth
Elementary Principal

Bob Fish
Counselor

Kris Elmshaeuser
Special Services

CENTENNIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING June 10, 2019

Notice of meeting was published in York News Times on June 1, 2019.

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. with five board members present. Doug Cast was absent. Administrators present were Mr. DeWaard, Mr. Bargaen, Mr. Booth and Mrs. Elmshaeuser. Guests were Jenny Wagner and Sharon Powell.

In lieu of dissent, the consent agenda was approved as presented.

Motion made by Avery, seconded by Tonniges, to approve the 2019-2020 Athletic Budget as presented. Members polled: Avery, for; D. Cast, absent; J. Cast, for; Heine, for; Richters, for; Tonniges, for. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion made by Heine, seconded by Richters, to approve the application for fiscal year 2019-2020 Title I funds. Members polled: Avery, for; D. Cast, absent; J. Cast, for; Heine, for; Richters, for; Tonniges, for. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion made by J. Cast, seconded by Heine, to approve the option enrollment class sizes for 2020-2021. Members polled: Avery, for; D. Cast, absent; D. Cast, for; Heine, for; Richters, for; Tonniges, for. Motion carried 5-0.

Review and implement evaluation procedures for the Board, Superintendent and staff.

Motion made by Tonniges, seconded by Avery, to approve the bid from Body Works as presented. Members polled: Avery, for; D. Cast, absent; J. Cast, for; Heine, for; Richters, for; Tonniges, for. Motion carried 5-0.

Heard budget review.

Motion made by Heine, seconded by J. Cast, to commend Evan Klanecky for being selected as the Journal Star Prep Boys Coach of the Year and Quinn Butzke, Lilly Cast, Garrett Fehlhafer, Brooklyn Gierhan, Cooper Gierhan and Kate Hirschfeld for placing at State Track. Members polled: Avery, for; d. Cast, absent; J. Cast, for; Heine, for; Richters, for; Tonniges, for. Motion carried 5-0.

Heard Board Member reports

Heard Administrator reports

Motion made Tonniges, seconded by Heine to approve 3.5% increase for non- certified salaries and miscellaneous rates and offer 60% of single health insurance policy to ten month support staff, change sub-teacher daily rate to \$135/\$70 and leave sub-bus drivers the same as last year. Members polled: Avery, for; D. Cast, absent; J. Cast, for; Heine, for; Richters, for; Tonniges, for. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

DT:mr

Douglas Tonniges, Secretary
Centennial Board of Education

CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

1301 Centennial Avenue
P.O. Box 187
Utica, NE 68456-0187
402-534-2321
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Ken Booth
Elementary Principal

Bob Fish
Counselor

Kris Elmshaeuser
Special Services

CENTENNIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION Special Meeting June 17, 2019

Notice of special meeting was published in York News Times on June 11, 2019.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with all board members present.
Administrators present were Mr. DeWaard, Mr. Bargaen, Mr. Booth and Mrs. Elmshaeuser.

Purpose of this meeting was for short and long range planning.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Douglas Tonniges, Secretary
Centennial Board of Education

DT:mr

Board Report for Newspaper
JULY 2019

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Vendor Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ACCO BRANDS USA LLC	SUPPLIES	16.53
ALPHA REHABILITATION	THERAPY SERVICES	338.93
AMAZON.COM	TEXTBOOKS	51.73
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	PARTS	390.24
BARJENBRUCH, CRAIG	REIMBURSEMENT	72.07
BARTH, BARBARA	TeamMates	477.27
BEAVER HARDWARE	PARTS	177.73
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	FUEL	1,227.42
BOYS TOWN	CONTRACT SERVICES	2,049.75
BSN SPORTS INC	SUPPLIES	45.44
CANNON SPORTS, INC	SUPPLIES	14.61
CAPITOL ONE COMMERCIAL	SUPPLIES	282.56
CENTENNIAL ACTIVITY FUND	DISTRICT REIMBURSEMENT	1,566.49
CENTRAL NEBRASKA REFRIGERATION	PARTS/REPAIR	238.48
CENTRAL NEBRASKA REHABILITATION SERVICES	PHYSICAL THERAPY	9,416.78
CENTRAL VALLEY AG	FUEL	1,110.44
COMFORT INN	TRAVEL	314.85
COMPUTER HARDWARE, INC	COMPUTER HARDWARE	1,892.00
COMPUTERS ETC	SUPPLIES	259.08
CORNHUSKER INT. TRUCKS INC	EQUIP/MAIN	4,967.44
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING	TELEPHONE	229.49
DAVID CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	PSYCH SERVICES	4,899.93
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #4	WORKSHOP	300.00
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #5	SERVICES	540.00
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 2,	TRAINING	1,600.00
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 9	STAFF DEV	219.00
ESU #6	CONTRACTED SERVICES/SUPPLIES	20,729.93
ESU COORDINATING COUNCIL	FEES	351.00
FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES	TRAVEL	209.90
FASTENAL COMPANY	SUPPLIES	857.70
FILTER CARE OF NEBRASKA	SUPPLIES	63.00
GENERAL FIRE-SAFETY	ALARM INSPECTION	196.00
GERHOLD CONCRETE COMPANY, INC	MAINTENANCE	480.00
GOVCONNECTION, INC	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	718.26
GRAINGER	SUPPLIES	645.03
HENRY, SHANNON	CONTRACTED SERVICES	858.92
HIRERIGHT LLC	PHYSICAL/TESTING	62.80
HOME DEPOT PRO, THE	SUPPLIES	204.79
KSB SCHOOL LAW	LEGAL SERVICE	2,041.50
MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	SUPPLIES	173.54
MEAD LUMBER - YORK	SUPPLIES	171.66
MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS	PHYSICALS	254.00
MOSAIC @ BETHPHAGE VILLAGE	TUITION	3,738.00
NAEIR	FREIGHT	71.79
NANTKES, JENNIFER	CONTRACTED SERVICES	721.35

Board Report for Newspaper
JULY 2019

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Vendor Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NASB	FEES	155.00
NE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMIN	FEES	420.00
NEBRASKA CENTRAL EQUIPMENT, INC	SUPPLIES	1,061.10
NEBRASKA SAFETY CENTER	OTHER EXP	7,560.00
NECO	EQUIP MAIN	507.00
NITSCH, KARLY	REIMBURSEMENT	45.34
NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	ELECTRICTY	8,878.61
NOVA FITNESS EQUIPMENT	FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT	247.50
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE INC	PARTS	133.80
PAPER 101	SUPPLIES	5,551.60
PLAINS EQUIPMENT GROUP	EQUIPMENT	630.00
PLANBOOKEDU LLC	SUBSCRIPTION	832.00
POSTMASTER	STAMPS	550.00
POTTER REPAIR	REPAIRS	287.60
PRESTO-X CO	EXT FEE	112.00
QUILL CORPORATION	SUPPLIES/EQUIP	557.73
RECYCLING ENTERPRISES OF NE, INC	RECYCLING	110.00
ROWSE AUTO DETAIL	REPAIRS	325.00
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD	CONTRACT/SERVICE	1,048.00
SCHOOL SPECIALTY, INC	SUPPLIES	3,902.23
SCHOLOGY	TRAINING	1,750.00
SOFTWARE UNLIMITED INC	SUPPLIES/FEES	3,800.00
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CLASSES	1,111.96
STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES	2,042.53
STONEWARE, INC	SOFTWARE	958.01
STUDENT ASSURANCE SERVICES INC	INSURANCE	751.25
SWANSON, SANDRA	ACCOMPANIST	1,200.00
TEACHER DIRECT	SUPPLIES	54.25
UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS, LLC	LEASE	630.70
UTICA BODY & PAINT	REPAIRS	1,350.00
UTICA PARTS & SERVICE	REPAIRS	474.65
VERIZON CONNECT NWF, INC.	SERVICE	18.95
VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONE	239.48
VOSS LIGHTING	SUPPLIES	2,458.88
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE	628.34
YORK NEWS TIMES	ADV/PRINTING	107.35
	Fund Total:	115,738.29
	Checking Account Total:	115,738.29

BUILDING FUND

July 2019

American Lift & Sign Service	\$ 6,000.00
Daktronics, Inc	60,903.40
Siemens	10,019.00
Voss Lighting	1,112.84
Total	\$ 78,035.24

QUALIFIED CAP FUND

Independent Roofing, Co.	\$ 35,000.00
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July 2019

June 2019 Bank Statement

CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL INVESTMENTS

FUND	BANK	TYPE OF INVESTMENT	INT. RATE AMOUNT	INT.REC
Lunch Fund	First Bank of Utica	Checking 180000		
			\$859.69	
			<u>Total</u>	<u>\$859.69</u>
Depreciation Fund	Farmers & Merchants	MMA 436 949		
			\$106,581.84	\$30.95
			<u>Total</u>	<u>\$106,581.84</u>
Unemployment Ins.	Cornerstone Bank	Certificate 613277		
	Cornerstone Bank	MMA 81190	\$55,360.05	\$1,052.83
			<u>\$10,879.24</u>	<u>\$3.65</u>
			<u>Total</u>	<u>\$66,239.29</u>
Building Fund	First Bank of Utica	Checking 18 064 6		
		Qualified Cap Bond 180554	\$382,735.86	\$166.61
			<u>\$192,304.56</u>	<u>\$76.75</u>
			<u>Total</u>	<u>\$575,040.42</u>
General Fund	Farmers & Merchants	MMA 436 436		
	Cornerstone Bank	MMA 300079871	\$93,297.33	\$21.47
	Cornerstone Bank	CD 78290 36mo 02/27/2020	\$56,738.78	\$19.04
	York State, Gresham	MMA 1027291	\$135,391.03	\$0.00
	York State, Gresham	CD 5204	\$55,997.36	\$15.88
	York State, Gresham	CD 5215	\$199,952.90	\$1,296.87
	First Bank of Utica	PayFlex Acct	\$133,456.35	\$515.03
			<u>\$14,750.62</u>	
			<u>Total</u>	<u>\$689,584.37</u>
	First Bank of Utica	Checking 180505	\$1,684,789.70	\$278.53
			<u>Total Invested All Accounts Combined</u>	<u>\$3,123,095.31</u>

Total amount invested at Farmers & Merchants	\$199,879.17
Total amount invested at First Bank of Utica	\$2,275,440.43
Total amount invested at Cornerstone Bank, Waco	\$258,369.10
Total amount invested at York State, Gresham	\$389,406.61
<u>Total Invested</u>	<u>\$3,123,095.31</u>

5018

Parent and Guardian Involvement In Educational Practices

The school district recognizes the importance of parental and guardian involvement in the education of their children. The school district will take the following steps to ensure that the rights of parents and guardians to participate in the education of their children are preserved.

1. Parents/Guardians will be provided access, as described in district procedures, to district-approved textbooks and other curricular materials and tests used in the district upon request.
 - a. A parental request to review specific approved textbooks and other district- or building-approved curricular materials (written, visual, and audio) should be made to the principal of the building where the textbooks and curriculum materials are used.
 - b. Parents may check out textbooks and may review curricular materials such as video and audio recordings within a time frame determined by the building principal to prevent disruption of the instructional process.
 - c. A parental request to review specific standardized and criterion-referenced tests used in the district should be made in writing to the building principal. Copies of the most recent tests used in the district will be available for parent review. Parents wishing to review statewide NeSA assessments will be provided with sample questions and a copy of a practice test, but will not be provided with copies of the actual assessment due to testing security. In the case of other secure tests such as the ACT, parents must contact the publisher to obtain copies of the test.
2. Parents/Guardians will be permitted, within district procedures, to attend and observe courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities.
 - a. Parents/guardians are invited to make appointments with the building principal to visit classes, assemblies and other instructional activities. The principal shall give permission after determining that parental/guardian observation would not disrupt the activity. Observations that last more than 60 minutes or occur on consecutive days are typically disruptive and will not be permitted absent unusual circumstances, in the sole discretion of the building principal.

- b. Parents/guardians may contact the building principal to request permission to attend counseling sessions in which their child is involved.
3. Parents/guardians will be permitted, within district procedures, to ask that their children be excused from school experiences that parents find objectionable.
 - a. Building principals may excuse a student from any single school experience at the parent's written request.
 - b. When appropriate, alternative experiences will be provided for the student by the school.
4. Parents/guardians will be informed through the student handbook and district policies of the manner that the district will provide access to records of students.
5. Parents/guardians will be informed of the standardized and criterion-referenced district testing program. Parents may request additional information from the building principal.
6. Parents/guardians will be informed of the circumstances under which they may opt-out of state and federal assessments.
 - a. In accordance with federal law, at the beginning of the school year, the District shall provide notice of the right to request a copy of this policy to parents/guardians of students attending schools receiving Title I funds. The District will provide a copy of this policy to a requesting parent in a timely manner.

- b. State Assessments

The District cannot approve requests to opt out of state assessments. Approval of such requests is contrary to state law.

- c. National Assessment of Educational Progress

As a condition of receiving federal funds, the District participates in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). To help ensure that the District has a representative sample of

students taking the NAEP, which will allow the District to assess the quality and effectiveness of its programming on a national level, the District strongly encourages all eligible students to participate. However, student participation in NAEP is voluntary.

The District shall provide parents/guardians of eligible students with reasonable notice prior to the exam being administered. Parents/guardians wishing to opt their students out of the NAEP assessment must notify the district in writing at least three days prior to the exam date to ensure that the District can coordinate supervision and alternative activities for students who have opted out.

- 7. Parents/guardians will be notified of their right to remove their children from surveys prior to district participation in surveys.
 - a. The principal must approve all surveys intended to gather information from students before they are administered to students.
 - b. Students' participation in surveys is voluntary. Parents/guardians may restrict their child from participating in any survey.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5045 Student Fees

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

A. Definitions.

- 1.** "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.
- 2.** "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.
- 3.** "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

B. Listing of Fees Charged by this District.

1. Guidelines for Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities.

Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.

2. Safety Equipment and Attire.

The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.

3. Personal or Consumable Items.

The district does not provide students with personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks. Students who wish to supply their own personal or consumable items may do so, as long as those items comply with the requirements of the district. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment, materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.

4. Materials Required for Course Projects.

The district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all basic curricular projects. In courses where students choose to produce a project that requires materials beyond the basic materials provided by the district, the students will furnish the materials, purchase the materials from the school, or purchase the materials from an outside vendor with an order form provided by the school.

5. Technological Devices

The district will provide students with the technological devices necessary to complete all basic curricular projects.

As with all school property, students may be charged for damage to such devices. To protect against such potential losses, students and parents may, but are not required, to purchase insurance coverage for the devices. The maximum dollar amount of this insurance coverage facilitated by the district will be \$20 per device. This covers future repairs up to \$20 and participants pay 50% of all repair/replacements costs in excess of the \$20 fee.

6. Extracurricular Activities.

The district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.

The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all extracurricular activities fees and the specifications for any equipment or attire required for participation in extracurricular activities:

- Future Business Leaders of America: \$25
- Cheer & Dance Team, Flag Corps:
 - Students must purchase uniforms and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be: \$250
- Football: \$0
 - Students must provide their own football shoes, undergarments, and mouthguards
- Golf: \$0
 - Students must provide their own golf shoes, undergarments, and clubs
- Softball: \$0
 - Students must provide their own shoes, gloves, and undergarments
- Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling and Track: \$0
 - Students must provide their own shoes and undergarments
- Future Farmers of America: \$100
 - Students must purchase their own jackets and pay dues
- FCCLA: \$25

7. Post-Secondary Education Costs.

Some students enroll in postsecondary courses while still enrolled in the district's high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved

accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall offer the course without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who chose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution.

8. Transportation Costs.

The district will charge students reasonable fees for transportation services provided by the district to the extent permitted by federal and state statutes and regulations.

The maximum dollar amount of the transportation fee charged by this district shall be \$500.

9. Copies of Student Files or Records.

The district will charge a fee for making copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of student record fees. Parents of students have the right to inspect and review the students' files or records without the payment of a fee, and the district shall not charge a fee to search for or retrieve any student's files or records.

The district will charge a fee of \$0.10 per page for reproduction of student records.

10. Charges for Food Consumed by Students.

The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for the breakfast and lunch programs is as follows:

- Breakfast Program – Grades K-8
 - Regular Price \$2.00
 - Reduced Price \$0.30

- Breakfast Program – Grades 9-12
 - Regular Price \$2.00
 - Reduced Price \$0.30

- Lunch Program – Grades K-8
 - Regular Price \$2.80
 - Reduced Price \$0.40

- Lunch Program – Grades 9-12
 - Regular Price \$2.90
 - Reduced Price \$0.40

11. Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.

Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided, at no charge, the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. For musical extracurricular activities, the school district will require students to provide the following equipment and/or attire:

- Band Students must provide their own instruments and marching band shoes, which must be white, rubber-soled sneakers

- Swing Choir Students must purchase outfits and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these materials will be \$250

C. Waiver Policy.

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

type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their building principal.

D. Distribution of Policy.

This policy will be published in the Student Handbook or its equivalent that will be provided to students at no cost.

E. Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.

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

F. Fund-Raising Activities

Students may be permitted or required to engage in fund-raising activities to support various curricular and extracurricular activities in which they participate. Students who decline to participate in fund-raising activities are not eligible under this policy for waiver of the costs or fees which the fund-raising activity was meant to defray.

G. Student Fee Fund.

The school board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund that will not be funded by tax revenue, and that will serve a depository for all monies collected from students for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) post-secondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school courses. Monies in the Student Fee Fund shall be expended only for the purposes for which they were collected from students.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017

Revised on: 7/9/2018

Reviewed on: _____



July 1, 2019

Centennial Public School
1301 Centennial Ave. P.O. Box 187
Utica, Ne. 68456-2321

Dear Tim Dewaard,

Hiland Dairy is pleased to submit for your consideration the following quote for Dairy Products for the 2019-2020 school year.

Escalator

Half Pint 1% Paper	.2140
Half Pint 1% Chocolate Paper	.2190
Half Pint Strawberry Paper	.2190
Half Pint Skim Paper	.2090

<p>Bid Due Date <u>July 2 2019</u> Escalating/De-escalating Bid</p> <p>Accepted <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Declined <input type="radio"/></p> <p>Please submit form to; Michael Poulsen c/o Hiland Dairy 5200 NW 38th Street Lincoln, Ne. 68524</p> <p>Phone (402) 470-2424 Fax (402) 470-2425</p>

This is an escalating/de-escalating bid on all items. Please refer to attached clause for monthly cost adjustment factors.

When a decision has been reached based upon this bid, kindly mail or fax back any competitive bids along with this form.

Signed;

**First Delivery:
Please enclose a 2019-2020 school calendar**

Sincerely,

Michael Poulsen
Lincoln Branch Sales Manager

**CERTIFICATE OF NON-COLLUSION/INDEPENDENT PRICE
DETERMINATION**

The undersigned certifies that the preparation and submission of the attached bid have been conducted independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder or potential bidder and that there will be no consultation, communication, or agreement on the price, terms, and conditions of this bid by or on behalf of Hiland Dairy Foods Co., LLC with any other bidder or potential bidder prior to the official opening of the bid.

Date: 7-1-19

Hiland Dairy Foods Co., LLC

Rick Beaman

**Rick Beaman
General Sales Manager**

Milk Escalator / De-Escalator Pricing Clause (DFA Supplied)

The pricing quoted is based on **July's 2019** Federal Milk Marketing Order for Class I Skim and Class I Butterfat. This pricing is subject to change as the cost of raw milk changes each month according to the USDA Federal Milk Market Price Announcements and Dairy Farmers of America.

The cost of milk fluctuates up and down each month based on the cost changes in raw milk. Changes of a minimum of \$.10 per CWT (up or down) will move the cost of a half pint \$.00054.

Prices will also be adjusted up or down based on cost changes in packaging, ingredients, labor, fuel, juice concentrate, re-sale products (ex. Tropicana, Sport Shake), etc. Supporting documentation will be supplied upon request.

All price changes will become effective on the 1st day of the month following the price announcement.



1133 E. Kearney • P.O. Box 2270 • Springfield, MO • 65801-2270 • (417) 862-9311

Valued Customer;

Your business means the world to us. That's why we want to do our part to keep our world and environment safe. In support of our Green Initiative one of the most significant ways we can make a difference is to transition to electronic billing statements.

The transition is seamless and free of charge. If you would like to receive your statements via email, please provide the following information to:
NStevens@hilanddairy.com

Customer Number:

Business Name:

Accounts Payable Contact:

Phone Number:

Email address:

If you have any questions or I can assist you in the process, please feel free to contact me at the number below.

Sincerely,

Don Dishman

417-862-9311 ext. 10140

ddishman@hilanddairy.com

A Splash of Freshness!

FUEL BID FORM

Central Valley Ag agrees to furnish gasoline and/or diesel fuel to the Centennial Public School for the 2019-20 school year at the prices listed below. It is understood that dealer price adjustments will be shared by the school district as per notice in the specification letter.

FULL SERVICE

SELF SERVICE

Non-leaded per gallon ¢ above cost

8 ¢ above cost F.O.B. Utica

N/A

Diesel per gallon ¢ above cost

8 ¢ above cost F.O.B. Utica

Valerie Segura
Signature of Authorized Agent

Central Valley Ag
Name of Firm

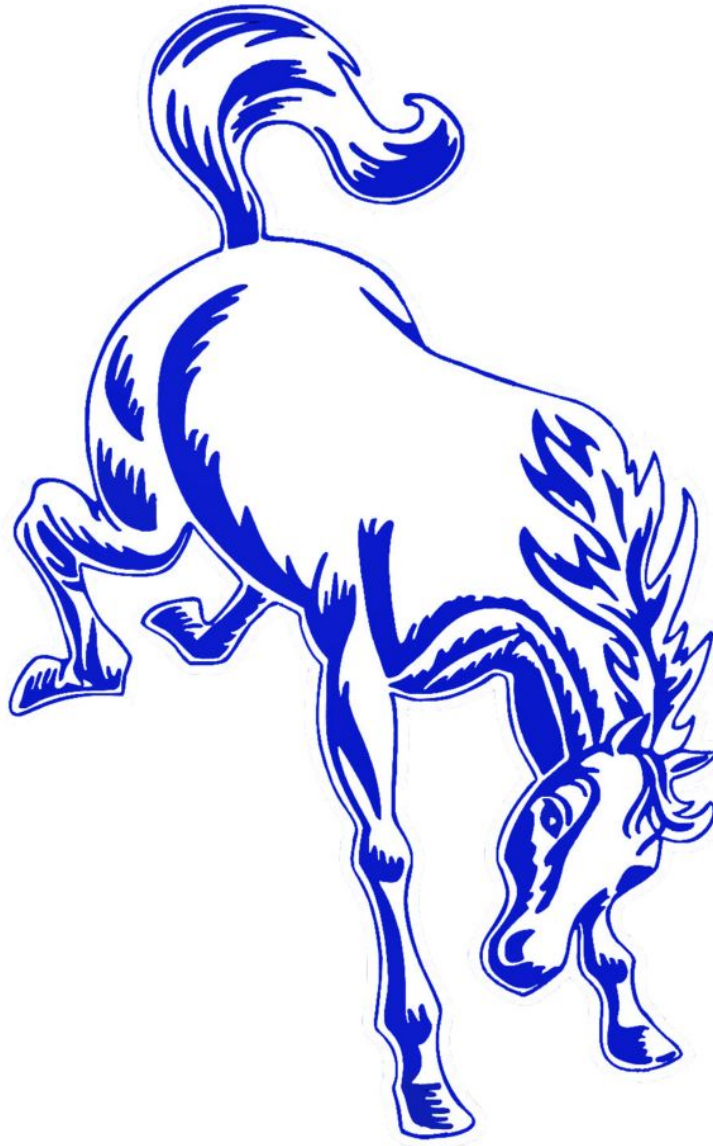
PO Box 310, Shelby NE
Address 68661

6-18-19
Date

Return to: Tim DeWaard, Superintendent
Centennial Public School
1301 Centennial Avenue
P. O. Box 187
Utica, NE 68456

email: tim.dewaard@centennialbroncos.org

2019 - 2020



***CENTENNIAL
PUBLIC SCHOOL
Teacher Handbook***

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Centennial Public School
Teacher Handbook
2019-20 School Year

FOREWORD

Section 1 Intent of Handbook

Welcome to Centennial Public School. This handbook is intended to be used by teachers and other certificated staff to provide general information about Centennial Public School 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 Centennial Public School and the Centennial Public School 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 2 Information About Centennial Public School

FORMED:

School districts of Beaver Crossing, Utica and Waco merged in 1967 (Thayer merged with Waco earlier). The school district of Gresham and part of the Cordova district joined in 1986.

SIZE:

Approximately 316 square miles located primarily in eastern York and western Seward counties. Some parcels of land from Butler and Polk counties are also in our district.

LOCATION:

Pre-K - 12 District at Utica. All students under one roof!

FACILITIES:

A 100,000 square foot school was built on a 40 acre site at Utica in 1977. A 3,840 square foot weight room/wrestling practice area was added in 1988. A 12,000 square foot elementary addition was added in 1992. A 7,650 square foot secondary addition (three classrooms and a girls' locker room) was added in 1997. Two auxiliary buildings are located in Utica. A 22,000 square foot auditorium/administrative offices addition was added in 2009. A 50,000 square foot addition (a new competition gym, 3 science classrooms, new voc. ed. shops with adjoining classrooms, and renovating the commons area and old voc. ed. shop area) was completed in 2015.

ENROLLMENT:

PK-12 student enrollment averages between 350-450 students yearly.

Section 3 School Mission Statement

The people of this district are committed to educational excellence in a positive, creative and caring environment, preparing each student to be a responsible, productive citizen in our ever-changing global community.

Section 4 Members of the Board of Education

Name	Position
Jason Richters	President
Mark Avery	Vice-President
Doug Tonniges	Secretary
Doug Cast	Treasurer
Jodi Cast	Member
Wayne Heine	Member

Section 5 Administrative Staff

Name	Position
DeWaard, Tim	Superintendent
Bargen, Colin	Secondary Principal
Booth, Ken	Elementary Principal
Elmshaeuser, Kris	Special Education Director

Section 6 Teachers and Counselors Staff

Name	Department	Grades
Anstine, Alex	Special Education	K-9
Bargen, Jennifer	Mathematics	11-12
Barjenbruch, Craig	Business/Math	7-12
Barjenbruch, Jordan	5th Grade	5
Breitkreutz, Jessica	Technology Integrationist	PK-12
Buss, Jan	4th Grade	4
Chrisman, Dana	1st Grade	1
DeWaard, Jan	School Psychologist	PK-12
Dey, Julie	6th Grade	6
Eitzmann, Barry	Mathematics	8-12
Fehlhafer, Kelly	Speech-Language Pathologist	PK-12
Fish, Bob	Guidance Counseling	7-12
Fowler, Jarrett	2nd Grade	2
Godfrey, Amanda	Preschool	PK
Goesch, Katie	Mathematics/Media	K-12
Hanway, Kaylee	4th Grade	4
Harris, Joshua	Instrumental Music/Vocal Music	K-12
Heine, Bridget	Kindergarten	K

Henry, Shannon	Behavioral Counseling	PK-12
Heser, Kelly	Art	7-12
Hirschfeld, Tricia	Interventionist	4-8
Johansen, Rob	Industrial Tech	7-12
Jorgensen, Crystal	3rd Grade	3
Kadavy, Carrie	Language Arts	6-8
Klanecky, Evan	PE	7-12
Klanecky, Nikki	Special Education	7-12
Lichti, Michelle	Special Education	K-6
Morenzoni, Liz	5th Grade	5
Nitsch, Karly	Vocal Music	K-12
Ortmeier, Mark	Science/PE	K-8
Ostmeyer, Sarah	Language Arts	10-12
Pankoke, Leah	Business/Technology	7-12
Payne, Phil	Social Studies	7-12
Petersen, Emily	Spanish	9-12
Podliska, Holly	Agriculture	8-12
Polk, Jake	Math/PE/Reading	K-6
Pracheil, Molly	2nd Grade	2
Rafert, Linda	Title I	K-6
Sams, Brian	Science	9-12
Saunders, Rachel	Language Arts	9-12
Scholl, Cam	Special Education	7-12
Smith, Abby	Family Consumer Science	7-12
Soliz, Danae	1st Grade	1
Tesar, Dan	Technology Coordinator	PK-12
Vossler, Rebecca	Science	10-12

Wagner, Jenny	PE/Activities Director	7-12
Warm, Molly	Kindergarten	K
Warren, Ashley	Preschool	PK
Warren, Josh	Social Studies	10-12
Zysset, Jared	3rd Grade	3

Section 7 Support Staff

Name	Position
Tonniges, Lindsey	Nurse
Rhodes, Marge	Bookkeeper
Fickel, Teri	SpEd Secretary
Dickey, Susan	Superintendent Secretary
Jackson, PJ	Secondary Secretary
Fehlhafer, Kara	Secondary Secretary
Winkelman, Sherry	Elementary Secretary
Heine, Virgil	Custodial Supervisor
TBA	Custodian
Heine, Kathy	Custodian
Kirkpatrick, Diana	Custodian
Kirkpatrick, Pat	Custodian
Mogee, Nancy	Custodian
Tieken, Tim	Custodian
Brueggemann, Jayson	Athletic Trainer
Eichman, Lori	Food Service Supervisor
Bush, Dianne	Food Service
Keil, Hazel	Food Service
Ottman, Dixie	Food Service

Walgren, Donna	Food Service
Wright, Mike	Transportation Supervisor
Dumpert, Nicole	Transportation
Erks, Barb	Transportation
Erks, Ron	Transportation
Gierhan, Brenda	Transportation
Givens, Kip	Transportation
Heine, Kathy	Transportation
Mogee, Bill	Transportation
Richters, Nancy	Transportation
Richters, Roy	Transportation
Vandeloo, Pam	7-12 Study Hall Supervisor
Yamber, Dana	Media/Paraeducator
TBA	Paraeducator
Butzke, Angela	Paraeducator
Diekmann, Donna	Paraeducator
Frye, Amy	Paraeducator
Givens, Kip	Paraeducator
Johnson, Beth	Paraeducator
Prochaska, Vicki	Paraeducator
Richters, Nancy	Paraeducator
Sheehan, Kim	Paraeducator
Steckly, Jo	Paraeducator
Stuhr, Wendy	Paraeducator
TBA	Paraeducator
Welch, Patty	Paraeducator
TBA	Paraeducator

Article 1 - SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES

Section 1 2019-2020 Centennial School Calendar

CENTENNIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST 2019 - JULY 2020

Aug 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	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

Sep 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	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					

Oct 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	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		

Nov 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	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

Dec 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	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				

Jan 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	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	

- August**
- 12 *TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 13 *TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 14 *FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - 1:30 P.M. DISMISSAL*

- September**
- 2 *LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL*
 - 25 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 27 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*

- October**
- 2 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 17 *END 1ST QTR - 46 DAYS*
 - 18 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 21 *NO SCHOOL - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 22 *START 2ND QTR*

- November**
- 15 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 27 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 28 *THANKSGIVING DAY - NO SCHOOL*
 - 29 *NO SCHOOL*

- December**
- 20 *END 2ND QTR - 41 DAYS; 1ST SEMESTER 87 DAYS; EARLY DISMISSAL 1:30 P.M.*
 - 25 *CHRISTMAS*

- January**
- 1 *NEW YEAR'S DAY*
 - 6 *NO SCHOOL - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 7 *START 3RD QTR*

- February**
- 12 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 13 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 14 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 28 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*

- March**
- 11 *END 3RD QTR - 46 DAYS*
 - 12 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 13 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 16 *NO SCHOOL - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 17 *START 4TH QTR*

- April**
- 10 *GOOD FRIDAY - NO SCHOOL*
 - 12 *EASTER*
 - 13 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 24 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*

- May**
- 16 *GRADUATION*
 - 20 *LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - 45 DAYS; 2ND SEMESTER 91 DAYS; DISMISS AT NOON*

Feb 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	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

Mar 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	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				

Apr 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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	

May 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	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					

Jun 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	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	

Jul 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	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

Section 2 Daily Schedule

The Centennial student attendance day begins at 8:10 a.m. for K-12 students and ends at 3:26 p.m. for elementary students and 3:30 p.m. for secondary students. Students in grades 7-12 are allowed to go to their classrooms beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Secondary Schedule

Enter School Building.....	8:00
Class Warning Tone.....	8:05
Period 1.....	8:10 - 8:56
Period 2.....	8:59 - 9:45
Bronco Period.....	9:48 - 10:06
Period 3.....	10:09 - 10:55
Period 4.....	10:58 - 11:44
Junior High Lunch.....	11:44 - 12:14
Period 5 (Junior High).....	12:17 - 1:03
Period 5 (High School).....	11:47 - 12:33
Senior High Lunch.....	12:33 - 1:03
Period 6.....	1:06 - 1:52
Period 7.....	1:55 - 2:41
Period 8.....	2:44 - 3:30

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 when schools will be closed. In addition, the phone messaging system will be activated.** In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation, kindergarten, 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. 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 be marked absent. You should treat the absence 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 (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. Centennial Public School 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 185 days (hereinafter referred to as the "contract year"). Such contract days shall be serviced by individual teachers on varying schedules as established by the Board of Education and administration.

Article 2 - EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Section 1 Employment

A teacher is employed by Centennial Public School 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 before 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 May 15 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. '79-820.

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 with the approval of the Board of Education. 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 3 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 4 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.

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 1 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.

Salary Payments. Salary is payable over twelve equal installments. Teachers will be paid on the 15th of the month, or the last preceding school day, if the 15th 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 6 Extended Duty Pay

Extended duty for any teacher beyond the number of contract days established by the Board of Education for the school year shall be paid at a rate agreed upon between the Superintendent and the teacher and approved by the Board of Education.

Section 7 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 8 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 9 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 10 403(b) Salary Reduction Agreements

The District will cooperate with any teacher who chooses to participate in an investment program under a 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 into 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.

Section 11 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 nonexempt employees will be paid at the rate of not less than 12 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 12 times the number of hours worked in excess of 40 hours in any workweek. 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

Teachers are provided with paid sick and personal leaves (professional leaves, bereavement leaves, etc.) in accordance with the negotiated agreement. During such paid leaves, teachers shall continue to receive all salary and fringe benefits called for by the negotiated agreement.

The leaves provided by the District are to be used for the purpose intended. Abuse of leave privileges affects the students, other staff, and the entire District and will not be tolerated.

Requests for Leave

Advance reporting of the need to take a leave and having effective lesson plans and materials prepared and readily available for the substitute are important.

A teacher who becomes ill and is unable to work is to contact the Principal before 6:30 a.m. Before the end of the school day on the first day of the sick leave, and on each subsequent day of absence, a report should be made to the Principal as to whether the teacher will be able to return to duty on the next duty day. For illnesses or medical situations where the need for the leave can be determined in advance, the teacher is to make such advance report of need for leave as soon as possible.

For personal and other leaves, a Request for Leave form is to be submitted to the Principal at least a week prior to the leave, or such other advance notice as is practicable under the circumstances.

Return from Leave

Upon return from leave, teachers are to review information supplied by the substitute teacher as to progress made in the class and any student behavior concerns. The substitute should be contacted directly if the written information supplied is not adequate.

A teacher who is absent for any period of time because of injury requiring care from a physician or health care provider, or for a period of one week or more due to illness, must present a written statement to the Principal from the teacher’s physician or health care provider stating that the teacher is physically able to return to duty. This statement is to be presented in person before the teacher returns to duty in order that the present stage of convalescence can be observed and discussed.

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 and fringe benefits (including the cost of premiums for group health insurance) shall be reduced by the day or days or 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; e.g. one day missed = $1/185^{\text{th}}$ of total salary and fringe benefits.

Section 3 Leaves of Absence

A teacher may apply to the Board of Education for a leave of absence from the teacher's duties. The Board of Education will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis. No leave of absence shall extend beyond one school year. All leaves of absence shall be without pay except for the payment of health insurance benefits as may be required under applicable state or federal laws.

Section 4 Jury Duty

A teacher who is summoned for jury service shall promptly notify the Principal of such summons. The teacher's salary will continue during time spent in jury service, and no deduction of leave time shall occur, except that the District may reduce the pay by an amount equal to any compensation, other than expenses, paid by the court for jury duty. Teachers are to notify the Principal of the amount received for such jury duty.

If a teacher, upon reporting for jury duty in the morning, is dismissed from jury duty for the remainder of the day, the teacher is to report for duty and resume duties for the balance of the day. When a teacher is entirely dismissed from jury duty, the teacher is directed to report for duty and the substitute will be dismissed.

Teachers are expected to promptly notify the Principal of any other form of legal summons which may require an absence from duty. In the event the summons involves a school-related matter, the matter shall be treated similar to a jury duty absence. In the event the summons involves a personal matter, the teacher will be required to use available leave days.

Section 5 Military Leave

Teachers who are members of the National Guard, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Air Force Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve (hereinafter, "reserves"), are entitled to a military leave of absence from their respective duties, without loss of pay, when employed with or without pay under the orders or authorization of competent authority in the active service of the state or of the United States. Teachers who normally work or are normally scheduled to work 120 hours or more in three consecutive weeks shall receive a military leave of absence of 120 hours each calendar year. Teachers who normally work or are normally scheduled to work less than 120 hours in three consecutive weeks shall receive a military leave of absence each calendar year equal to the number of hours they normally work or would normally be scheduled to work, whichever is greater, in three consecutive weeks. Such military leave of absence may be taken in hourly increments and shall be in addition to the teacher's regular annual leave. When the governor of this state shall declare that a state of emergency exists, and any teacher who is a member of the reserves is ordered to active service of the state, the teacher shall be granted a state of emergency leave of absence until released from active service by competent authority. The leave of absence shall not be a military leave of absence; other forms of leave may be

granted. The teacher shall receive normal salary or compensation minus the state active duty base pay the teacher receives in active service of the state.

Section 6 Family and Medical Leave Act

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides for 12 weeks of job-protected unpaid leave in a 12 month period to eligible employees in specified circumstances. A publication provided by the federal government which provides more information about FMLA leaves is attached as Appendix “C” to this handbook. Some specifics regarding FMLA leave at Centennial Public School:

- a. The plan year for FMLA is a rolling year. A rolling year is a 12-month period measured backward from the date an employee last used any FMLA leave.
- a. Employees will be required to substitute remaining applicable paid leave prior to using unpaid leave. In other words, the total of job-protected paid and unpaid leave is 12 weeks.

If you need to take an FMLA leave, or have any questions regarding an FMLA leave, you should contact the Superintendent.

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.

Certificated employees are to spend seven hours and 45 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 45 minutes. Staff may leave the building earlier when called to a professional meeting.

Certificated employees are required to serve on playground, lunchroom, bus 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 work day as 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., to be in their classroom no later than 8:00 a.m., and to remain on duty until 3:45 p.m. 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 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 area (Example: Hall supervision) 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 & Sub Folder

Teachers will prepare written lesson plans which cover at least five days of advance instruction. The plans must be posted on PlanbookEdu.com and linked into your Google Classroom in order for students and parents to access them. Please keep a folder for substitutes, including lesson plans, class rosters, safety procedures, etc. in a place in which the sub folder will be readily available in the teacher's absence.

The lesson plans left for an absence 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 lesson plans must give specific reference to other instructional resources immediately available which will enhance the instructional lesson.

Section 5 Daily Class Record Books

Every teacher is required to keep a complete and easily understandable record of the attendance and achievement of every student in a class. This class record must be kept current and recorded in PowerSchool.

*There is no minimum requirement for the frequency of recorded grades (or for the giving of written lessons or examinations). Be sure that you assess and check for understanding frequently enough and that you record grades frequently enough to readily and realistically justify the term and final grades which are reported to parents. Secondary teachers should strive to record three grades/week

if possible in order to provide feedback to students and opportunities for students to demonstrate understanding.

Upon request a student's individual record in the teacher's class 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.

Because the entries in the class record constitute a source of original entry for information which may be needed in the absence of the teacher, teachers are required to post the teachers' class record to PowerSchool for filing in the permanent records. Teachers who return to Centennial and who wish to refer to the previous year's class record may request access to that information.

Section 6 Classroom and School Procedures

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

0. Bulletin Boards

Each teacher shall be responsible for completing appropriate bulletin boards regarding curriculum related matters in their primary classroom.

1. Text Book and Room Inventory

All school purchased materials must be inventoried. Textbooks are to be numbered. 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 based on the table found in the student handbook. Encourage students to put covers on their books by the end of the first week after receiving them.

2. Use of Teacher Aides (Paraprofessionals)

Paraprofessionals work under the supervision of certified staff to support and assist students throughout the school day. Roles and responsibilities of the paraprofessional include reinforcing instructional and behavioral goals, monitoring the learning environment, providing individual and small group assistance following teacher instruction, and collaborating with certified staff to evaluate student progress. Teachers are responsible for planning, communicating, and monitoring the daily instructional activities paraprofessionals perform. It is critical for each classroom teacher to continuously model the role of educational leadership and explain the paraprofessional's accountability for student achievement.

Communicating with paraprofessionals to help define roles, clarify expectations, and identify overall goals is a vital component to sustaining an effective working relationship. Providing consistent opportunities for feedback and discussion is an essential element for successful utilization of the paraprofessional. The cooperative effort of the teacher and paraprofessional will result in a high level of instruction to enhance the educational opportunities for all students.

3. 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 or record grades. School 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. The supervising teacher is responsible for communicating attendance on a daily basis by either calling or emailing the high school office. Tardiness needs to be communicated to the high school office as well. Set expectations for your student aides on the first day and be consistent in enforcing them.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. E-mail

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

7. Teacher Mail Box

Each teacher will be assigned a mailbox located in the Teacher's Lounge. 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 communication regarding school business.

8. Teachers Meetings

Teachers' meetings will be held as needed. ALL teachers are expected to be present for the meetings, unless they are absent from school for good cause or have made prior arrangements.

9. Room Housekeeping

A neat, clean, orderly and properly ventilated room helps in motivating students to learn. It sets an example for them to follow, and increases their pride in the school. It shall be the duty of each teacher to keep his/her desk, bookshelves and counter top orderly and clean. Chalkboards should be erased before leaving the room. **DO NOT WASH CHALKBOARDS or WHITEBOARDS.** The custodian will maintain the floors with special emphasis placed on "hard to get places" such as under a table. If light bulbs burn out, switches become defective or windows need cleaning, the teacher should notify the custodian or principal. Supplies such as dust cloths, etc. may be obtained from the custodian as they are needed. Any requests for special services of the custodian are to be made through the principal or maintenance supervisor. **Please ask eighth period**

students to pick up chairs and place them on top of desks and tables. The custodians will appreciate your assistance.

10. Study Hall

Since some students are in more than one study hall, it helps discipline for all study hall teachers to follow the same general procedures.

- Keep a seating chart.
- Maintain a quiet study atmosphere.
- Allow students on the floor only after permission has been obtained. Teachers will want to limit the number on the floor depending on the size of the study hall. Students must bring reading books or study material to study hall.
- Permission to talk must be obtained from the teacher. Permission will be granted to one student at a time.
- There is no reason why students should not be allowed to use the water fountain or rest room during the period, provided they ask permission and sign out. Limit the number to one.
- Students must have a pre-signed pass from another teacher if they wish to leave your study hall for reasons other than those above.
- The use of the library during study hall time rather than during class time should be encouraged. However, a pass must be used, granted by the study hall teacher.
- A reason for all library passes must be written on the pass. Students will be required to return to their study hall immediately after obtaining materials or completing stated reason for their library pass.
- Media Center passes will be limited to six students at one time. As students return, other students may go to the Media Center. Media Center passes will be limited to 15 minutes per students. (Special arrangements may be made.)
- Obviously, each day and each period, the study hall will present different problems. You will find that moving around is a big help. Check what the students are doing. It is always easier to relax discipline if needed than to tighten it up. A few simple rules enforced by you, the teacher will facilitate a more productive study hall.
- Sleeping will not be permitted.

11. Coaching and Activity Sponsor Responsibilities

Sponsor responsibilities on bus trips:

- A signed permission slip from a parent/guardian must be obtained before any student may be taken on a school sponsored trip.
- An emergency medical release form must accompany all permission slips.
- Submit transportation requests as soon as possible to facilitate proper trip preparations (at a minimum, 1 week in advance).
- Report to the bus driver of any deviation from the requested trip, such as restroom stops, lunch stops, side trips, departure and return times, and any other change from original bus request information. Do not surprise the driver with a last minute change.
- Keep each student seated in his/her seat.
- Control the noise level.
- Make certain the trash, paper, cans, etc. are picked up and removed from the bus or placed in a waste basket.

- Take roll after you board the bus to leave and before you return home.
- Coaches and sponsors must notify parents guardians if a student fails to board the bus for any activity or field trip. If a secretary is on duty, the sponsor may ask her to notify parents. If a secretary is not on duty, a cell phone may be used to contact parents.
- On all activity trips the students must travel to and from the activity in transportation provided by the school.

Only exceptions are:

1. Injury to participant which would require alternate transportation.
 2. Prior arrangement between the coach/sponsor and participant's parent/guardian.
 3. Students will not be permitted to ride home from a school activity with any minor (under age 21).
- Any special requests must be approved by the principal before the student(s) leave on school sponsored trips.

12. Food and Drink Consumption Areas

The following is the list of areas in which it is appropriate to consume food or drink:

Lunch Room
 FCS Room
 Gym
 Vo-Ag Room
 Art Room
 Teacher's Workplace
 Commons/Concessions Area

Special permission may be obtained from the principal if you are wishing to allow students to consume food and/or drink in your classroom. This should be limited to special occasions only and not be a frequent occurrence.

13. Church Night

Any requests for Wednesday/Sunday activities must be approved by the appropriate principal and superintendent. If approval by both administrators, the Board of Education is to be informed no later than the next regular meeting.

14. Money Raising Activities

Money raising activities must have the approval of the principal and the superintendent. School projects to raise money except for the sale of tickets to school activities will be discouraged and kept to a minimum.

Employee Use of Electronic Communication Devices

While employees are allowed to possess and carry electronic communications devices on school property, such possession and use are subject to the following rules:

District-Issued Communications Devices

Communication devices issued by the District may include, for example, cellular telephones, walkie-talkies, electronic tablets or laptop computers, citizen band radios, either installed in vehicles or hand-held, and pagers/beepers.

Employees in receipt of District-issued equipment shall be held responsible for the safekeeping of the equipment and exercise reasonable efforts to see that the equipment is not lost, stolen, or damaged. Reckless or irresponsible use of District equipment, resulting in loss or damage may result in the employee having to reimburse the District for any associated costs of replacement or repair.

Any such devices issued shall be with the expectation that they are to be used, almost exclusively, for District-related business purposes and are not intended for personal use except in emergencies involving employee health or safety.

District-issued equipment shall be used in a manner that does not disrupt instruction and should not be used during school-sponsored programs, meetings, in-services, or other events where there exists a reasonable expectation of quiet attentiveness unless there is a reason of personal health or safety involved.

Any District-issued equipment is to be surrendered back to the District immediately upon request.

Personally Owned Electronic Communications Devices

Employees may possess and carry cell phones, electronic tablets, and laptops during the school day on school property.

Personally owned hand-held citizens band radios, portable police scanners, and long or short-range walkie-talkies should not be used or carried by employees on school property during the school day unless by specific permission of their immediate supervisor based on a personal health or safety need.

Cell phones should not be used during the employee's normal duty times to send or receive messages of a personal nature, but such use is allowable during normal break times, lunch times, and preparation times. Use of cell phones should be curtailed during instructional time or at school-sponsored programs, meetings, in-services, parent/guardian conferences, or any other time when there would be a reasonable expectation of quiet attentiveness.

Any employee violating the above rules may be subject to disciplinary action.

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 noon 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 Centennial Public School. 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 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 the intercom 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 members are responsible for all students in the hallways, in the rest rooms, at assemblies, at pep rallies, and during lunch. Consequences for inappropriate behavior may include 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 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:

- (a) Placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health;
- (b) Cruelly confined or cruelly punished;
- (c) Deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care;
- (d) Left unattended in a motor vehicle if such minor child is six years of age or younger;
- (e) Sexually abused; or
- (f) 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 with the 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.

Article 5 - PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Section 1 Professional Ethics Standards

The Centennial Public School 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, creed, sex, marital status, age, national origin, ethnic background, or handicapping condition.
- 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 Board of Education.
- 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. 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.

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.

CONCERNS:

Concerns need to be addressed early on before they become major problems. If you have a concern about something you have heard, something someone has told you, something you have seen, or any other circumstances, it is your OBLIGATION to take your concern in a reasonable, non-accusatory, rational and professional manner to the closest person involved. If you are disturbed about something to the point of needing to tell it to someone else, first visit with the person involved to be sure you have the whole, complete and clear story. Do not spend your time "discussing" something you have heard from a third party, until you have checked out the validity of the statements from the person who made them initially. Don't lose sleep over something that may not be true to begin with! CLEAR, OPEN AND TIMELY

COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY TO AVOIDING HURT FEELINGS AND THE SPREADING OF UNNECESSARY RUMORS.

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 in a school building.
3. The teacher is not to provide private tutoring during duty time.
4. 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.

Article 6 - ACADEMIC MATTERS

Section 1 Purpose and Goals of Academic Achievement

The Centennial Public School Board of Education is committed to providing a quality education for all Centennial Public School 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 recommended that the teacher record at least three grades 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 the PowerSchool Administrative Record System. 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 Centennial Elementary are as follows:

Kindergarten students are graded by mastery of skills. The grade symbols are:

S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement
X	Unable to do this

Grades 1 - 2 students receive report card grades: The following letter grades/symbols are used:

O	Outstanding	100% - 95%
S+	Very Good	94% - 90%
S	Satisfactory	89% - 80%
N	Needs Improvement	79% - 70%
U	Unsatisfactory	69% - 0%

Grades 3 - 6 students receive report card grades. The following symbols are used:

A+ = 99-100	B+ = 91-92	C+ = 84-85	D+ = 76-77
A = 95-98	B = 88-90	C = 80-83	D = 72-75
A- = 93-94	B- = 86-87	C- = 78-79	D- = 70-71
			F = 0-69

Elementary physical education, instrumental music, vocal music and library skills are graded as follows:

Excellent, Satisfactory, Improving, Growth Needed, and Unsatisfactory

Each teacher should define for students the grading procedures to be used in their classes.

The grade scales to be used for reporting student progress in **Grades 7 - 12** are as follows:

A	93 - 100	Excellent
B	86 - 92	Above Average
C	78 - 85	Average
D	70 - 77	Below Average
F	Below 70	Failure
INC		Incomplete, failure unless removed

Each teacher should define for students the grading procedures to be used in their classes.

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.

Transfer Grades

A student transferring into Centennial Public School at the fifteen-to eighteen-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, second quarter, first semester, third quarter, fourth 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 eighteen 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.

Secondary 1/3 & 2/3 Quarter Progress Reports To Parents (Special Reports)

One-Third and Two-Third quarter progress reports are prepared by the teacher at or near the end of the 3rd week and 6th week of each quarter. These reports are to be turned into the office and will be mailed to parents.

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 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. The schedule setting forth the dates and times for the Parent-Teacher conferences for the school years is as follows:

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, September 25, 2019	4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 2, 2019	4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 12, 2020	4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 13, 2020	4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Teachers are expected to be prepared for such conferences. Being prepared includes having grades updated in PowerSchool which includes 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 every location where a school district employee may be found during his or her working hours or while he or she is on duty, whether or not such a location is on school district property or within the geographic limits of the school district.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, disposition, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace. 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 workplace 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. Look-alike drugs are those drugs which are not controlled substances but are represented as such, including chemicals which elicit the same effect such as K2 or spice. 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.

Disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination of employment and referral for prosecution will be imposed upon teachers who violate the aforementioned standards of conduct. 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 in the District's buildings and on school grounds, all owned or leased facilities and vehicles is prohibited.

Section 3 Essential Oils

Due to concerns and liability to the school, the diffusing of oils or applying of oils at school is prohibited.

Section 4 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, sandclub, metal knuckles, or throwing stars
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
8. A teacher may possess mace or other similar chemical agents in quantity and/or concentration typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes 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.

9. A teacher may possess mace or other similar chemical agents in quantity and/or concentration typically designed for individual personal defensive purposes 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.
10. 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.
11. 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 5 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 policies:

A. Internet Safety Policy

It is the policy of Centennial Public School to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). With respect to the District's computer network, the District shall: (a) prevent user access to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) provide for the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications; (c) prevent unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities online; (d) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (e) implement measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials (visual or nonvisual) that are harmful to minors.

1. Definitions. Key terms are as defined in CIPA. "Inappropriate material" for purposes of this policy includes material that is obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that: (1) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; (2) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and (3) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

2. Access to Inappropriate Material. To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or “Internet filters”) shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the CIPA, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
3. Inappropriate Network Usage. To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the District’s online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by CIPA, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called ‘hacking,’ and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.
4. Supervision and Monitoring. It shall be the responsibility of all members of the District staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and CIPA. Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent and the Superintendent’s designees.
5. Social Networking. Students shall be educated about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with others on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. The plan shall be for all students to be provided education on these subjects. The Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee shall be responsible for identifying educational materials, lessons, and/or programs suitable for the age and maturity level of the students and for ensuring the delivery of such materials, lessons, and/or programs to students.
6. Adoption. This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board at a public meeting, following normal public notice.

B. Computer Acceptable Use Policy

This computer acceptable use policy is supplemental to the District’s Internet Safety Policy.

1. Technology Subject to this Policy. This Computer Acceptable Use Policy applies to all technology resources of the District or made available by the District. Technology resources include, without limitation, computers and related technology equipment, all forms of e-mail and electronic communications, and the internet.
2. Access and User Agreements. Use of the District technology resources is a privilege and not a right. The Superintendent or designee shall develop appropriate user agreements and shall require that employees, students (and their

parents or guardians), and others to sign such user agreements as a condition of access to the technology resources, as the Superintendent determines appropriate. Parents and guardians of students in programs operated by the District shall inform the Superintendent or designee in writing if they do not want their child to have access.

The Superintendent and designees are authorized and directed to establish and implement such other regulations, forms, procedures, guidelines, and standards to implement this Policy.

The technology resources are not a public forum. The District reserves the right to restrict any communications and to remove communications that have been posted.

3. Acceptable Uses. The technology resources are to be used for the limited purpose of advancing the District's mission. The technology resources are to be used, in general, for educational purposes, meaning activities that are integral, immediate, and proximate to the education of students as defined in the E-rate program regulations.
4. Unacceptable Uses. The following are unacceptable uses of the technology resources:
 - a. **Personal Gain:** Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for personal financial gain other than in accordance with prescribed constitutional, statutory, and regulatory procedures, other than compensation provided by law.
 - b. **Personal Matters:** Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for personal matters.

Occasional use that the Superintendent or designee determines to ultimately facilitate the mission of the District is not prohibited by this provision. Examples of occasional use that may be determined to ultimately facilitate the mission of the District: sending an email to a minor child or spouse; sending an e-mail related to a community group in which an employee is a member where the membership in the community group facilitates the District's mission.

This occasional use exception does not permit use by employees contrary to the expectations of their position. For example, employees may not play games or surf the net for purposes not directly related to their job during duty time; nor may students do so during instructional time.

The occasional use exception also does not permit use of the technology resources for private business, such as searching for or ordering items on the internet for non-school use; or sending an e-mail related to one's own private consulting business.

- c. Campaigning: Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for the purpose of campaigning for or against the nomination or election of a candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question.

- d. Technology-Related Limitations: Technology resources shall not be used in any manner which impairs its effective operations or the rights of other technology users. Without limitation, users shall not use another person's name, login, password, or files for any reason, or allow another to use their password (except for authorized staff members).
 - 1. Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable another person's computer, information, files, programs or disks.
 - 2. Users shall not access resources not specifically granted to the user or engage in electronic trespassing.
 - 3. Users shall not engage in "hacking" to gain unauthorized access to the operating system software or unauthorized access to the system of other users.
 - 4. Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software without permission from the network administrators.
 - 5. Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.
 - 6. Users shall not engage in any form of vandalism of the technology resources.
 - 7. Users shall follow the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. The Superintendent or designees may further define such rules.

- e. Other Policies and Laws: Technology resources shall not be used for any purpose contrary to any District policy, any school rules to which a student user is subject, or any applicable law. Without limitation, this means that technology resources may not be used:
 - 1. to access any material contrary to the Internet Safety Policy; or to create or generate any such material.
 - 2. to engage in unlawful harassment or discrimination, such as sending e-mails that contain sexual jokes or images.
 - 3. to engage in violations of employee ethical standards and employee standards of performance, such as sending e-mails that are threatening or offensive or which contain abusive language; use of end messages on e-mails that may imply that the District is supportive of a particular religion or religious belief system, a political candidate or issue, or a controversial issue; or sending e-mails that divulge protected confidential student information to unauthorized persons.

4. to engage in or promote violations of student conduct rules.
 5. to engage in illegal activity, such as gambling.
 6. in a manner contrary to copyright laws.
 7. in a manner contrary to software licenses.
5. Disclaimer. The technology resources are supplied on an “as is, as available” basis. The District does not imply or expressly warrant that any information accessed will be valuable or fit for a particular purpose or that the system will operate error free. The District is not responsible for the integrity of information accessed, or software downloaded from the Internet.
6. Filter. A technology protection measure is in place that blocks and/or filters 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.

Notwithstanding technology protection measures, some inappropriate material may be accessible by the Internet, including material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. Users accept the risk of access to such material and responsibility for promptly exiting any such material.

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 the Superintendent. 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.

7. Monitoring. Use of the technology resources, including but not limited to internet sites visited and e-mail transmitted or received, is subject to monitoring by the administration and network administrators at any time to maintain the system and insure that users are using the system responsibly, without notice to the users. Users have no privacy rights or expectations of privacy with regard to use of the District’s computers or Internet system. All technology equipment shall be used under the supervision of the Superintendent and the Superintendent’s designees.
8. Sanctions. Violation of the policies and procedures concerning the use of the District technology resources may result in suspension or cancellation of the privilege to use the technology resources and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion of students and termination of employees. Use that is unethical may be reported to the Commissioner of Education. Use that is unlawful may be reported to the law enforcement authorities. Users shall be responsible for damages caused and injuries sustained by improper or non-permitted use.

Legal Reference: Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 USC § 254
FCC Order adopted August 10, 2011
47 USC § 254(h)(1)(b); 47 CFR 54.500(b) and 68 FR 36932 (2003) (E-rate restrictions)
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 49-14,101.01 (Political Accountability and Disclosure Act)
Date of Adoption: June 11, 2012

Section 6 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. Use of school supplies (paper, staples, etc.), school equipment (copiers, fax machines, telephones, etc.), and school postage is to be used 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 7 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 8 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 9 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 10 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 11 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 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 briefcase, 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 12 Searches of Lockers & Other

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. Additionally, the board of education has authorized the use of sniffer dogs to assist in the process of keeping school grounds free of illegal items such as illegal drugs, over the counter drugs, alcohol, guns, ammunition, etc. The protocol for the use of sniffer dogs is addressed more specifically in the Centennial School Board Policy Manual.

The following rules shall 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 must 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 shall 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 13 Audio & Video Recording & 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, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations deemed appropriate by the Superintendent. If a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state, or federal laws, it may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

Unless otherwise authorized by board policy or law, students are prohibited from making audio or video recordings during the school day on school grounds; when being transported to and from school activities or programs in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, unless the recording is made in a manner permitted by the school for members of the public. In such an instance, the students remain subject to the district's appropriate use and student discipline policies. For example, students are not prohibited from making recordings of an athletic event for their personal use similar to a parent or other patron are permitted, subject to other applicable board policy. However, this policy generally prohibits students from using smart-speakers or other devices which actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings, including Google Home, Amazon Alexa, Apple HomePod, and AngelSense devices.

An exception will be made to this policy if photographs or video recordings are necessary to accommodate a student's disability or are required by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

In no event shall photographs or video recordings be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

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 the Principal's office. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 1 week after the event.

A 7-12 grade daily bulletin will be read by a National Honor Society member at the start of Bronco Period (or 3rd period if there is a shortened schedule) and will be posted on the school website. It is requested that student announcements be limited to no more than two or three days. All announcements for the bulletin must be turned into the secondary office secretary before school starts.

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.

Section 16 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 17 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 workplace conditions. A representative from various school groups plus representatives appointed by administration serve on the committee. If you have a desire to serve on the committee, you should contact your building principal. 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 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 seat belts 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

Staff members 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. Staff members who drive school vehicles or transport students in their personal vehicles are responsible for following safe driving practices, including the use of seat belts by all occupants, and are responsible for any injury or accident. Staff members are not to use electronic communication devices while driving a school vehicle or while transporting children.

School Transportation

Staff members must requisition school transportation to attend out of town meetings, seminars, clinics, etc. If school transportation is not available, then and only then, mileage will be paid for the use of your own vehicle.

Bus, Car, and Van Requests:

- Requests will be made via rSchool at (<http://transpo-centennial.rschoolday.com/login/>).
- Requests submitted to the Transportation Supervisor one week in advance.
- Communicate with Transportation Supervisor on proper procedures.

2019-20 Travel Allowance rates as set by the Centennial Board of Education:

The GSA per diem rate and mileage follow the state rate or actual and reasonable expenses as determined by the administration (<https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>).

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

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

Name: Colin Bargaen
 Title: Secondary Principal
 Address: PO Box 187, 1301 Centennial Ave, Utica, NE 68456
 Telephone: (402) 534-2321
 E-mail: colin.bargaen@centennialbroncos.org

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit <http://wcdroboelp01.ed.gov/CEAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area or call 1-800-421-3481.

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

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.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Ken Booth
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Colin Bargaen
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Kris Elmshaeuser
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Tim DeWaard
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Colin Bargaen

Section 3 Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy

Elimination of Discrimination

The Centennial Public School 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: Centennial Public School 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 Centennial Public School will try to protect employees and students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the workplace and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, religion or age 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, religion, disability or national origin 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 workplace, classroom or educational environment. Sexual harassment may exist when:

- o 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;
- o 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;
- o 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.
- o 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 Centennial Public School. 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 circumstance 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 of the Complainant. 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, and shall be deemed to have accepted the proposed resolution unless the Complainant rejects the proposed resolution within such time period. In the event the complainant rejects the proposed resolution, the complainant shall be given the opportunity to file a request for reconsideration within the ten (10) days

from the date the Coordinator's division is sent to the Complainant. The request for reconsideration shall be filed with the Coordinator. The Coordinator shall consider any additional information provided in the request for reconsideration and make a decision on the request for reconsideration within 10 (ten) days after the request for reconsideration was filed.

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 Directory Information

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

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

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

Federal law requires school districts to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses, and telephone listings of high school students unless parents have notified the school district in writing that they do not want this information disclosed without prior written parental consent. Military recruiters will be granted the same access to a student in a high school grade as is provided to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

Parents who **OBJECT** to the disclosure of any directory information about their student should write a letter to the principal. This letter should specify the particular categories of directory information that the parents do not wish to have released about their child or the particular types of outside organizations to which they do not wish directory information to be released. This letter must be received by the school district no later than September 1, 2019.

Non-Directory Information

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

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 Board of Education respects the rights of parents and their children, and has adopted this policy in consultation with parents to comply with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA).

1. Surveys

- a. Surveys Created by a Third Party
 - i. This section applies to every survey:
 - 1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district staff member or student;
 - 2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified; and
 - 3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions
 - ii. Parents have the right to inspect any survey created by a third party before that survey is distributed to their student.
- b. Surveys Requesting Particular Sensitive Information
 - i. Sensitive information shall include:
 - 1) Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent(s);
 - 2) Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
 - 3) Sexual behavior or attitudes;
 - 4) Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;

- 5) Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have 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 student or student's parent(s); or
 - 8) Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program), without prior written consent of the parent or eligible student.
- ii. No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that requests sensitive information.
 - iii. If a survey requesting sensitive information is funded, in whole or in part, by a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education, the school district must obtain the written consent of a student's parent(s) before the student participates in the survey.
 - iv. School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey (created by any person or entity, including the district) containing any sensitive information.
 - v. Parents have the right to inspect any survey which requests sensitive information before that survey is distributed to their student.
- c. Survey Inspection Requests
 - i. School officials shall inform parents of their right to inspect surveys requesting sensitive information before the surveys are distributed to any student.
 - ii. All survey inspection requests must be in writing to the building principal and delivered to the building principal prior to the date on which the survey is scheduled to be administered to the students.
 - iii. The principal shall respond to survey inspection requests without delay.

2. Invasive Physical Examinations

- a. The term "invasive physical examination" means:
 - i. any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts; or
 - ii. any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body; and
 - iii. does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.
- b. Parents may refuse to allow their student to participate in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is:
 - i. required as a condition of attendance;
 - ii. administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
 - iii. not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.
- c. This policy does not apply to any physical examination or screening that:
 - i. is permitted or required by an applicable state law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification;
 - ii. is administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*)
 - iii. is otherwise authorized by Board policy.

3. Collection of Personal Information from Students for Marketing

- a. The term "personal information" means individually identifiable information including:

- i. student's and parent(s)' first and last name;
 - ii. home or other physical address;
 - iii. telephone number; and/or
 - iv. social security number.
- b. No school official or staff member shall administer or distribute to students a survey or other instrument for the purpose of collecting personal information for marketing or for selling that information.
- c. This policy does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for the exclusive purpose of providing educational services to students, such as the following:
 - i. post-secondary education recruitment;
 - ii. military recruitment;
 - iii. tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic or achievement information about students; and/or
 - iv. student recognition programs.

4. Inspection of Instructional Material

- a. Definition
 - i. The term "instructional materials" means instructional content that is provided to a student regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet).
 - ii. The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.
- b. Parents may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's education curriculum.
- c. Curriculum inspection requests must be made to the building principal in writing.
- d. Building principals shall respond to inspection requests within a reasonable amount of time.

5. Notification of Rights and Procedures

- a. The superintendent shall notify parents of:
 - i. this policy and its availability upon request from the office of the district;
 - ii. how to opt their child out of participation in activities as provided for in this policy;
 - iii. the approximate dates during the school year when a survey requesting personal information is scheduled or expected to be scheduled; and
 - iv. how to request access to any survey or other material described in this policy.
- b. This notification shall be given to parents as least annually, at the beginning of the school year and within a reasonable period after any substantive change in this policy.

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 be 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 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.

Appendix A – COBRA Notice

Notice of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights

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

You are receiving this notice because you have recently become covered under Centennial Public School 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. 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 and to other members of your family who are covered under the Plan when you would otherwise lose your group health coverage. 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. This notice gives only a summary of your COBRA continuation coverage rights. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should either review the Plan’s Summary Plan Description or get a copy of the Plan Document from the Plan Administrator.

The Plan Administrator is Mr. Tim DeWaard, Superintendent, 1301 Centennial Ave., Utica, NE 68456, (402) 534-2291. The Plan Administrator is responsible for administering COBRA continuation coverage.

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. COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a “qualified beneficiary.” A qualified beneficiary is someone who will lose coverage under the Plan because of a qualifying event. Depending on the type of qualifying event, employees, spouses of employees, and dependent children of employees may be qualified beneficiaries. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

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

1. Your hours of employment are reduced, or
2. 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 will lose your coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:
 3. Your spouse dies;
 4. Your spouse’s hours of employment are reduced;
 5. Your spouse’s employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
 6. Your spouse becomes enrolled in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both); or
 7. You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse. Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they will lose coverage under the Plan because any of the following qualifying events happens:
 8. The parent-employee dies;
 9. The parent-employee’s hours of employment are reduced;
 10. The parent-employee’s employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
 11. The parent-employee becomes enrolled in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both);
 12. The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
 13. The child stops being eligible for coverage under the plan as a “dependent child.” 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 the employer and that bankruptcy results in the loss of coverage of any retired employee covered under the Plan, the retired employee is a qualified beneficiary with respect to the bankruptcy. The retired employee’s spouse, surviving spouse, and dependent children will also be qualified beneficiaries if bankruptcy results in the loss of their coverage under the Plan.

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, commencement of a proceeding in bankruptcy with respect to the employer to the extent retiree health coverage is provided, or enrollment of the employee in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both), the employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the qualifying event within 30 days of any of these 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. The Plan requires you to notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must send this notice to the Plan Administrator. Any additional Plan procedures for this notice must also be 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. For each qualified beneficiary who elects COBRA continuation coverage, COBRA continuation coverage will begin on the date of the qualifying event.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage. When the qualifying event is the death of the employee, enrollment of the employee in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both), your divorce or legal separation, or a dependent child losing eligibility as a dependent child, COBRA continuation coverage lasts for up to 36 months.

When the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, COBRA continuation coverage lasts for up to 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 at any time during the first 60 days of COBRA continuation coverage and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family can receive up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a total maximum of 29 months. You must make sure that the Plan Administrator is notified of the Social Security Administration's determination within 60 days of the date of the determination and before the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage. This notice should be sent to the Plan Administrator. Any additional Plan procedures for this notice must also be provided.

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

If your family experiences another qualifying event while receiving COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, up to a maximum of 36 months. This extension is available to the spouse and dependent children if the former employee dies, enrolls in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both), or gets divorced or legally separated. The extension is also available to a dependent child when that child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. In all of these cases, you must make sure that the Plan Administrator is notified of the second qualifying event within 60 days of the second qualifying event. This notice must be sent to the Plan Administrator. Any additional Plan procedures for this notice must also be provided.

If You Have Questions

If you have questions about your COBRA continuation coverage, you should contact the Superintendent or Plan Administrator or you may contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA). Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's web site at 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.

**RECEIPT OF 2019-20 TEACHER HANDBOOK
OF CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL**

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the 2019-20 Teacher Handbook of Centennial Public School. 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.

Employee's Signature

Date

**ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTERS AND NETWORKS
ADMINISTRATORS, FACULTY AND STAFF AGREEMENT**

In order to make sure that all members of Centennial Public School's community understand and agree to these rules of conduct for use of the email and Internet systems of the school district, the Centennial School District asks that you, as an administrator, faculty member, or staff member user, sign the following statement:

I have received a copy of, and have read, the Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy adopted by the Centennial Public School, and I understand and will abide by those district guidelines and conditions for the use of the facilities of Centennial Public School and access to the Internet. I further understand that any violation of the district guidelines is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges will be revoked. School disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action will be taken.

I agree not to hold the Centennial Public School, any of its employees, or any institution providing network access to Centennial Public School responsible for the performance of the system or the content of any material accessed through it.

Employee's Name: _____

Employee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

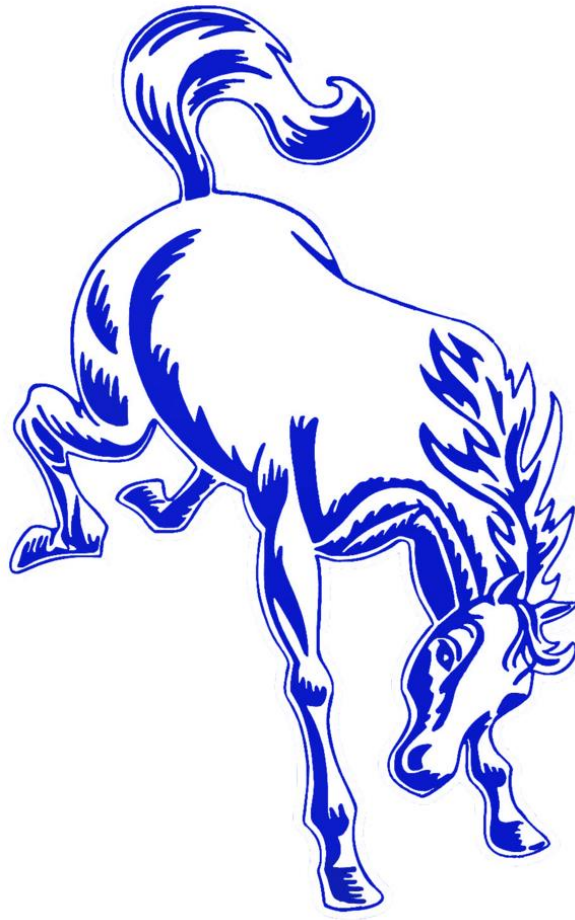
This form will be retained on file by authorized
faculty designee for duration of applicable
computer/network/Internet use.

Return to: Colin Barga
Secondary Principal

OR

Ken Booth
Elementary Principal

2019 - 2020



CENTENNIAL
JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL
Student/Parent Handbook

STUDENT - PARENT HANDBOOK CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL 2019-2020

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August 1, 2019


Centennial students and parents:

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year. I trust that you have had an enjoyable summer vacation and are looking forward to rejoining your friends for another school year. It is the desire of the Centennial family of teachers, staff members, and administrators to make this a rewarding and profitable year for our students.

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about Centennial Junior/Senior High School. 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 rule revisions at any time to ensure a productive, orderly, and safe learning environment. 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colin Borgen".

Colin Borgen
Secondary Principal
Centennial Public School

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Name	Position
Jason Richters	President
Mark Avery	Vice-President
Doug Tonniges	Secretary
Doug Cast	Treasurer
Jodi Cast	Member
Wayne Heine	Member

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Name	Position
Tim DeWaard	Superintendent
Colin Bargaen	Secondary Principal
Ken Booth	Elementary Principal
Kris Elmshaeuser	Special Education Director
Jenny Wagner	Activities Director

TEACHING STAFF

Name	Position
Bargaen, Jennifer	Mathematics
Barjenbruch, Craig	Business / Mathematics / Technology
Breitkruetz, Jessica	Technology Integrationist
Eitzmann, Barry	Mathematics
Fish, Bob	Guidance Counselor
Goesch, Katie	Mathematics / Media
Harris, Joshua	Instrumental Music
Heser, Kelly	Art / Journalism
Hirschfeld, Tricia	Interventionist
Johansen, Rob	Industrial Technology / Video Editing
Kadavy, Carrie	English Language Arts
Klanecky, Evan	PE / Physical Conditioning
Klanecky, Nikki	Special Education
Nitsch, Karly	Vocal Music
Ortmeier, Mark	Science / PE
Ostmeyer, Sarah	English Language Arts
Pankoke, Leah	Business / Technology
Payne, Phil	Social Studies
Petersen, Emily	Spanish
Podliska, Holly	Agriculture
Sams, Brian	Science
Saunders, Rachel	English Language Arts
Scholl, Cameron	Special Education
Smith, Abigail	Family Consumer Science
Tesar, Dan	Technology Coordinator
Vossler, Rebecca	Science
Wagner, Jenny	Activities Director / PE / Technology
Warren, Josh	Social Studies

SUPPORT STAFF

Name	Position
Shannon Henry	Behavioral Counselor
Marge Rhodes	Bookkeeper
Virgil Heine	Custodian Supervisor
Diana Kirkpatrick	Custodian
Kathy Heine	Custodian/Transportation
Nancy Mogee	Custodian
Pat Kirkpatrick	Custodian
Tim Tieken	Custodian
Lori Eichman	Food Service Supervisor
Dianne Bush	Food Service
Dixie Ottman	Food Service
Donna Walgren	Food Service
Hazel Keil	Food Service
Dana Yamber	Media/Paraeducator
Lindsey Tonniges	Nurse
Amy Frye	Paraeducator
Angela Butzke	Paraeducator
Beth Johnson	Paraeducator
Donna Diekmann	Paraeducator
Jo Steckly	Paraeducator
Kim Sheehan	Paraeducator
Kip Givens	Paraeducator/Transportation
Nancy Richters	Paraeducator/Transportation
Patty Welch	Paraeducator
TBA	Paraeducator
TBA	Paraeducator
TBA	Paraeducator
Vickie Prochaska	Paraeducator
Wendy Stuhr	Paraeducator
Kara Fehlhafer	Secretary
PJ Jackson	Secretary
Susan Dickey	Secretary
Teri Fickel	Secretary
Pam Vandelloo	Study Hall Supervisor
Mike Wright	Transportation Supervisor
Barb Erks	Transportation
Bill Mogee	Transportation
Brenda Gierhan	Transportation
Nicole Dumpert	Transportation
Ron Erks	Transportation
Roy Richters, Jr.	Transportation

CENTENNIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

AUGUST 2019 - JULY 2020

Aug 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	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

Sep 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30					

Oct 2019						
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27	28	29	30	31		

Nov 2019						
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Dec 2019						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Jan 2020						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- August**
- 12 *TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 13 *TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 14 *FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - 1:30 P.M. DISMISSAL*

- September**
- 2 *LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL*
 - 25 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 27 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*

- October**
- 2 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 17 *END 1ST QTR - 46 DAYS*
 - 18 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 21 *NO SCHOOL - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 22 *START 2ND QTR*

- November**
- 15 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 27 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 28 *THANKSGIVING DAY - NO SCHOOL*
 - 29 *NO SCHOOL*

- December**
- 20 *END 2ND QTR - 41 DAYS; 1ST SEMESTER 87 DAYS; EARLY DISMISSAL 1:30 P.M.*
 - 25 *CHRISTMAS*

- January**
- 1 *NEW YEAR'S DAY*
 - 6 *NO SCHOOL - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 7 *START 3RD QTR*

- February**
- 12 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 13 *P-T CONF. 4:00 - 8:30 P.M.; DISMISS AT 1:30 P.M.*
 - 14 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 28 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*

- March**
- 11 *END 3RD QTR - 46 DAYS*
 - 12 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 13 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 16 *NO SCHOOL - TEACHER INSERVICE*
 - 17 *START 4TH QTR*

- April**
- 10 *GOOD FRIDAY - NO SCHOOL*
 - 12 *EASTER*
 - 13 *NO SCHOOL*
 - 24 *2 HOUR LATE START - TEACHER INSERVICE*

- May**
- 16 *GRADUATION*
 - 20 *LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - 45 DAYS; 2ND SEMESTER 91 DAYS; DISMISS AT NOON*

Feb 2020						
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Mar 2020						
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29	30	31				

Apr 2020						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2020						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Jun 2020						
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Jul 2020						
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ARTICLE 1 – MISSION & GOALS

MISSION STATEMENT

The people of this district are committed to educational excellence in a positive, creative and caring environment, preparing each student to be a responsible, productive citizen in our ever-changing global community.

GOVERNING VALUES

We believe...

- every student can learn.
- in the dignity of each student.
- in the individual growth of each student.
- every student can be an adaptable life-long learner.
- every student can be a responsible, productive citizen.
- the development of self-esteem leads to greater learning.
- in providing curriculum and strategies to meet the needs of all students.
- in the shared responsibility and commitment of the family and school-community to educational excellence.

MUTUAL RESPECT

The Centennial Public School 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 the student will not be tolerated.

RIGHTS OF CUSTODIAL & NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

COMPLAINT PROCESS

1. The first step is for the complainant to speak directly to the person(s) with whom the complainant has a concern. For example, a parent who is unhappy with a classroom teacher should initially discuss the matter with the teacher. However, the complainant should skip the first step if

- complainant believes speaking directly to the person would subject complainant to discrimination or harassment.
2. The second step is for the complainant to speak to the building principal, Title IX/504 coordinator, superintendent of schools, or president of the board of education, as set forth below.
 - a) Complaints about the operation, decisions, or personnel within a building should be submitted to the principal of the building.
 - b) Complaints about the operations of the school district or a building principal should be submitted in writing to the superintendent of schools.
 - c) Complaints about the superintendent of schools should be submitted in writing to the president of the board of education.
 - d) Complaints involving discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age may also be submitted, at any time during the complaint procedure to the School District's Title IX/504 coordinator. Complaints involving discrimination or harassment may also be submitted at any time to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: by email at OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov; by telephone at (816) 268-0550; or by fax at (816) 268-0599.
 3. When a complainant submits a complaint to an administrator or to the Title IX/504 coordinator, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
 - a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the staff member involved.
 - 1) If the complainant has not, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with that staff member, if appropriate.
 - 2) If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the staff member, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 - b) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 - c) Interview the complainant to determine:
 - 1) All relevant details of the complaint;
 - 2) All witnesses and documents which the complainant believes support the complaint;
 - 3) The action or solution which the complainant seeks.
 - d) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator received the complaint.
 4. If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the administrator's or the Title IX/504 coordinator's decision regarding a complaint, he or she may appeal the decision to the superintendent.
 - a) This appeal must be in writing.
 - b) This appeal must be received by the superintendent no later than ten (10) business days from the date the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) The superintendent will investigate as he or she deems appropriate. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.

- d) Upon completion of this investigation, the superintendent will inform the complainant in writing of his or her decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the superintendent shall submit the decision within 180 days after the superintendent received complainant's written appeal.
5. If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the superintendent's decision regarding a complaint, he or she may appeal the decision to the board.
- a) This appeal must be in writing.
 - b) This appeal must be received by the board president no later than ten (10) business days from the date the superintendent communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) This policy allows, but does not require the board to receive statements from interested parties and witnesses relevant to the complaint appeal. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - d) The board will notify the complainant in writing of its decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the board shall submit its decision within 180 days after it received complainant's written appeal.
 - e) There is no appeal from a decision of the board.
6. When a formal complaint about the superintendent of schools has been filed with the president of the board, the president shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
- a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the superintendent.
 - 1) If the complainant has not, the board president will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with the superintendent, if appropriate.
 - 2) If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the superintendent, the board president shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 - b) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 - c) Determine, in his or her sole discretion, whether to place the matter on the board agenda for consideration at a regular or special meeting.
 - d) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the president received the complaint.

No Retaliation

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

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

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

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

Complaints about the educational services provided a student with a disability pursuant to a Section 504 plan must be submitted to the school district's 504 Coordinator. The 504 Coordinator will address the complaint in a manner that he/she deems appropriate and will provide the complainant with a copy of the Notice of Section 504 Parental Rights adopted by the board of education.

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

Bad Faith or Serial Filings

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

CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

School employees will report suspected abuse or neglect of a child as required by state law and school policy. Nebraska law defines abuse or neglect as knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child or an incompetent or disabled person to be (1) placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health; (2) cruelly confined or cruelly punished; (3) deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter or care; (4) left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such child is six years of age or younger; or (5) sexually abused.

ARTICLE 2 – SCHOOL DAY

DAILY SCHEDULE

Enter School Building.....	8:00
Class Warning Tone.....	8:05
Period 1	8:10 - - - 8:56
Period 2	8:59 - - - 9:45
Bronco Period	9:48 - - - 10:06
Period 3	10:09 - - - 10:55
Period 4	10:58 - - - 11:44
Junior High Lunch	11:44 - - - 12:14
Period 5 (Junior High)	12:17 - - - 1:03
Period 5 (High School)	11:47 - - - 12:33
Senior High Lunch	12:33 - - - 1:03
Period 6	1:06 - - - 1:52
Period 7	1:55 - - - 2:41
Period 8	2:44 - - - 3:30

1:30 DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

Enter School Building.....	8:00
Class Warning Tone.....	8:05
Period 1	8:10 - - - 8:42
Period 2	8:45 - - - 9:17
Period 3	9:20 - - - 9:52
Period 4	9:55 - - - 10:27
Period 6	10:30 - - - 11:02
Period 7	11:05 - - - 11:37
Junior High Lunch.....	11:37 - - - 12:07
Period 5 (Junior High)	12:10 - - - 12:50
Period 5 (High School)	11:40 - - - 12:20
Senior High Lunch	12:20 - - - 12:50
Period 8	12:53 - - - 1:30

2 HOUR LATE START SCHEDULE

Enter School Building.....	10:05
Class Warning Tone.....	10:11
Period 1	10:16 - - - 10:55
Period 2	10:58 - - - 11:37
Junior High Lunch.....	11:37 - - - 12:07
Period 5 (Junior High)	12:10 - - - 12:45
Period 5 (High School)	11:40 - - - 12:15
Senior High Lunch	12:15 - - - 12:45
Period 3	12:48 - - - 1:18
Period 4	1:21 - - - 1:51
Period 6	1:54 - - - 2:24
Period 7	2:27 - - - 2:57
Period 8	3:00 - - - 3:30

SEVERE WEATHER AND SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Advance notice of school closings will be announced by the following radio and TV stations:

KZKX in Lincoln – 96.9 FM

KLKN TV in Lincoln

KAWL in York – 104.9 FM, 1370 AM

KFAB in Omaha – 1110 AM

KOLN TV in Lincoln

KZEN in Central City – 100.3

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 and **parents should have a plan in place to accommodate these circumstances.**

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. Every effort will be made to provide accurate and timely information through the media.

Emergency Conditions: Centennial Public School 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.

Tornado Drills: Students are to move quietly and promptly to the location noted by the teacher. Follow all directions that are given.

Fire Drills: Sec. 81-52 of Nebraska School Law requires fire drills to be held once a month. When the alarm sounds, all people (employees included) will file out in a quiet and orderly fashion through the prescribed exit to a predetermined location.

ABSOLUTELY NO RUNNING. The proper exit location from all rooms will be shared by each teacher. When the “return to building” announcement is given, students are requested to return quietly to their respective rooms.

ENTERING & LEAVING THE BUILDING

Beginning of School

Students should not be on school grounds earlier than necessary. **Prior to 8:00 a.m., the school is not responsible for supervision of the students.** The first bell will ring at 8:00 a.m. Students are to stay in the commons area or cafeteria and are not to go to any other part of the building without permission until the first bell.

During the School Day

Students are to remain on campus unless excused in accordance with school policies.

End of School

Our regular school day ends at 3:30 p.m. It is important that students who are involved in after school activities report to the designated area on time. All other students must clear the building as soon as possible. **The school is not responsible for supervision of students once the students are to have left school grounds.**

ARTICLE 3 – USE OF BUILDING & GROUNDS

VISITORS

Upon entering the main entrance, all visitors must report to the superintendent’s office to sign-in and receive a visitor’s pass. For the safety of our students and staff, visitors who check into our building will need to have a staff member escort them throughout the building to their destination. If dropping off supplies for your child, you will be asked to leave these supplies in the superintendent’s office, and the supplies will be delivered to your child by a staff member. When exiting the building, you will also need to be escorted by a staff member.

Parents are welcome at all times, as long as your visit is not disruptive to the learning environment. Please sign-in/out at the superintendent’s office upon entering/exiting the school. Visitations during the first week of school and the last week of school will require extraordinary reasons or permission from administration. Please notify the child’s teacher IN ADVANCE OF YOUR VISIT to avoid scheduling conflicts. Visits for two hours or less in duration are allowable.

Centennial declares all of our school buildings to be smoke-free. We would appreciate your help in meeting the goal of smoke and tobacco-free buildings for our children. When you attend school events, including athletic events, please remember that our buildings are smoke and tobacco-free, and abide by our District's policy.

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:

1. **Broken covers** – replacement cost of the textbook
2. **Obscenities (words or pictures) written** – replacement cost of the textbook
3. **Torn pages** – tape if possible; if not possible, \$2.00 per page to cost of the textbook
4. **Torn or damaged cover** - \$5.00
5. **Ink marks (if not erasable)** - \$2.00 per page to cost of the textbook
6. **Water damage** - \$5.00 for minor damage; replacement cost of the textbook for major damage
7. **Defacing cover, edges, etc.** - \$10.00
8. **Lost** – replacement cost of the textbook
9. **Broken binding** - \$10.00
10. **Missing pages** – replacement cost of the textbook

School-issued items that are stolen or damaged from unlocked lockers are the responsibility of the student to whom they were issued. Students must pay all fines before they can receive school publications and final grades.

LOCKERS

Each student will be assigned a locker. Each locker will be provided with a built-in lock for security. 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 is locked and remains locked at all times. Students are expected to keep all books, etc., in their assigned locker. **Students are not allowed to take their book bags into classrooms; thus, having a well-organized locker will be essential to getting to class on time with all required materials.** 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.

SEARCHES OF LOCKERS & 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. Additionally, the board of education has authorized the use of sniffer dogs to assist in the process of keeping school grounds free of illegal items such as illegal drugs, over the counter drugs, alcohol, guns, ammunition, etc. The protocol for the use of sniffer dogs is addressed more specifically in the Centennial School Board Policy Manual.

The following rules shall 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 must 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 shall 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.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE & PHOTOGRAPHS

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

Unless otherwise authorized by board policy or law, students are prohibited from making audio or video recordings during the school day on school grounds; when being transported to and from school activities or programs in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, unless the recording is made in a manner permitted by the school for members of the public. In such an instance, the students remain subject to the district's appropriate use and student discipline policies. For example, students are not prohibited from making recordings of an athletic event for their personal use similar to a parent or other patron are permitted, subject to other applicable board policy. However, this policy generally prohibits students from using smart-speakers or other devices which actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings, including Google Home, Amazon Alexa, Apple HomePod, and AngelSense devices.

An exception will be made to this policy if photographs or video recordings are necessary to accommodate a student's disability or are required by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

In no event shall photographs or video recordings be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

USE OF TELEPHONE

Incoming Calls: The office will attempt to cooperate with parents or guardians in order to deliver messages to students during school hours. Messages will be written and delivered to students. Only in cases of extreme urgency will students be called out of class. Calls for students during school hours are disturbing to normal school routine and should be held to a minimum and for emergency purposes only.

Out-Going Calls: The school telephone is primarily for school business and shall not be used for personal calls. Students finding it necessary to make calls are to come to the office to gain permission to either use the school's phone or gain permission to use their cell phone while in the office. In an emergency, an office phone may be used with permission from office personnel.

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.

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.

LOST & 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.

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/Athletic Director.

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.

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.

BULLETINS & 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. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within a week after the event.

COPYRIGHT & FAIR USE POLICY

The school district complies with federal copyright laws. Students must comply with copyright laws when using school equipment or working on school projects and assignments. Federal law prohibits the unauthorized reproduction of works of authorship, regardless of the medium in which they were created.

The "fair use" doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. "Fair use" of a copyrighted work includes reproduction for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research. Students who are unsure whether their proposed reproduction of copyrighted material constitutes "fair use" should consult with their teacher or building principal, review the school district's copyright compliance policy,

and review *Copyright for Students* found at <https://www.whoishostingthis.com/resources/student-copyright/>. You can find more information on copyright compliance requirements and permitted uses from the U.S. Copyright Office and the Library of Congress at the following site: <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/copyright.html>.

ARTICLE 4 – ATTENDANCE

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 students and parents are responsible for developing behaviors which will result in regular and punctual student attendance.

ATTENDANCE & ABSENCES

Absences From School - Definitions

An absence from school will be reported as: (a) an excused absence or (b) an unexcused absence.

1. **Excused Absences.** Absences should be cleared through the Principal's office in advance whenever possible. An absence or tardy, even by parental approval, may not be excused. All absences, except for illness and/or death in the family, require advance approval. An absence for any of the following reasons will be excused, provided the required procedures have been followed:
 - (A) Attendance at a funeral for a member of the immediate family (parents, siblings, and grandparents),
 - (B) Illness which causes a student to be absent from school (**if a doctor's note is brought with the student upon his/her return to school OR if the school nurse sent the student home**),
 - (C) Doctor or dental appointment which require student to be absent from school, (**with note from doctor or dentist to verify excuse**)
 - (D) Court appearances that are required by a court order and the **student is not responsible for needing to be in court**,
 - (E) School sponsored activities which require students to be absent from school,
 - (F) Family trips in which student accompanies parent(s)/legal guardian(s),
 - (G) Other absences which have received prior approval from the Principal.

The Principal has the discretion to deny approval for the latter two reasons, depending on circumstances such as the student's number of other absences, the student's academic status, the tests or other projects which may be missed, and in the case of a family trip, whether the trip could be taken during non-school time and the educational nature of the trip.

2. **Unexcused Absences:** An absence which is not excused is unexcused. If a student's absence is unexcused, the student may receive zeros for any class work missed during the absence and may be required to make-up work and the time missed.

A student who engages in unexcused absences may be considered truant as per state law, Neb.Rev.Stat. § 79-201. Truancy is a violation of school rules. The consequence of such action may include suspension from classes, and the student may be required to make up the time missed. Students who leave the school premises without permission during the school day will be considered truant.

3. Mandatory Ages of Attendance. A child is of mandatory age if the child will reach age 6 prior to January 1 of the then-current school year and has not reached 18 years of age.

Exceptions for Younger Students. Attendance is not mandatory for a child who has reached the age of 6 years of age prior to January 1 of the then-current school year, but will not reach age 7 prior to January 1 of such school year, if the child's parent or guardian has signed and filed with the school district in which the child resides an affidavit stating either: (1) that the child is participating in an education program that the parent or guardian believes will prepare the child to enter grade one for the following school year; or (2) that the parent or guardian intends for the child to participate in a school which has elected or will elect pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements and the parent or guardian intends to provide the Commissioner of Education with a statement pursuant to section 79-1601(3) on or before the child's seventh birthday.

Exceptions for Older Students. Attendance is also not mandatory for a child who: (1) has obtained a high school diploma by meeting statutory graduation requirements; (2) has completed the program of instruction offered by a school which elects pursuant to law not to meet accreditation or approval requirements; or (3) has reached the age of 16 years and has been withdrawn from school in the manner prescribed by law.

Early Withdrawal for Students Enrolled in Accredited or Approved Schools. A person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least 16 but less than 18 years of age may withdraw such child from school before graduation and be exempt from the mandatory attendance requirements if an exit interview is conducted and a withdrawal form is signed.

Exit Interview. The process is initiated by a person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child submitting a withdrawal form. The form is to be as prescribed by the Commissioner of Education. Upon submission of the form, the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall set a time and place for an exit interview if the child is enrolled in Centennial Public School or resides in Centennial Public School District and is enrolled in a private, denominational, or parochial school.

The exit interview shall be personally attended by:

- The child, unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable;
- the person who has legal or actual charge or control of the child who requested the exit interview;
- the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee;
- the child's principal or the principal's designee if the child at the time of the exit interview is enrolled in a school operated by the school district; and
- any other person requested by any of the required parties who agrees to attend the exit interview and is available at the time designated for the exit interview which may include, for example, other school personnel or the child's principal if the child is enrolled in a private school.

At the exit interview, the person making the written request must present evidence that (a) the person has legal or actual charge or control of the child and (b) the child would be withdrawing due to either:

- financial hardships requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the child, or
- an illness of the child making attendance impossible or impracticable.

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall identify all known alternative educational opportunities, including vocational courses of study, that are available to the child in the school district and how withdrawing from school is likely to reduce potential future earnings for the child and increase the likelihood of the child being unemployed in the future. Any other relevant information may be presented and discussed by any of the parties in attendance.

At the conclusion of the exit interview, the person making the written request may sign a withdrawal form provided by the school district agreeing to the withdrawal of the child OR may rescind the written request for the withdrawal.

Withdrawal Form. Any withdrawal form signed by the person making the written request shall be valid only if:

- the child also signs the form, unless the withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable, and
- the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee signs the form acknowledging that the interview was held, the required information was provided and discussed at the interview, and, in the opinion of the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, the person making the written request does in fact have legal or actual charge or control of the child and the child is experiencing either (i) financial hardship, or (ii) an illness making attendance impossible or impracticable.

Early Withdrawal for Students Enrolled in an Exempt School (Home Schools). A person who has legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least 16 but less than 18 years of age may withdraw such child from school before graduation and be exempt from the mandatory attendance requirements if such child has been enrolled in a school that elects not to meet the accreditation or approval requirements by filing with the State Department of Education a signed notarized release on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Education.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

A student will not be allowed to enter class after an absence until an admit slip, based upon a written parental excuse, is issued by the Principal's office. Work must be made up within the time allowed on the admit slip. **Students missing classes for school activities must submit a completed activities dismissal form to the sponsor before being allowed to leave for the activity.**

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 make up work. If requested, assignment sheets will be prepared for students who are ill. If parents and/or students request assignment sheets, the school should be contacted by no later than 9:30 a.m.

For unexcused absences, the student will receive a failing mark for or in each class period missed.

MAKE-UP WORK

Written make-up work may be assigned for each day missed, regardless of the type of absence. **If make-up work is not completed by the due date, students will be required to attend "9th Hour" to complete their work and will receive no credit for the work until it is completed.** The time each student is allowed will be determined by mutual agreement between the student and teacher. The student has the responsibility to contact teachers, initially, regarding make-up assignments. Assignment sheets will be sent only for extended absences such as chicken pox, hospitalization, or other prolonged illnesses. No assignment sheets will be sent out until after at least three (3) days of absence. If the parents or students have concerns prior to the three (3) days, they are encouraged to contact the teacher.

ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN OR ATTEND ACTIVITIES

Students must attend school all day the day of any scheduled school activity in order to participate in or attend the activity. This includes sports contests, practices, and dances. Failure to attend on that day will result in a student being withheld from participation in or attendance at the activity. The principal retains the right to grant participation should exceptional circumstances prevail.

TRUANCY

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 6 to 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, of his or her personal knowledge, or by 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. Such services shall include, as appropriate, the services listed under the "Excessive Absenteeism" policy.

Excessive Absenteeism

Students who accumulate five (5) absences in a quarter and/or twenty (20) absences in a school year shall be deemed to have "excessive absences." Such absences shall be determined on a per day basis or a per class basis for secondary students. When a student has excessive absences, the following procedures may be implemented:

1. Referral to the Seward County Truancy Prevention Office.
2. One or more meetings may be held between a school attendance officer, school social worker, the school principal or a member of the school administrative staff as designated by the school administration, the parent/guardian, and the student to develop a collaborative plan to improve regular attendance. If the parent/guardian refuses to participate in such meeting, the principal shall place in the student's attendance records documentation of such refusal.
3. 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.
4. Referral to the Student Assistance Team and/or an educational evaluation, which may include a psychological evaluation, to assist in determining the specific condition, if any, contributing to the excessive absenteeism problem, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed.
5. Investigation of the excessive absenteeism problem by the Seward County Truancy Prevention Office to identify conditions which may be contributing to the excessive

absenteeism 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 excessive absenteeism problem.

Reporting Excessive Absenteeism to the County Attorney

- A. **Twenty Excused Absences:** If a student accumulates more than twenty (20) absences per year and all of the absences are due to documented illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable or are otherwise excused by school authorities, the attendance officer may report such information to the county attorney of the county in which the person having control of the student resides.
- B. **Twenty Unexcused Absences:** If a student accumulates more than twenty (20) absences per year, and any of the absences are not excused, the attendance officer shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the person having control of the student resides. The report shall be made on a form which includes the following two statements, one of which must be designated by the school representative signing the report: (a) The school representative requests additional time to work with the student prior to intervention by the county attorney; and (b) the school representative believes that the school has used all reasonable efforts to resolve the student's excessive absenteeism without success and recommends county attorney intervention. If further action is necessary to address the child's attendance, the initial meeting between the parent or guardian of the child, the school, and the county attorney or his or her designee shall be at a location determined by the school.
- C. **Other:** A report to the county attorney may also be made when a student otherwise accrues excessive absences as herein defined.

Reporting Excessive Absenteeism to the Commissioner

- A. The Superintendent or designee shall report on a quarterly basis to the Commissioner of Education as directed by the Commissioner regarding the number of and reason for any long-term suspension, expulsion, or excessive absenteeism of a student; referral of a student to the office of the county attorney for excessive absenteeism; or contacting of law enforcement officials (other than law enforcement officials employed by or contracted with by the District as school resource officers) by the District relative to a student enrolled in the District.

Advisory Procedures.

- A. Advisory letters will be sent to parents or guardians when their child has accrued four (4) and seven (7) absences per class during the semester.
- B. After seven (7) absences, the parent/guardian/student will be notified of potential loss of credits or retention by the principal.

Student's Rights to Due Process

The following procedure will be followed to ensure due process.

A. THE FACULTY COMMITTEE ON ABSENTEEISM

1. Parents/Guardians/Students who wish to appeal the potential loss of credit or retention must make this request within seven (7) days of notification. Requests for appeal must be made in writing on

forms supplied by the principal.

2. The Faculty Committee on Absenteeism shall review all absences/tardies and exceptions to the limitation on absences. Chronic and/or extended illness and/or other unusual circumstances will be considered.
3. A determination will be made individually on each case.
4. The Faculty Committee on Absenteeism shall not exercise the right to take credits from a student.
5. The Faculty Committee on Absenteeism shall make its recommendation in writing to the principal.

B. THE PRINCIPAL, PARENT/GUARDIAN, AND STUDENT

1. The principal will render a decision within three (3) days after receiving the committee's recommendation and notify the student/parent/guardian.
2. The request for a hearing may be filed by the student or the student's parents/guardians and presented within seven (7) days following the notification of pending loss of credit.

C. THE SUPERINTENDENT

1. Upon rendering a decision, the principal will forward the decision to the superintendent. If the student is to be denied credit, the superintendent will either support the denial or grant an extension of absences. If the superintendent supports the principal's decision, he/she will notify the student/parent/guardian. The affected party may then request a hearing before the Board of Education. This request must be made within seven (7) days after receiving notification.

D. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. The Board of Education shall serve as the appeal body and may grant or deny an extension of absences after hearing the case.
2. The administration and Board of Education reserve the right to ask for a medical opinion in cases of prolonged or chronic illness.

Attendance Hearings

All attendance hearings will be scheduled for the last two weeks of the semester.

TARDINESS

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 will be considered tardy to class if they are not in their classroom when the tardy bell rings, unless they have a pass from the teacher who detained them. Specific tardy guidelines once students are in the classroom doorway are at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Students have a sufficient time period between all class changes to make it to their next assigned class on time.

Excessive Tardiness: Students are allowed 3 tardies per academic quarter without consequence. Upon the 4th tardy and each additional tardy, the student will be issued a detention. See **Detention Policy in Article 8** for additional information regarding detentions.

LEAVING SCHOOL

Students who must 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 without permission will be considered truant.

Check-Out Procedures

The procedure for checking out at the end of the school year is as follows:

1. Obtain a check-out form from first period instructor.
2. Return all school books, library books, school-owned material, and pay all bills and fines.
3. Teachers, coaches, sponsors, counselor, and librarian must sign each check-out form for clearance.
4. Check-out forms will be checked and collected before year-end dismissal.

Withdrawal Procedures

The procedure for withdrawal is as follows:

1. Authorization for withdrawal must be made in writing or in person by the parent or guardian.
2. Obtain appropriate forms from the principal's office.
3. Return all books and school owned equipment, and pay all fines and bills.
4. Take completed forms to the principal's office for final clearance.

ARTICLE 5 – SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

GRADING SYSTEM

Centennial will use the letter grading system as follows:

A	93 - 100	Excellent
B	86 - 92	Above Average
C	78 - 85	Average
D	70 - 77	Below Average
F	Below 70	Failing
I		Incomplete, failure unless removed

Each teacher should define for students the grading procedures to be used in their classes.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Centennial Board of Education believes the many benefits of a high school education cannot be fully realized in less than four years. Further, it views the entire senior year as an important period during which the student should be able to enjoy many experiences providing academic growth and enrichment, exploration of new areas, and social growth and maturity.

All students (grades 9-12) are required to register for and complete a minimum of 60 hours of credit each year. Exception: (Students enrolled in vocal music may register for 56 hours of credit.) All seniors are required to successfully complete a minimum of 45 hours of credit in their fourth year of high school.

<u>Required Credit Hours</u>		<u>Credits</u>
ENGLISH - 40 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 9	English 9	10
Grade 10	English 10	10
Grade 11	English 11, Advanced English	10
Grade 12	<u>Choices</u> : English 12, Advanced English, Applied English 12	10
MATHEMATICS - 30 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 9	Algebra A, Algebra I, Algebra II	10
Grade 10	Algebra B, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Applied Math	10
Grade 11-12	<u>Choices</u> : Algebra II, Geometry, Applied Math, Consumer Math, Trig/Pre-Calculus, College Prep Math, College Algebra, Calculus	10
SCIENCE - 30 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 9	Physical Science	10
Grade 10	General Biology	10
Grade 11	Chemistry I/II, Standards Science, Anatomy	10
Grade 12	<u>Choices</u> : Physics, Anatomy, Chemistry I/II, Advanced Biology	10
SOCIAL STUDIES - 30 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 9	World History	10
Grade 10	American History	10
Grade 11- 12	Government	10
BUSINESS - 10 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 11 - 12	Economics	10
PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 10 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 9	P.E/Health	10
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY - 10 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 9	Information Technology I	5
SPEECH - 5 CREDIT HOURS		
Grade 10, 11, or 12	Speech	5
ALL OF THE ABOVE CLASSES MERIT FIVE (5) CREDIT HOURS PER SEMESTER		
TOTAL REQUIRED CREDIT HOURS -		160
TOTAL ELECTIVE CREDIT HOURS -		+80
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS FOR GRADUATION -		240

COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT - 60 HOURS (15 hours/school year)

Community Service Hours **MUST BE PRE-APPROVED** by the principal or guidance counselor.

In an effort to help students keep pace over their 4 years of high school, students will not be able to participate in the Homecoming dance, Prom, or Class Competition Day Out-of-School if they have not met the following:

- Freshman (must have 5 hours completed & turned in by Prom/Day Out of School)
- Sophomores (must have 15 hours completed & turned in by Homecoming and 20 hours completed & turned in by Prom/Day Out of School)
- Juniors (must have 30 hours completed & turned in by Homecoming and 35 hours completed & turned in by Prom/Day Out of School)
- Seniors (must have 45 hours completed & turned in by Homecoming and 50 hours completed & turned in by Prom/Day Out of School)

DRIVER EDUCATION

Students successfully completing driver education at Centennial will receive three (3) credit hours. Driver education grades do not count toward student grade point averages.

COLLEGE AND DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Centennial offers a variety of options for students wanting to earn Centennial and college credit simultaneously (dual credit) and/or college credit while in high school. Students and/or parents should talk to the guidance counselor to inquire about options available to Centennial students. Grades and credits for the aforementioned college and dual credit courses will be handled as follows:

Dual Credit Classes Taught by a Centennial Teacher or Through a Centennial Cooperative (EX - Calculus, Advanced Algebra, Agronomy Academy):

Students will be graded on the Centennial Grading System listed earlier in this section and the semester 1 and semester 2 grades will be factored into the student's Grade Point Average (GPA). The credit hours earned in dual credit courses counts towards the 240 hours needed to graduate from Centennial.

Dual Credit Classes Taught by a Non-Centennial Teacher (EX - Any SENCAP {Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Partnership} courses):

Students will be graded on whatever grading system is shared by the teacher at the beginning of the course and will be on the student's transcript as either PASS or FAIL for semester 1 and semester 2. Pass/Fail courses are not factored into the student's GPA. Despite the GPA not being affected, the credit hours earned count towards the 240 hours needed to graduate from Centennial.

College Courses (EX - Any college classes that students work on independently while in high school):

Students will be graded on the respective grading system that the college and/or professor shares at the beginning of the course. College coursework is not listed on a student's Centennial transcript. It will be the student's responsibility to get transcripts for their college coursework to the post-secondary school that they attend after graduation from Centennial. College coursework does not count towards the 240 hours needed to graduate from Centennial.

CLASS COMPETITION

Centennial High School classes will be involved in some friendly competition throughout the school year. Grades 9-12 will be judged on the following:

1. Highest quarterly grade point average
2. Quarterly attendance
3. Quarterly tardies
4. Parent/guardian attendance at parent/teacher conference
5. Bronco Week Activities
6. Other activities deemed necessary by principal.

Scoring

- 1st place . . . 20 points
- 2nd place . . . 15 points
- 3rd place . . . 10 points
- 4th place . . . 5 points

As a reward for winning the class competition, the winning class will be excused from school for one day. **In the situation that there is a tie between two classes, Bronco PRIDE Stomps will be used to break the tie.**

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Students needing schedule changes should notify the Principal and/or counselor. 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.

COMMENCEMENT

No student shall receive a diploma for graduation unless he/she has previously met the requirements for graduation prior to the graduation ceremony. Students who have not met the requirements for graduation at the time of commencement may not participate in the ceremony unless the principal rules otherwise. Commencement is considered an extra-curricular activity and students that are in violation of the Centennial Extra-Curricular Activity Code of Conduct may not be allowed to participate.

As seniors near graduation, all are reminded that participation in the Commencement Exercise is dependent upon successfully meeting all academic and non-academic requirements in a timely manner. Centennial does not award certificates of attendance to non-graduates. School officials will not accept excuses, i.e. "I sent my senior announcements to my family and friends," for granting participation in this exercise. It is the student's responsibility to check on grade status and related issues prior to sending out announcements.

PROMOTION/RETENTION

Students in grades 7 & 8 need to average a 70% in their four core classes (English, Math, Science, & Social Studies) in order to advance to the next grade level. Students who do not meet the 70% guideline will be considered on a case by case basis, and a meeting with the parties involved will be scheduled to discuss promotion/retention and the possibility of attending summer school. If possible, this will include the student, parents/guardians, teachers, guidance counselor, and principal. Areas given

consideration will be grades, test scores, and maturity. Parent cooperation is desired but if a unanimous decision cannot be reached, the final decision will be made by the secondary principal.

Students in grades 10-11-12 will maintain grade classification by the total number of hours earned; 60 hours for Sophomores, 120 hours for Juniors, and 180 hours for Seniors. A student must earn the necessary hours for graduation set by the Centennial Public School Board of Education. Requirements are 160 hours of required subjects and 80 hours of elective subjects for a total of 240 hours.

MANDATORY LUNCH STUDY HALL

The office will run a "Downlist" every Monday (or first day of the week that school is in session) at 9AM. Students who are failing two or more classes **OR who have been failing one class for 3 or more consecutive weeks** will be listed as "Down." Students on the downlist for the week will be required to attend a lunch study hall on Tuesday and Thursday during their lunch time. Junior high study hall will begin at 11:47AM, and high school study hall will begin at 12:36PM. Students who are late will be considered tardy. Students who attempt to skip will be dealt with as if they were attempting to skip a regularly scheduled class. Students may bring a sack lunch from home or may purchase a lunch from the school to eat while they are working on their studies. Lunch study hall will be supervised by teachers who will be able to assist students if needed. Students who are down should take advantage of this study time and do their best to raise their grades to a passing level.

9th PERIOD ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

Students may use 9th period (3:35-4:00PM) to complete late or missing work. Teachers will assign a 9th period to students that have missing work or do not meet deadlines for makeup work from excused or unexcused absences.

PROGRESS 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.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter (or nine-week sessions). Letter grades are used to designate a student's progress. Incompletes shall be designated by an "I".

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences will be held this year during the 1st quarter and 3rd quarter. Refer to the school calendar for the schedule. Conferences with teachers, at any other time, are possible by contacting the teacher directly or calling the school office and making arrangements with one or more teachers as needed.

HONOR ROLL

The purpose of the honor roll is to recognize those students who demonstrate academic excellence. Honor rolls will be determined for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters. Students will be recognized accordingly.

SCHOLARSHIP AND HONOR ROLL AWARDS

Students maintaining a 3.5 or a 3.0 average over a defined period of three (3) consecutive semesters during grades 10-12 of their high school career shall be awarded medals for scholarship at Honors Night. After students have accumulated their first three (3) consecutive semesters and have won their first award, the first two (2) semesters of these three (3) will be dropped from the records, and the

students must again accumulate another three (3) consecutive semester 3.5 or 3.0 average before winning a second award. This procedure will continue throughout their high school career and, if the stated average is maintained all four (4) years of high school, the student would be able to win a total of three (3) awards. Those students whose averages fall within the stated categories must be carrying 25 hours per semester. Assistantships are not considered a class.

A gold medal shall be awarded to those students who maintain a 3.5 or above average, and the medal shall read Honor Student/Scholarship.

A silver medal shall be awarded to those students who maintain a 3.0 to 3.5 average, and the medal shall read Honorable Mention/Scholarship.

Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth grade students who maintain a three (3) consecutive quarter average of 3.5 or 3.0 will be awarded certificates at Honors' Night. For those students with a 3.5 average or above, the certificates shall read Honor Student. For those students with a 3.0 to 3.5 average, the certificates shall read Honorable Mention.

The point system used to figure the averages will be as follows:

A = 4 points B = 3 points C = 2 points

Any student receiving a D or F will not be considered for Scholarship or Honor Roll awards.

An example of how this might work: A student carrying 25 hours and earning three (3) A's, one (1) B, and one (1) C would have a total of 17 points. This 17 divided by the five (5) classes he or she is carrying would give him or her a 3.4 average.

Honor roll and Honorable Mention for quarter and semester honor rolls will be awarded on the same grade point averages as the scholarship awards.

PRESIDENT'S EDUCATION AWARD

The President's Education Award program is designed to recognize those students at the exit grades of 8 and 12 in our school who have maintained a B (3.3) or above grade average and have scored at or above the 80th percentile on a standardized test during their junior high and high school careers.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The National Honor Society chapter of Centennial Public School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization.

Selection Guidelines

The faculty council will use the following guidelines in their consideration of candidates for membership in the National Honor Society:

1. Leadership – The student who exercises leadership:
 - Is resourceful in applying principles and making suggestions
 - Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
 - Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals
 - Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school
 - Is able to delegate responsibilities

- Exemplifies positive attitudes
 - Inspires positive behavior in others
 - Demonstrates academic initiative
 - Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility, conducts business effectively and efficiently, and without prodding, demonstrates reliability and dependability
 - Is a forerunner in the classroom, at work, and in school or community activities
 - Is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted
2. Service – The student who serves:
- Is willing to uphold scholarship and maintain a loyal school attitude
 - Participates in some outside activity: Scouts, church groups, volunteer services for the aged, poor, disadvantaged; family duties
 - Volunteers dependable and well-organized assistance, is gladly available, and is willing to sacrifice to offer assistance
 - Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities
 - Cheerfully and enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school
 - Is willing to represent the class or school in inter-class and interscholastic competition
 - Does committee work efficiently and without complaint
 - Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students
3. Character—The student of character:
- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
 - Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
 - Upholds principles of morality and ethics
 - Cooperates by complying with school regulations concerning property, programs, office, halls, etc.
 - Has powers of concentration and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to studies
 - Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work, and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others
 - Actively helps rid the school of bad influences or environment

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 contained in this handbook, 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 at 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.

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 to intentionally 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 material a 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 test answers, to copy 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.

ARTICLE 6 – SUPPORT SERVICES

SPECIAL EDUCATION IDENTIFICATION & PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

What Does Special Education Mean?

Special education means educational experiences, curriculum and services, including transportation, through the use of staff, facilities, equipment and classrooms which have been adapted to provide special instruction for students with disabilities. In addition, special education provides the support services necessary for evaluation, placement, and instruction for students with disabilities. These services are free to parents, unless they elect to place their child in a program other than one approved by the school district.

How are Students With Disabilities Identified?

The first step is for parents to provide written permission to have their child evaluated. The request for permission will include a description of the action to be taken and a description of each evaluation procedure. Written statements showing the results of the evaluation and the reasons for placement in a special education program must be kept on file. Within 30 days after a student has been verified as having a disability, a conference will be held with parents. Advance notice will be given. At the conference, an Individual Education Program (IEP) will be developed.

Students Who May Benefit

A student verified as having autism, behavior disorder, hearing impairment, mental handicap, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech language impairment,

traumatic brain injury, or visual handicap may be placed in regular education with support services or may benefit from a special education classroom or service.

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 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 shall obtain parental consent prior to conducting any reevaluation of a student with a disability.

Individual Education Program (IEP)

Each student with a disability must have a written IEP prepared by the staff in cooperation with parents specifying programs and services which will be provided by the schools. If necessary, the district will arrange for interpreters or other assistants to help parents in preparing and understanding the IEP. Once in place, the program is reviewed on a regular basis with the parent.

An IEP is developed in a conference setting. Parents will be notified of the persons who will be in attendance. The IEP conference shall include at least the following:

1. A representative of the school district;
2. An individual who can interpret the instructional implications of evaluation results;
3. One or both parents;
4. The child (when appropriate);
5. At least one regular education teacher if the child is or may be participating in the regular education environment;
6. At least one special education teacher;
7. A representative of the nonpublic school if the child is attending a nonpublic school;
8. A representative of a service agency if the child is receiving services from an approved service agency; and
9. Other individuals, at the discretion of the parent or school district.

It is permissible for parents to bring other persons to the IEP meeting, but it is a good idea to inform the school before the scheduled meeting. The school district will provide parents with 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). The school district must assure that students with disabilities are educated to the maximum extent possible with students who do not have disabilities. Students are entitled to have supplementary aids and services to help them in a regular educational setting. Students with disabilities may be placed in special classes, separate schools, or other situations outside the regular educational environment when the nature of the child's needs require specialized educational techniques which are not available in current settings. Determination of a student's educational placement will be made by a team of persons who knows the student and who understands the tests and procedures that assess the student's learning abilities. Team members know the available programs and services which might help the student. Parents are asked for written consent to determine whether they approve of the educational placement recommended for their child. If the parent does not

speak English or is hearing impaired, an interpreter may be requested. 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.

Alternative Programs

Parents have a right to know about available private and public programs, other than those offered by the schools. The school district staff will provide information about those programs on request. If parents place the student in one of those programs, however, the school district is not required to pay for the student's education.

Transportation of Students Receiving Special Education

The district special education staff will make arrangements for transportation for eligible students to the extent such is required by the student's IEP. Students assigned to special education programs requiring attendance at schools outside their regular attendance area will be transported. Special conditions may warrant that special education students receive transportation to their assigned schools. If parents are dissatisfied with a transportation decision, they may contact the superintendent for a review.

Access to Student Records

Parents have the right to inspect and review any education records relating to their child which are collected, maintained, or used by the school district in providing educational services.

Nonpublic School Students

Students in state-approved nonpublic schools may participate in special education programs in the same manner as public school students.

Parental Review of Programs

Parents who want to review their child's placement for any reason should request an IEP team meeting. If parents are not satisfied with the results of the conference, they may appeal to the Nebraska Department of Education for a formal hearing to be conducted by a state hearing officer. Parents dissatisfied by the findings and decisions made in a state level hearing have the right to bring civil action.

Plans and Budget

With the exception of personally identifiable student records, district special education plans and budgets are available for public inspection.

This is a summary of the Centennial Public School district plan for special education students. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the complete district policy or a copy of the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 51 (complaint procedures) or Rule 55 (appeal procedures) may contact the superintendent at the Centennial Public School Superintendent's Office.

GUIDANCE SERVICES

The Centennial Public School employs a guidance counselor 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 students wish to see a counselor, they are encouraged to stop by the counselor's office and make arrangements for an appointment.

HEALTH SERVICES

School Nurse

Centennial Public School employs a full-time school nurse. All students who become ill during the school day must visit the nurse's office. If she determines the illness warrants going home, she will initiate such proceedings.

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.

Parents are encouraged to include emergency daytime phone numbers on each child's enrollment card so parents can be reached if their child becomes ill or injured while at school. Parents should also inform the school health office staff of health related information they feel is important for their student's success in the classroom and/or safety at school.

Guidelines for Administering Medication

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

Prescription medication

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

Non-prescription medication

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

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

Self-Management of Diabetes or Asthma/Anaphylaxis

Subject to school policy, the school district will work with the parent or guardian in consultation with appropriate medical professionals to develop a medical management plan for a student with diabetes, asthma, or anaphylaxis. Parents desiring to develop such a plan should contact the school nurse.

Essential Oils

Use/application in school: No staff member, including the school nurse, will be allowed to administer or diffuse homeopathic remedies such as essential oils, creams, or lotions containing essential oils. Parents may administer these remedies to their own children, unless the scent from these remedies triggers adverse reaction to other students or staff in school.

Rationale:

1. Not FDA regulated;
2. Known to trigger asthma attacks in asthmatics;
3. Known to trigger allergic reactions in some;
4. Chemical sensitivities – headaches, nausea, dizziness, rashes, respiratory difficulty (including asthmatic episodes), and cognitive dysfunction. The more immune-compromised a person is, the more likely they are to have these sensitivities;
5. Seizures – those who are prone to seizures may be adversely affected.

School Health Screening

Children in Preschool and Kindergarten through fourth grade, as well as children in seventh and tenth grades, are screened for vision, hearing, dental defects, height, and weight. Scoliosis screening is not required by the state and will not be done unless a request is made by the parent/guardian. 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 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 foregoing 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.

Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations for the 2019-2020 School Year

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 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
Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1 st Grade depending on the school district's entering grade)	3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4 th 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.
Students entering 7 th grade	Must be current with the above vaccinations AND receive 1 dose of Tdap (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://dhs.ne.gov/immunization/School-Summary-RR-English.pdf> (Title 173: Control of Communicable Diseases - Chapter 3; revised and implemented 2011) Updated 01/26/2018

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. A certified copy may be obtained from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which the 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.

Communicable Diseases

Any student who has contracted a contagious disease may be restricted from attendance at school until the student is no longer contagious. The school district uses the Title 173 – Nebraska Health and Human Services/Control of Communicable Disease, Chapter 3 of the Nebraska Administrative Code as a “best practice” guideline for contagious and infectious diseases. If there are questions regarding the communicability of your child’s health condition or if you know your child has contracted a contagious or communicable disease or condition, please call the school nurse’s office.

Guidelines for Head Lice

Students found to have head lice, louse eggs, or nits will not be permitted at school and will be sent home. Upon discovering the presence of any indication of lice, louse eggs, or nits, the student’s parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified, and if appropriate will be asked to pick up the student from school immediately. Students will not be permitted to return to school until the district finds that no live lice, eggs, or nits can be detected. The parent(s) or guardian(s) will be required to treat the student and accompany the student to school to be examined. **The student cannot ride the school bus until the district has cleared the student to return to school.**

Pregnant or Parenting Students

Students who are pregnant or parenting are encouraged to continue participating in the district’s educational and extracurricular programs. In order to accommodate lactating and breastfeeding students, the district will provide reasonable opportunities to express breast milk or breastfeed in a place, other than a bathroom, which is shielded from view and free from intrusion from district students, employees, and the public. The District’s policy regarding pregnant or parenting students is fully outlined in the Centennial School Board Policy Manual.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Transportation to and from school is provided to students in accordance with law and Board policy. Students may also be provided transported on field trips and when participating in school activities. Students are expected to follow the behavioral expectations for riding school buses which are listed in **Article 8** under **Student Conduct Expectations**.

ARTICLE 7 – DRUGS, ALCOHOL, & TOBACCO

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS

The District implements regulations and practices which will ensure compliance with the Federal 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 & PREVENTION

This 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, this District will have proper in-service orientation and training for all employed staff.

Drug and Alcohol Use and Prevention

By this handbook, 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 age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program for all students of the schools. It shall be the policy of the District to require instruction at such grade level concerning the adverse effects resulting from the use of illicit drugs and alcohol. Such instruction shall be designed by affected classroom teachers or as otherwise directed by the Board to be appropriate to the age of the student exposed to such instruction. One of the primary objectives shall be the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students. It shall further be the policy of the District to encourage the use of outside resource personnel such as law enforcement officers, medical personnel, and experts on the subject of drug and alcohol abuse, so that its economic, social, educational, and physiological consequences may be made known to the students of the District.

It shall further be the policy of the District, through the instruction earlier herein referred to, as well as by information and consistent enforcement of the Board's policy pertaining to student conduct as it relates to the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol, that drug and alcohol abuse is wrong and is harmful both to the student and the District, as well as its educational programs.

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs

All students shall 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 Guidance 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.

STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT PERTAINING TO DRUGS, ALCOHOL & TOBACCO

(In addition to standards of student conduct elsewhere adopted by Board policy or administrative regulation to absolutely prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities.) This shall include such unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by any student of the District during regular school hours or after school hours at school sponsored activities on school premises, and at school sponsored activities off school premises.

Conduct prohibited at places and activities as hereinabove described shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Possession of any controlled substance, possession of which is prohibited by law.
2. Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.
3. Possession of alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities.
4. Use of any illicit drug.
5. Distribution of any illicit drug.
6. Use of any drug in an unlawful fashion.
7. Distribution of any drug or controlled substance when such distribution is unlawful.
8. The possession, use, or distribution of alcohol.
9. The use or possession of any tobacco product, **including the use of vapor products**, or any other such look-alike product.

It shall further be the policy of the district that 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.

Drugs and Alcohol Prohibited - Standards of Conduct for Students and Employed Staff

The manufacture, possession, selling, dispensing, use or being under the influence of alcohol or any alcoholic beverage or alcoholic liquor on school grounds, or during an educational function, or event off school grounds, or off school grounds if there is a substantial interference with school purposes, is prohibited.

The possession, selling, dispensing, use or being under the influence of any controlled substance or drug, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant, or any depressant on school grounds, or during the educational function or event off school grounds, or off school grounds if there is a substantial interference with school purposes, is prohibited.

The possession, selling, dispensing, use 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 on school grounds or during and educational function, or event off school grounds, is prohibited.

The possession, selling, dispensing or use of any look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes on school grounds or during an educational function, or event off school grounds, is prohibited.

Any prescription or non-prescription drug, medicine, vitamin or other chemical may not be taken unless authorized as stated in the next section on AUTHORIZED USE.

Authorized Use

Any student whose parent or guardian requests that he or she be given any prescription or non-prescription medicine, drug, or vitamin shall provide signed permission by parent or physician.

Disciplinary Sanctions

1. Violation of this policy may result in suspension or expulsion. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and could be turned over to law enforcement authorities. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment. Parents or legal guardian will be notified.
2. If the student is observed to be violating this policy, the student will be escorted to the Principal/Superintendent's office immediately, or if not feasible, the Principal/ Superintendent will be notified. The student's parents or legal guardian will be requested to pick up the student. If it appears there

is imminent danger to other students, school personnel, or students involved, the Principal/Superintendent, or such other personnel as authorized by the Principal/Superintendent, may have the student removed by authorized medical or law enforcement personnel.

3. Parents and students shall be given a copy of the standards of conduct and disciplinary sanctions required and shall be notified that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.

Intervention

The Centennial Public 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.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools -- Parental Notice

NOTICE TO PARENTS: 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 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.

ARTICLE 8 – STUDENT RIGHTS, CONDUCT, RULES, & REGULATIONS

STUDENT CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE POLICIES

The common goal of students, parents, faculty, and administration of Centennial Public School is to maintain a school atmosphere which is conducive to learning. In order to achieve this, Centennial Public School will continue to review and distribute a set of reasonable and fair rules and policies. VIOLATIONS OF THE CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL'S RULES AND POLICIES WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior, other than those specifically provided in this policy and the Student Discipline Act, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but need not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, 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. Disciplinary consequences may also include in-school suspension, Saturday School, and any other consequence authorized by law. District administrators may develop building-specific protocols for the imposition of student discipline.

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

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

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

FORMS OF SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Short-Term Suspension:

Students may be excluded by the principal or his designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth; or,
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Centennial Public School 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 shall make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. In addition, such short-term suspension will be made only after a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what 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. 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.
4. Students who are short-term suspended will be given the opportunity to complete classwork, including but not limited to examinations, under the conditions outlined by the principal at the time of the suspension.
5. A student on short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds or at any school activity without the express permission of the principal.

Emergency Exclusion

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

Weapons and/or Firearms

Students may be disciplined for the possession of weapons and/or firearms pursuant to the board's separate policy on weapons and firearms or state law.

Long-Term Suspension:

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

Expulsion:

1. **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion shall mean exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds, and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.
2. **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year. The review will be conducted by the hearing officer who conducted the initial expulsion hearing, or a hearing officer appointed by the superintendent in the event no hearing was previously held or the initial hearing officer is no longer available or willing to serve, after the hearing officer has given notice of the review to the student and the student's parent or guardian. This review shall be limited to newly discovered evidence or evidence of changes in the student's circumstances occurring since the original hearing. This review may lead to a recommendation by the hearing officer that the student be readmitted for the upcoming school year. If the Board of Education or a committee of school board members took the final action to expel the student, the student may be readmitted only by action of the Board. Otherwise, the student may be readmitted by action of the superintendent.
3. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion:** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., "stayed") for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect, and as a condition of such suspended action, the student may be assigned to a school, class, or program/plan and to such other consequences which the school district deems appropriate.
4. **Alternative School or Pre-expulsion Procedures:** The school shall either provide an alternative school, class or educational program for expelled students or shall follow the pre-expulsion procedures outlined in NEB. REV. STAT. 79-266.

STUDENT CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

Students have an opportunity to learn by sharing some of the responsibility for creating a good learning environment. To help maintain a quality instructional environment for all students attending Centennial Public School, all students are expected to refrain from the following conduct.

Grounds for Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment

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

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

- a. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion;
- b. Dressing or grooming in a manner which violates the school district's dress code and/or is dangerous to the student's health and safety, a danger to the health and safety of others, or which is disruptive, distracting or indecent to the extent that it interferes with the learning and educational process;
- c. Violating school bus rules as set by the school district or district staff;
- d. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing tobacco, drug paraphernalia, an electronic nicotine delivery system, or a tobacco imitation substance or packaging, regardless of form, including cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and any other form of tobacco, tobacco derivative product or imitation, or electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, etc.;
- e. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing any drug paraphernalia or imitation of a controlled substance regardless of whether the actual substance possessed is a controlled substance by Nebraska law;
- f. Possession of pornography;
- g. Sexting or the possession of sexting images (a combination of sex and texting - the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically);
- h. Engaging in initiations, defined as any ritualistic expectations, requirements, or activities placed upon new members of a school organization for the purpose of admission into the organization, even if those activities do not rise to the level of "hazing" as defined below. Initiations are prohibited except by permission of the superintendent;
- i. Engaging in hazing as defined by state law and this policy hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any school organization. Under state criminal law, hazing activities include, but are not limited to, whipping, beating, branding, an act of sexual penetration, an exposure of the genitals of the body done with the intent to affront or alarm any person, a lewd fondling or caressing of the body of another person, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act that endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person. For purposes of school rules, hazing also includes any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate; personal servitude; restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault;
- j. Bullying which shall include cyber-bullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post or text message images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to message or send e-mail to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums, and posting false statements as fact intended

- to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending threatening and harassing text, instant messages or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target;
- k. Violation of the district's computer acceptable computer use policy are subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion;
 - l. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a simulated or "look-a-like" weapon;
 - m. Using any object to simulate possession of a weapon; and
 - n. Any other violation of a rule or regulation established by a school district staff member pursuant to authority delegated by the board.

The length of any suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment shall be as provided or allowed by law.

Reporting Requirement to Law Enforcement

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

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

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

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

1. On the date of the decision to discipline, the Principal shall file with the Superintendent a written charge and a summary of the evidence supporting such charge.
2. The Principal shall serve the student and the student's parents or guardian with a written notice by registered or certified mail or personal service within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long-term suspension or expulsion. The notice shall include the following:
 - a. The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student;
 - b. The penalty, if any, which the principal has recommended in the charge and any other penalty to which the student may be subject;
 - c. A statement that, before long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment for disciplinary purposes can be invoked, the student has a right to a hearing, upon request, on the specified charges;
 - d. A description of the hearing procedures provided by the act, along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing;
 - e. A statement that the principal, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's parent, or the student's representative or guardian has the right (i) to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct and (ii) to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony; and

- f. A form on which the student, the student's parent, or the student's guardian may request a hearing, to be signed by such parties and delivered to the principal or superintendent in person or by registered or certified mail.
3. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if 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.
4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, student's parents, guardian or representative from discussing and settling the matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing stage.
5. If a hearing is requested within five days after receipt of the notice, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below.
6. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after receipt, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below, except that the time constraints set forth may differ as provided by law and this policy. The student shall be entitled to a hearing but the consequence imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.
7. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.

In the event a hearing is requested, the hearing, hearing procedures, the student's rights and any appeals or judicial review permitted by law shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Nebraska Student Discipline Act (NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-254 to 79-294). The school district will provide parents with copies of the relevant statutes upon request.

ADDITIONAL STUDENT CONDUCT RULES

The following additional student conduct rules are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, as further specified in these rules. These rules govern student conduct 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.

Student Appearance Policy

Students at Centennial Public School are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for a 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 or jewelry that is gang related;
- b. Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or underwear (midriffs, strapless tops, sagging pants); no large holes in pants above the knee. Shorts, skirts, and skorts should be mid-thigh in length at the minimum.
- c. 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.

- d. Clothing or jewelry that advertises beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs;
- e. Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse-play”;
- f. Head wear including hats, caps, bandannas, and scarves;
- g. Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references, or carries double meanings;
- h. Clothing that is “pajama-like” in nature and gives the impression of coming to school directly from bed. Slippers are not allowed.

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, change it, turn it inside out, cover it, or spend the remainder of the day assigned to in-school suspension. Students will not be allowed to leave campus to change clothes. Continual violations of the dress code will result in disciplinary actions under the Student Code of Conduct previously mentioned. 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 discipline, up to expulsion.

Electronic Device Policy

1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

Centennial Public School District encourages the appropriate use of electronic devices at school. Although the inappropriate use of electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and electronic devices are frequently lost or stolen, Centennial Public School District recognizes the benefits that the incorporation of technology can bring to the curriculum. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of these items and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices. 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. **NOTE: By bringing an electronic device to school, students and parents/guardians consent to a search of the device if approved by the administration.**

2. DEFINITIONS

“Electronic devices” include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, smart watches/FitBits, e-readers, tablets, personal digital assistants (PDAs), 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.

3. ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE

3.1 Students enrolled in Centennial Public School District are permitted to possess and use electronic devices during the school day (8:16 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) except as otherwise provided by this policy. Cell phone and text transmitting device (ex: iPod touch, Apple Watch) usage is strictly prohibited during any class period;

including voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging. Students may have their device(s) with them but must turn them into the “device box” upon entering a classroom, follow all rules established by the classroom teacher, may lock them in their school locker (not gym locker), or leave them in their vehicle.

3.1.1 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 journalism class; student use of a lap top computer for a class presentation).

3.1.2 Electronic devices may be used during the student’s lunch time (junior high students from 11:37 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. OR high school students from 12:27 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.) and during passing periods. At the conclusion of the lunch period, students will turn their device off or to silent and put them in their pocket or return their electronic device to their lockers.

3.1.3 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.

4. VIOLATIONS

4.1 Students shall not possess or use electronic devices at any time or place 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; or (f) 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.

4.2 The use of electronic devices in locker rooms, restrooms and other locations where privacy is reasonable expectation is strictly prohibited.

4.3 Electronic devices 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.

4.4 **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, a detention, and a conference between the student and school principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student serves their detention and personally comes to the school’s main office and retrieves the electronic device.

4.5 **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, a double detention, and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student serves their double detention and the student’s parent/guardian personally comes to the school’s main office and retrieves the electronic device.

4.6 **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, 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 has served their suspension and the student’s parent/guardian personally comes to the school’s main office and retrieves the electronic device.

4.7 **Subsequent Violations:** Students who are repeat offenders of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of any appropriate disciplinary action, which may include suspension and expulsion from school.

4.8 Students and/or parents/guardians, as applicable, 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 after this time period.

5. SEARCH: Electronic devices confiscated under this policy shall be subject to reasonable searches, including search of phone number directory, voice mail, and text messages, upon determination by school officials that the facts and circumstances establish reasonable grounds for believing that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school.

Automobile Use & Driving

Student drivers must know and obey the following rules:

1. Written permission from the principal or his designee is required to drive from school grounds during school hours.
2. Speeding or careless driving on the school grounds and on the streets bordering the school is prohibited.
3. Sitting in cars during the school day is not allowed (this includes the noon lunch period). If students wish to go to their car for any reason during the day, they must obtain permission from the principal or his designee at the high school office.
4. Students must leave their cars after arrival at the school.
5. Students must obtain written permission to enter the student parking lot during the school day.
6. Parallel parking will not be permitted in the student parking lot.
7. The driveway must be kept clear in the parking lot. Cars will not be permitted to park south of the dividing logs.
8. Students are assigned parking in the designated area north of the building and east of the football field. The closest row to the football field will be assigned to seniors, the next closest row to juniors, the next closest row to sophomores, and the next closest row to freshmen.
9. Students driving vehicles to school will park in the north parking lot. All parking stalls east of the school are reserved for school employees and visitors.
10. When school is dismissed, students are urged to drive with caution. Please remember that elementary students are walking home at this time.
11. Be mindful of the pedestrian crossing on Centennial Avenue north of the school prior to and following school. Pedestrians have the right of way, therefore automobiles should stop and let pedestrians cross prior to proceeding.
12. Students violating safe driving practices may be suspended and may be prohibited from driving their vehicles to school.
13. For safety reasons, students will be allowed to drive only bicycles and properly licensed motor vehicles to and from school.
14. For safety reasons, students will be required to ride inside cars and pick-up cabs while these vehicles are driven on school grounds.
15. Student vehicles parked inappropriately will be dealt with in the following manner:
 - 1st offense—a warning ticket will be issued
 - 2nd offense—a warning will be issued and parking will be assigned at the discretion of the administration for the remainder of the quarter/semester
 - 3rd and additional offenses--students will not be allowed to park on the school grounds for the remainder of the school year

Any exception to the above rules must have written permission from parents and the principal. Authority for the Board of Education to exercise control in student cars driven to school originates with the prerogative in the law termed “in loco parentis.”

Please remember that children will be walking to and from school, and their safety is a primary concern.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Should a student be guilty of cheating, the teacher shall collect the paper, mark a zero for the work, and notify the parent and office immediately as to the action taken. The second offense will bring an automatic in-school suspension. Additional offenses will result in more severe disciplinary action. See **Academic Integrity in Article 5** for additional information regarding Cheating/Plagiarism.

Food & Pop

Gum, breath mints, and cough drops will be permitted as long as wrappers are disposed of properly and gum is kept off all school and personal property. All food must be consumed in the lunchroom or commons area during the lunch period.

The following is the list of areas in which it is appropriate to consume food or drink:

- Lunch Room
- Family Consumer Science Room
- Gym
- Vo-Ag Room
- Art Room
- Teacher's Workplace
- Commons Area/Concessions Area

Students will be allowed to carry water to their classes.

Requirements of water being carried:

- Must be in a clear plastic water bottle
- Must include a cap (screw on or pull type)
- No personalized plastic or Styrofoam cups

If it is a safety hazard (example: Chemistry lab) to have water during class, the classroom teacher has the right to ask for all water bottles to remain out of the classroom on this day.

If carrying water bottles to class interferes with the normal routine of the school day, consequences will be enforced.

Initiation Into Classes & Activities

The practice of holding an initiation (hazing) into classes or organizations of Centennial Public School is prohibited. Initiations are defined as any ritualistic expectations, requirements, or activities placed upon new members of a school organization for the purpose of admission into the organization, even if those activities do not rise to the level of "hazing" as defined below. Initiations are prohibited except by permission of the superintendent. Hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any school organization.

Students should receive assistance and encouragement to become worthwhile members of group activities and to contribute to activities that have educational value. Students who participate in non-approved initiations or hazing after-school or before-school, as well as during the school day, will be subject to disciplinary action as permitted by policy and law.

The philosophy of Centennial Public School provides for individual dignity and personal pride for all students. Hazing and initiation ceremonies are considered incompatible with the fundamental privilege of a member of the Centennial Public School student body. Exception: The National Honor Society, FFA, and some other organizations have rather formal initiation ceremonies that are in the best interest of the students.

Transportation Policy

It is the belief of the Centennial Board of Education that students must be well-behaved when riding school buses. The Board of Education believes this is a necessary part of safe transportation. The following list contains examples of behavior that will not be tolerated on school buses:

1. Moving about on the bus when the bus is in motion;
2. Use of profanity, engaging in obscene behavior such as, but not limited to, displaying obscene materials, hand gestures, or using obscene speech or other obscene communication;
3. Excessive noise (determined by the bus driver);
4. Teasing or harassing other students or the driver;
5. Throwing of objects;
6. Failure to sit in an assigned seat if a driver deems this necessary;
7. Any disruptive actions;
8. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes;
9. 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 value (students causing damage to a school bus will be required to pay for repair or replacement costs);
10. Causing or attempting to cause physical injury to a school employee or to any student. Physical 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;
11. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from such student;
12. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon;
13. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor or tobacco products or vapor products or any other such look-alike products;
14. Snakes will not be allowed on buses. Advance approval (preferably one day) must be obtained from the bus driver to board other animals. Animals must be in plastic or cardboard containers. **NO GLASS CONTAINERS WILL BE ALLOWED.** Containers shall be taped shut to prevent accidental opening.
15. Consumption of any food/drinks will not be permitted on the bus routes;
16. Bus drivers/van drivers have the authority to report to the appropriate principal any school rule violations at bus stops or within view of the bus stops. The principals will have the authority to discipline students for school rule violations;
17. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the State of Nebraska which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes;
18. A repeated violation of any rules validly established pursuant to section 79-4, 176 of this act if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes.

Bus drivers have the primary responsibility of maintaining order and discipline of all student passengers.

Students receive a copy of the Transportation Policy at the outset of each school year. Drivers are to read this policy to the students so everyone is aware of expectations and discipline measures.

Prior to reporting any student behavior problems, the bus driver/transportation supervisor may administer his/her own discipline alternatives. These alternatives may include a student/parent conference, requiring the student to wash the bus, sweep out the bus, wash the inside windows, clean out between the seats, etc.

When the bus driver/transportation supervisor feels his/her efforts to effectively modify student behavior have been unsuccessful, he/she will complete an Unsatisfactory Bus Conduct Report and forward it to the appropriate principal. The principal, upon receiving and confirming the report, will take the following steps:

FIRST OFFENSE

If a student is suspected of breaking one of the above mentioned examples, said student will meet with the driver, principal, or superintendent. The student will receive a warning. A certified letter will be sent to the parents/guardians informing them of their child's behavior and outlining the consequences of any repeated violations.

SECOND OFFENSE

The principal may deny any student the right to ride the bus for up to five (5) days. A certified letter will be sent to the parents/guardians notifying them of the decision.

Parents/guardians may be requested to meet with the bus driver, student, principal, and transportation supervisor prior to riding the bus again.

FUTURE OFFENSES

The student will be denied the right to ride the school bus for the remainder of the semester. A certified letter will be sent to the parents/guardians notifying them of the decision.

Note: For more serious violations, students may be disciplined under 79-4170 - 79-4205 (Board Policy 502.2) in lieu of the above.

A note or phone call from a parent/guardian will be required before a driver will allow a student to get off the bus at a location other than his/her regular unloading area.

Altering Bus Routes - If some students are not riding the bus on certain days, drivers may vary their routes. Bad road conditions may also cause a bus driver to alter the route.

Activity Bus

An activity bus will transport students to Beaver Crossing, Gresham, and Waco after activity practice daily. Activity drivers will not unload students enroute. Students who are not out for an activity may ride the activity bus with special permission from the principal's office. Students serving a detention will not be permitted to ride the activity bus. (Exception: Students may ride the bus if they attend and participate in practice after serving their detention.)

Media Center Use

Students are welcome to come to the media center to carry out research or to select reading materials. The following procedures will be followed:

1. Upon arrival in the media center, students shall present their pass to the adult in charge. Passes will be kept at the desk until departure.

2. A student must have a pre-signed pass from the teacher for whom he/she is doing assignments to be released from study halls, etc., in order to use the media center for research.
3. A student may get a pass from any teacher in order to come in to the media center to select reading materials to read in their study hall/classroom. Once a selection is made, the student is expected to return to his/her study hall or class.
4. Students wishing to read current magazines found in the blue binders may sign these materials out at the check-out desk to read in their study hall/classroom for one period. Such materials are due back before the end of the period.
5. Any student not engaged in research or the selection of reading materials will be asked to leave the media center.
6. Any student disrupting others by loud talking or other means will be asked to leave the media center immediately.
7. No book bags will be allowed in the media center.
8. Detentions may be assigned when overdue materials are not renewed or returned.
9. Upon check-out, students shall have the supervising adult sign their pass.

Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy

A. Internet Safety Policy

It is the policy of Centennial Public School to comply with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA). With respect to the District’s computer network, the District shall: (a) prevent user access to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) provide for the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications; (c) prevent unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unlawful activities online; (d) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (e) implement measures designed to restrict minors’ access to materials (visual or non-visual) that are harmful to minors.

1. Definitions. Key terms are as defined in CIPA. “Inappropriate material” for purposes of this policy includes material that is obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. The term “harmful to minors” means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that: (1) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; (2) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and (3) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.
2. Access to Inappropriate Material. To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or “Internet filters”) shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the CIPA, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

3. Inappropriate Network Usage. To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the District's online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by CIPA, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.
4. Supervision and Monitoring. It shall be the responsibility of all members of the District staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and CIPA. Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent and the Superintendent's designees.
5. Social Networking. Students shall be educated about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with others on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. The plan shall be for all students to be provided education on these subjects. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall be responsible for identifying educational materials, lessons, and/or programs suitable for the age and maturity level of the students and for ensuring the delivery of such materials, lessons, and/or programs to students.
6. Adoption. This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board at a public meeting, following normal public notice.

B. Computer Acceptable Use Policy

This computer acceptable use policy is supplemental to the District's Internet Safety Policy.

1. Technology Subject to this Policy. This Computer Acceptable Use Policy applies to all technology resources of the District or made available by the District. Technology resources include, without limitation, computers and related technology equipment, all forms of e-mail and electronic communications, and the internet.
2. Access and User Agreements. Use of the District technology resources is a privilege and not a right. The Superintendent or designee shall develop appropriate user agreements and shall require that employees, students (and their parents or guardians), and others to sign such user agreements as a condition of access to the technology resources, as the Superintendent determines appropriate. Parents and guardians of students in programs operated by the District shall inform the Superintendent or designee in writing if they do not want their child to have access. The Superintendent and designees are authorized and directed to establish and implement such other regulations, forms, procedures, guidelines, and standards to implement this Policy. The technology resources are not a public forum. The District reserves the right to restrict any communications and to remove communications that have been posted.
3. Acceptable Uses. The technology resources are to be used for the limited purpose of advancing the District's mission. The technology resources are to be used, in general, for educational purposes, meaning activities that are integral, immediate, and proximate to the education of students as defined in the E-rate program regulations.
4. Unacceptable Uses.
The following are unacceptable uses of the technology resources:
 - a. Personal Gain: Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for personal financial gain other than in accordance with prescribed constitutional, statutory, and regulatory procedures, other than compensation provided by law.

- b. **Personal Matters:** Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for personal matters.
Occasional use that the Superintendent or designee determines to ultimately facilitate the mission of the District is not prohibited by this provision. Examples of occasional use that may be determined to ultimately facilitate the mission of the District: sending an e-mail to a minor child or spouse; sending an e-mail related to a community group in which an employee is a member where the membership in the community group facilitates the District's mission.
This occasional use exception does not permit use by employees contrary to the expectations of their position. For example, employees may not play games or surf the net for purposes not directly related to their job during duty time; nor may students do so during instructional time.
The occasional use exception also does not permit use of the technology resources for private business, such as searching for or ordering items on the internet for non-school use; or sending an e-mail related to one's own private consulting business.
- c. **Campaigning:** Technology resources shall not be used, and no person shall authorize its use, for the purpose of campaigning for or against the nomination or election of a candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question.
- d. **Technology-Related Limitations:** Technology resources shall not be used in any manner which impairs its effective operations or the rights of other technology users. Without limitation,
 - 1. Users shall not use another person's name, log-on, password, or files for any reason, or allow another to use their password (except for authorized staff members). Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable another person's computer, information, files, programs or disks.
 - 2. Users shall not access resources not specifically granted to the user or engage in electronic trespassing.
 - 3. Users shall not engage in "hacking" to gain unauthorized access to the operating system software or unauthorized access to the system of other users.
 - 4. Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software without permission from the network administrators.
 - 5. Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.
 - 6. Users shall not engage in any form of vandalism of the technology resources.
 - 7. Users shall follow the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. The Superintendent or designees may further define such rules.
- e. **Other Policies and Laws:** Technology resources shall not be used for any purpose contrary to any District policy, any school rules to which a student user is subject, or any applicable law. Without limitation, this means that technology resources may not be used:
 - 1. to access any material contrary to the Internet Safety Policy; or to create or generate any such material.
 - 2. to engage in unlawful harassment or discrimination, such as sending e-mails that contain sexual jokes or images.
 - 3. to engage in violations of employee ethical standards and employee standards of performance, such as sending e-mails that are threatening or offensive or which contain abusive language; use of end messages on e-mails that may imply that the

District is supportive of a particular religion or religious belief system, a political candidate or issue, or a controversial issue; or sending e-mails that divulge protected confidential student information to unauthorized persons.

4. to engage in or promote violations of student conduct rules.
 5. to engage in illegal activity, such as gambling.
 6. in a manner contrary to copyright laws.
 7. in a manner contrary to software licenses.
5. Disclaimer. The technology resources are supplied on an “as is, as available” basis. The District does not imply or expressly warrant that any information accessed will be valuable or fit for a particular purpose or that the system will operate error free. The District is not responsible for the integrity of information accessed, or software downloaded from the Internet.
6. Filter. A technology protection measure is in place that blocks and/or filters 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.
- Notwithstanding technology protection measures, some inappropriate material may be accessible by the Internet, including material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. Users accept the risk of access to such material and responsibility for promptly exiting any such material.
- 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 the Superintendent. 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.
7. Monitoring. Use of the technology resources, including but not limited to internet sites visited and e-mail transmitted or received, is subject to monitoring by the administration and network administrators at any time to maintain the system and insure that users are using the system responsibly, without notice to the users. Users have no privacy rights or expectations of privacy with regard to use of the District’s computers or Internet system. All technology equipment shall be used under the supervision of the Superintendent and the Superintendent’s designees.
8. Sanctions. Violation of the policies and procedures concerning the use of the District technology resources may result in suspension or cancellation of the privilege to use the technology resources and disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion of students and termination of employees. Use that is unethical may be reported to the Commissioner of Education. Use that is unlawful may be reported to the law enforcement authorities. Users shall be responsible for damages caused and injuries sustained by improper or non-permitted use.

Legal Reference: Children’s Internet Protection Act, 47 USC § 254
FCC Order adopted August 10, 2011
47 USC § 254(h)(1)(b); 47 CFR 54.500(b) and 68 FR 36932 (2003) (E-rate restrictions)
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 49-14,101.01 (Political Accountability and Disclosure Act)

Date of Adoption: June 11, 2012

Computer Lab Use

A student must have a pre-signed pass from the teacher for which he/she is doing assignments to be released from study halls, etc. in order to have the privilege of working in the Computer Lab.

Computer Lab Rules & Regulations

1. The student signs in with his/her name, class, computer number, and time of arrival. He/she will pin the pink pass to the bulletin board. When leaving the lab, he/she will sign out with the time of departure and have either Mr. Tesar, Mr. Barjenbruch, Mrs. Pankoke, or other principal designee sign the pass.
2. “Pass” students using the lab will use an available computer nearest the north end of the room.
3. “Pass” students are not to interfere with or interact with students in the room who are there as part of an organized class.
4. Any student not working on a computer will be asked to leave the lab.
5. If there are no computers available in the lab, students should check with Mr. Tesar, Mr. Barjenbruch, or Mrs. Pankoke for computer accessibility in their classrooms.
6. Students must do only school-related work in the computer lab. Games will not be permitted; playing games will cause immediate dismissal from the lab.
7. Students who are unable to log onto the computer system through one of their classes may contact Mr. Tesar, Mr. Barjenbruch, or Mrs. Pankoke to gain access to the computers.

Teachers Scheduling Computer Lab Use For An Entire Class

When a teacher wants to take his/her entire class to the computer lab, please reserve the lab in the Google Calendar using the “Middle Lab” calendar to indicate the dates, the class periods, and the number of computers needed. Because many teachers will want to use the lab at various times, it is understandable that we will all need to be flexible.

Teachers must accompany their classes to the lab when the entire class is working.

Parent Permission Letter

Parent/guardian written permission must be given the school for the privilege of accessing the Internet. An **Acceptable Use Agreement** form will be given to each student user. The first two pages of the AUA list the rules and sanctions of Computer Technology Use and are to be kept on file by the parent/guardian. The third page must be signed and returned to the office or technology coordinator before access to computers will be granted.

Risks of Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, and other Social Networking

The purpose of this message is to give our students information about the risks of using Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and similar social networking sites.

These sites are public sources of information. The information may be seen by school administrators, parents, and law enforcement. It is also accessible to people who users 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 users say now on Facebook may affect him/her years later.

What students say now on Facebook and other social media sites may also affect them right now. Pictures or writings that show that a student has violated the 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 students based on information posted on social media.

MySpace has published a Guide for schools with some suggestions that we would like to share. Here are some common sense guidelines that all users should follow when using MySpace and the Internet in general:

- Don't forget that your profile and MySpace 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 MySpace 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 MySpace or the authorities.
- Don't post anything that would embarrass you later. Think twice before posting a photo or information 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, MySpace will delete your profile.

We urge all students to following these common sense guidelines when online.

Laser Pens/Pointers

Students are prohibited from the use and/or possession of any laser device in school or at any school sponsored activity. Use or possession of these devices at school sponsored activities will result in confiscation of the laser device and immediate removal from the activity. Laser pointers may be allowed for in-class demonstrations or presentations with teacher approval.

Harassment & Bullying Policy

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

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

It is the policy of Centennial Public School that "bullying" type behavior is not to be permitted. These guidelines are established to respond specifically to bullying behavior. Students and parents are advised that other response measures are also in place and set forth in of this handbook for behavior which is discriminatory or harassing on unlawful grounds (e.g., sexual harassment, harassment of students with disabilities, racial harassment, etc.).

Step I: The first time school personnel become aware of a possible harassment or bullying situation, the accused student will be informed that such a complaint has been filed. At that time a warning will be given regarding this kind of behavior. The consequences for this kind of behavior in the future will be clearly outlined for the student. If, in the school's opinion, the first occurrence of harassment behavior is severe, the school may move immediately to any of the four steps in the harassment policy. In other words, the policy may or may not be used sequentially. Moreover, at any stage the student may be disciplined under the student code by actions which may include expulsion, in the event the conduct is also a violation of other provisions of the student code.

Step II: The second time school personnel become aware of a harassment incident, the accused student's parents will be notified. A conference will be requested at that time. If it is determined that the student has harassed another student, consequences will be assigned. A student may stay on the second step as long as school authorities feel the consequences are effectively correcting the harassment behaviors. If it is determined that there is no basis for the harassment accusation, no consequences will be assigned. If the school determines that a student is intentionally making a false accusation against another student, an appropriate response will be made.

Step III: If the school authorities determine that the student continues to harass another student or the student fails to agree to not harass in the future, the school may assign the student to the Harassment Program level set forth below which the school authorities determine to be appropriate.

Step IV: If a student fails to respond positively to the corrective measures of the Harassment Program, the student will be suspended from school for a minimum of five school days, up to expulsion. School authorities will determine the action necessary to insure a safe learning environment for all students.

Harassment and Bullying Program--Levels:

Purpose: All students have the right to attend Centennial Public School free from verbal and physical harassment and bullying. The purpose of the Harassment and Bullying Program is to protect students and staff from those who fail or refuse to comply with school guidelines regarding the treatment of others.

Level I: The guidelines for a Level I placement are listed below.

- a) The length of the assignment will be for a minimum of two weeks.
- b) The student will report to the office no later than 8:05 a.m. each morning.
- c) The student will eat on campus at an assigned table.
- d) The student will report to an assigned room at the end of the day and will remain until 3:55 p.m. This will allow all other students to leave the school grounds in safety.

Level II: The guidelines for a Level II placement are listed below.

- a) The length of the assignment will be for a minimum of two weeks.
- b) The student will report to the office no later than 8:05 a.m. in the morning.
- c) The student will eat on campus at an assigned table.
- d) The student will report to an assigned room at the end of the day and remain until 3:55 p.m.
- e) The student will remain in class at the end of each period. The student will be under direct teacher supervision during passing time. The teacher will dismiss the student at the end of the passing period. The student will then have three minutes to get to his/her next class.

Level III: This is a long-term assignment. The guidelines are listed below.

- a) All items listed in Level II will be used, except the length of the assignment will be no less than six weeks, and may remain in effect until the end of the school year and continue into the next, if determined to be appropriate.

Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (PDA or IPDA)

Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection will not be tolerated on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes: hugging, kissing or any other types of affection that would be considered inappropriate or an undue distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences if this type of behavior occurs.

1st Offense: Student will be confronted and directed to cease.

2nd Offense: Student will be confronted, directed to cease, and parents will be notified.

3rd Offense: Students will be suspended from school for a minimum of 1 day, and the parents and student will need to meet with administrator(s) and counselor.

- i. If this type of behavior continues, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.

Specific Rule Items

The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which, in the event of repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion.

- a. Students are not given locker passes, restroom passes, or telephone passes to leave a classroom or study hall unless special circumstances arise.
- b. Students in the hallway during class time must have a pass with them.
- c. Candy, seeds, etc. are not allowed in the school building or classrooms, without prior approval.
- d. Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class. This includes study halls.
- e. Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by 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 classroom and ready for class on the tardy bell.
- h. Special classes such as Industrial Technology, Art, P.E., and computers courses will have other safety or clean-up rules that will be explained by that teacher which must be followed.
- i. Students are not to bring items to school that are not required for educational purposes as they may be taken from lockers and will not be allowed in the classroom. These items are classified as “nuisance items” and include but are not limited to: a) personal stereos, b) cell phones, c) beepers, and d) laser pointers.
- j. Snow and water balloon handling is prohibited.

REPORTING STUDENT LAW VIOLATIONS

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

Student behavior is always subject to possible legal sanctions, regardless of where the behavior occurs, it shall be the policy of the Centennial Public School 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:

1. Knowingly possessing illegal drugs or alcohol.
2. Assault.
3. Vandalism resulting in significant property damage.
4. Theft of school or personal property of a significant nature.
5. Automobile accident.
6. 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.

DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION

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

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

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

DETENTION POLICY

Detention periods are assigned before and/or after school for school rule violations or actions constituting unacceptable student behavior. Detention periods will be scheduled Monday - Thursday from 7:40 to 8:05 and 3:35 to 4:00. Students are required to report to the assigned room on the date the detention is received. Exception: To allow for students requiring bus transportation to arrange for alternative transportation, these students may serve their assigned detention on the next regularly scheduled school day in which detentions may be served. Example: A detention received on Thursday by a student requiring bus transportation would be allowed to serve the detention on the following Monday. Students should express this need to the teacher assigning the detention so the alternative date may be noted on the detention slip.

Students should understand that any certificated or support staff member in the building has the authority to correct misconduct at any time. Therefore, it is conceivable that any staff member may assign a detention to a student who is in violation of school rules.

Detention Period Rules

1. Detention hall will be held before school and/or after school in a designated classroom. Detention time runs from 7:40 a.m. to 8:05 a.m. before school and 3:35 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. after school.
2. If a student shows up after 7:40 a.m./3:35 p.m. without the principal's approval, he/she will be requested to report the next two (2) school days for detention hall.
3. Detention hall will be used to work on academic work. If a student does not bring work, the student will be assigned the task of copying a section of the Student Handbook. Devices are to be turned into the supervisor upon arriving at detention.
4. Students will be silent and studying the entire 25 minutes.
5. Students will not be allowed to leave the detention hall without the permission of the monitor. (Emergencies only)
6. Failure to attend an assigned detention hall without prior approval of the principal will automatically result in a double detention to be served the following day. **Note: Double detentions are served Monday - Thursday from 3:35 - 4:25. p.m.**
7. Students who fail to serve their double detention will be assigned a day of In-School Suspension and will still be required to serve the double detention on the same day as the In-School Suspension, or on a date as determined by the principal.
8. Students assigned 2 detentions on the same day will be assigned a day of In-School Suspension or will receive one (1) day assignment to the Saturday Adjustment Center (SAC).
9. Students assigned an excess of three (3) detentions in a quarter will receive one (1) day assignment to the

Saturday Adjustment Center (SAC).

10. Additional detentions in excess of four (4) per quarter will result in the student being assigned to the Saturday Adjustment Center (SAC) and/or one (1) to five (5) days of in school suspension.
11. Students waiting for students serving a detention are to wait outside the building or, if severe weather exists, just inside the entryway. Waiting students who create a problem will be assigned a detention period.
12. Bus riders shall not be exempt from detention periods. They shall, however, be allowed one day to make arrangements for a ride home before they make-up their detention periods.
13. Students receiving detentions will not be allowed to ride the activity bus unless they have reported to practice after serving the assigned detention. Students receiving a detention who regularly participate in a sponsored strength training/conditioning program after school must get a bus pass from the weight room instructor. Note: Only students who have been pre-approved and are regular participants in the strength program will be given activity bus passes.

Detentions are very rarely overruled or postponed. If students have a problem involving an assigned detention, Mr. Bargen will consider the matter only if it is discussed with the student and the teacher/staff member assigning the detention individually (not as a group of students) prior to the date the detention is to be served. However, some emergencies may merit an overruling or postponement.

SATURDAY ADJUSTMENT CENTER CRITERIA (SAC)

The principal may assign a student to the Saturday Adjustment Center for the following, but not limited to, reasons:

- failure to respond to detention responsibilities
- receiving more than three detentions in a quarter
- failure to adhere to attendance policies
- excessive office referrals
- any behavior requiring intermediary discipline

Students may also be assigned to the SAC as an alternative to in-school suspension, or if in-school suspension has proven ineffective in changing student behavior. Students will be required to attend the Saturday Adjustment Center on the assigned day and time. Students failing to attend or conduct themselves appropriately while in attendance will be assigned two days of in-school suspension the following week in which school is in session. They will also be rescheduled to attend the next day of scheduled Saturday School.

Saturday Adjustment Center Rules

1. Students must be prompt. Students are to report to the commons area. The doors to the school will be locked at **8:00 a.m.** The session will be held from **8:00 a.m. until noon.** Any student arriving after 8:00 a.m. will be refused admission and considered a “no show.”
2. Call in for illness must be made between 7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. to the high school office at 534-2321. The student will be reassigned to the next SAC session. Acceptance of illness excuses will be left solely with the administration and **must** be documented by a medical doctor for consideration.
3. In cases of inclement weather, students will be notified no later than 7:30 a.m.
4. All Student Handbook rules apply.
5. Students must be on task the entire time with absolutely NO talking. Students must bring all homework prior to the start of the session. No locker passes will be allowed.
6. No excuses will be accepted for failure to attend (FTA) Saturday School. Only documented, unforeseen, extenuating circumstances approved by the administration will be considered. Examples might include: death in the family or a medical doctor documented illness.

7. Failure to comply with the rules or showing disrespect for the supervisor will result in dismissal from SAC and two days of in-school suspension the following week. The student will be reassigned to the next day SAC is in session.

ARTICLE 9 – EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - STUDENT RIGHTS, CONDUCT, RULES, & REGULATIONS

EXTRA-CURRICULAR 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 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.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FOR COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS

Physical Examination

Students who take part in competitive athletics are required to undergo an annual physical examination by a physician. Students will not be allowed to practice or participate in any contest until records of this examination and the physician's approval are on file in the athletic director's office. Students' families are responsible for paying the cost of these examinations.

Physical Condition and Injuries – Sports

A student will not be permitted to participate in a sport activity if the student, his/her parents, coach or athletic trainer feel that the student is not in sufficiently good physical condition. The school principal and/or athletic director will be notified of the student's physical condition if there is a question regarding participation.

If a student sustains a serious physical injury, other than a concussion, that requires a physician's attention, and the student's parents do not want him/her to compete, practice or participate in sports or sports activities, the student must submit his/her physician's written permission before he/she will be permitted to return to practice or to participate in sports or sports activities.

Concussions

Any student who has suffered a confirmed concussion will be prohibited from participating in athletic contests or practices until 10 days after post-concussion symptoms are no longer evident.

A member of the coaching staff or athletic trainer will document all incidents of possible concussion. The student's physician or the athletic trainer will determine when the post-concussion symptoms in each case have ceased and will document that determination in writing. The 10-day sit out period will begin at that time and the student will not be permitted to resume competition or practice until after the completion of the 10-day period.

If the student, parents, coach or athletic trainer feel that a student who has suffered a concussion is not in good physical condition, the student will not be permitted to participate in the sport. The school principal and athletic director will be notified of the student's physical condition if there is a question regarding participation.

Centennial Public School will provide staff with training in recognizing and responding to the symptoms of concussions. This training is intended to assist staff members in determining when students are concussed and providing them with immediate care that will be followed with evaluation by training staff or a physician. Centennial Public School is not responsible for any costs associated with the medical evaluation or subsequent treatment.

Students who have sustained a concussion and returned 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's "return to learn protocol" shall be the guidance provided by the Nebraska Department of Education entitled "Bridging the Gap from Concussion to the Classroom," and accompanying materials and future supplements. Nothing in this policy or the referenced protocol shall entitle a student who has sustained a concussion to an individualized plan under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, although staff will refer students who have sustained a concussion for evaluation under Section 504 as appropriate.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY CODE OF CONDUCT

This activity code of conduct is supplemental to the Centennial Public School student code of conduct which is in this handbook, and any action taken hereunder may be in addition to any action under the student code of conduct said policy.

Grounds for Extra-Curricular Discipline

The grounds for suspension from practices, participation in interscholastic competition, or other participation in extra-curricular activities and competitions are set forth below. In becoming familiar with the conduct rules for extra-curricular activities, participants need to remember that they are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Special conduct rules exist for the reasons that:

Participants in Activities Assume Responsibility for Leadership and are Representatives of Our School:

Participants in extra-curricular activities assume a leadership role. The student body, the community, and other communities judge our school on the students' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image. The students' performance and devotion to high ideals make their school and community proud.

Activities are a Privilege: Extra-curricular activities have an important place in the educational program of Centennial Public School. It is a privilege for the students who choose to participate. Students who participate and are accepted into the program are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. It is the belief that accepting responsibility for one's actions is a part of that philosophy.

The conduct rules apply to conduct of the student, 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). The 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.

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, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
3. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person.
4. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property.
5. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, to any student, or to any other person.
6. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from such student.
7. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon.
8. Engaging in the selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, vapor products, narcotics, drugs, controlled substances, or inhalants, or being under the influence of any of the above; or possession of drug paraphernalia. (Note: The term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law. For school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant. In addition, "possession" of alcohol or drugs will be considered to have occurred for purposes of school rules if the student is in such close proximity to alcohol or drug (for example, a student being in a car where alcohol is in the back seat and no adults are present in the car) or to others who are consuming alcohol or drugs (for example, being at a student party at which other students are drinking) that school officials may reasonably determine that the student was in "possession" of the items as well).
9. Engaging in 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 alcoholic beverages, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance or inhalant.
10. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities.
11. Tardiness to school, assigned classes, or assigned activities.
12. 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, national origin, or religion.

13. Public indecency.
14. Repeated violation of any of the rules adopted by the school district or the school.
15. Engaging in any unlawful activity as determined by the United States or the State of Nebraska.
16. Dressing in a manner wherein such dress is dangerous to the student's health and safety or to the health and safety of others or is distracting or indecent to the extent that it interferes with the learning and educational process.
17. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Centennial Public School buses.
18. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a firearm or other dangerous weapon in a place where such items are prohibited.
19. 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.
20. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of each 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.
21. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an athletic/activity event.
22. Failure 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.
23. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or supervisor of an extra-curricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or supervisor of such rules and regulations by written handouts or posting on bulletin boards prior to the violation of the rule or regulation.
24. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

Drug, alcohol, and tobacco violations

Students who are found to be in violation of sub-paragraphs 8 or 9 of the above conduct rules shall be subject to the following disciplinary action **if the student or parent “self-reports” the incident to the high school principal or activities director within one week of the violation.** If the student or parent does not self-report the violation with the one week window, the disciplinary action for each violation listed below **doubles in length and the suspension will begin on the date of the student’s next extra-curricular activity.**

1. First Violation –
 - a. Suspension from extra-curricular program for designated activities for four (4) weeks from the date of findings or violation
 - OR-
 - b. Students and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency. Said 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 school’s principal or principal’s designee. Failure to participate and successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program may cause the participating student to be suspended from extra-curricular activities for four (4) weeks from

date of finding of violation. The student must not compete or participate in the designated activities for two (2) calendar weeks. All costs associated with the program are to be borne by the student/parent or guardian.

2. Second Violation –

- a. Suspension from extra-curricular program for designated activities for eight (8) weeks from the date of findings or violation

-OR-

- b. Students and parents agree to participate in a school-approved program for chemical dependency. Said 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 school's principal or principal's designee. Failure to participate and successfully complete the approved chemical dependency program may cause the participating student to be suspended from extra-curricular activities for eight (8) weeks from date of finding of violation. The student must not compete or participate in the designated activities for four (4) calendar weeks. All costs associated with the program are to be borne by the student/parent or guardian.

3. Subsequent Violations –

- a. Upon finding of a subsequent violation, the student will be suspended from all designated activities for one calendar year from the date of determination that a subsequent violation has occurred.

Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline

Students may be suspended by the principal or the principal's designee from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in extra-curricular activities for violation of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Centennial Public School Board of Education or the administrative staff of the school.

The following procedures will be followed with regard to suspension:

1. The school official(s) considering the suspension will make 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 school purpose.
2. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the student is to 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 school has, and be given the opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
3. If the student is not readily available to meet with the school official for this purpose before the suspension is to begin, then the suspension may be imposed at that time so long as the opportunity for the student to hear the charges and evidence and for the student to tell his or her side of the story occurs as soon as reasonably practicable. An effort to schedule a meeting for this purpose should be made by the student and the student's parent or guardian as well. Given the fact that extracurricular activity suspension actions at times need to be taken outside the regular school day, a telephone conference may be used to give the student the opportunity to provide the student's position.

4. Within two school days or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the principal or principal's designee will send a written statement to the student and the student's parents, or guardian describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reason for the action taken and the right to a hearing upon request on the specified charges.
5. An opportunity will be afforded the student, parents, or guardian of the student, at their request, to confer on an informal basis with regard with the school official who has imposed the suspension and to give that school official any further information in the student's defense.
6. If the student or student's parents or guardian are not satisfied with the determination of the school official, an informal hearing may be requested before the superintendent. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian will either be provided with the initial notice letter or be made available in the principal's office. This request must be received by the building principal within five days of receiving the initial written notice of suspension.
7. If a hearing is requested, it shall be held within ten calendar days of the request. The superintendent will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing within five days of receiving the request. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending an appeal.
8. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five school days. The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the hearing itself) shall be kept by the school.
9. Nothing contained in this regulation shall prevent the participant, parents, guardian, or representative from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school personnel at any stage.

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 may be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Students who have eight or more unexcused absences in the semester of participation may be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances and student absences will be considered on a case by case basis.
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 for the full day. A student who is not in attendance the full day 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.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

Participation in extra-curricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the principal mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. Therefore, the following Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) and Centennial Public School Eligibility Requirements must be met by all 7-12 grade students in order to be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities:

NSAA – Eligibility Requirements Summary

Eligibility requirements are established by the NSAA in its Constitution and its Bylaws and Approved Rulings. These documents can be found in their entirety online at <http://nsaahome.org/nsaaforms/pdf/elgposter.pdf>. In order to represent Centennial Junior/Senior High School in any activity sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association these requirements must be met. Below is a summary of the NSAA's eligibility requirements:

1. Must carry at least 20 semester hours.
2. Must have passing grades in four subjects for the present semester.
3. Must have been enrolled on or before the 11th day of school.
4. Must have passed 20 semester hours the previous semester.
5. Must meet requirements of the school as to conduct, personal habits, and training.

Ineligible if:

1. You were 19 years of age before August 1.
2. You have attended school more than 8 semesters (grades 9-12).
3. You were not enrolled in school by the 11th day of school.
4. You were not in school the immediate preceding semester.
5. You did not receive 20 semester hours of credit the immediate preceding semester.
6. You have graduated from high school.
7. You compete in any athletic contest other than as a representative of your school during the season of the sport involved.
8. You play on an all-star team while a high school undergraduate.
9. You have changed schools without your parents changing domicile.
10. Your parents have changed their domicile to another school district and you have remained in your present school. (Exception: if your parents have moved after school has started, you will be eligible to complete the current school year.) Check the NSAA Yearbook for the definition of legal domicile.
11. You participate in a contest under an assumed name.

Centennial Public School – Academic Eligibility Requirements Grades 7-12

Grades in all subjects, including non-core classes, will be reported at the end of each school week beginning the third week of each quarter (nine week grading period). Any student failing two or more classes **OR failing a single class for three consecutive weeks** will be ineligible to represent Centennial Public School in interscholastic competition. The period of ineligibility will be from the following Monday to Sunday of the school week when a student has attained ineligible status. The first time each quarter that a student fails to meet the criteria for eligibility, the student will be extended a one-week "grace period" of eligibility to raise his/her grades to

meet this policy. Participants will only be given one “grace period” per quarter. Failing two or more classes **OR failing a single class for three consecutive weeks** at the end of the school week during the quarter after the “grace period” has been used will result in ineligibility. Ineligible students will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activity, including athletic contests, until the above requirement has been met. Students are expected to practice with their team during the ineligibility period unless otherwise told by their coach/sponsor.

STUDENT SEATING & SPORTSMANSHIP AT ATHLETIC CONTESTS

For the safety of contestants and officials, no seating will be allowed on the first row of seating in the gymnasium. The Student Section is based upon first come first serve basis. The designated Student Section allows for students to stand and cheer. Anyone not cheering for Centennial and occupying space may be asked to move to allow students wanting to cheer in that spot. The principal will reserve the right for final decisions.

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 gaining admittance to observe the contest is a privilege, not a license to verbally attack others or be obnoxious. Maintain self-control.
4. Do not “boo,” stomp 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 athletic 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, dance teams, 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.

SENIOR ROYALTIES

A senior may serve on only one of the following royalties:

Bronco Week–King/Queen **Prom**–King/Queen **Athletic**–King/Queen

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFICERS

Any student in grades 9-12 must be passing four (4) subjects or 20 hours in order to hold a class or organizational office. This average must be maintained each semester. No student may hold more than one of the following major offices in any one year:

1. Student Council president
2. Senior Class president
3. Junior Class president
4. Yearbook editor

DANCES/PARTY RULES

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 including Academic Eligibility.

Standards for the administration of school dances and parties:

1. All activities are to be held within the school premises (if facilities are available). These activities will be on either Friday or Saturday night and must terminate no later than midnight, unless otherwise approved by administration.
2. Dances with street shoes are NOT permitted in the new high school gym.
3. The use, possession, or distribution of tobacco, vapor products, alcohol, or illegal drugs will not be permitted at any school function. Any person who has been drinking shall be denied admission to the party or will be detained until parents or guardians are notified and arrangements made to transport the student home.
4. No student will be allowed entrance to the dance after 9:30 p.m. or an announced, designated time set by the principal.
5. Any student leaving the activity will not be allowed to re-enter.
6. Each activity shall be under the sponsorship of a school organization or sponsor.
7. Students are permitted "outside" dates for specific school activities but must file the names of the date in the principal's office and have the appropriate paperwork completed by the deadline. Administration reserves the right to deny the admittance of any outside date. Centennial students will be held responsible for their date's understanding and obeying the rules and regulations pertaining to the activity. No dates over the age of 20 will be allowed to participate.
8. All persons attending the prom must wear either formal or semi-formal attire. Attire for other activities must conform (as a minimum) to the dress for regular school days or to the appropriateness for the event.
9. All activities must have a sponsor present. Events must be approved and scheduled through the principal's office.
10. Any school group, with sponsor authorization, may invite all faculty, board members, and spouses, free of charge.
11. All contracts for dance bands or disc jockeys must have the signature of the principal.

SCHOOL SPONSORED TRIPS

On all activity trips the student must travel to and from the activity in transportation provided by the school. The only exceptions are listed below:

1. Injury to participant which would require alternative transportation.
2. Prior arrangement between the coach/sponsor and participant's parent/guardian. Only parent/guardian may transport a student from an activity, without prior arrangement. The parent/guardian must notify the coach/sponsor in writing of the intent to transport their child(ren) home from the activity.
3. Students will not be permitted to ride home from a school activity with any minor. (Under age 21)

All school sponsored trips are considered an extension of classroom; therefore, all school rules and

regulations apply. Participation in classroom related trips will be at the discretion of the classroom teacher and the principal. Students who are struggling academically and/or behaviorally will be considered on a case by case basis.

STUDENT FEES POLICY

The board realizes some activities may require additional expenditures which are properly to be borne by students as a separate charge. Such charges may be waived as specified below depending upon the student's eligibility for the free and reduced-price lunch program. [In other special cases where the parent/guardian requests that the student be exempted from charges, the superintendent shall determine granting of waivers.] No fees, specialized or nonspecialized attire, or equipment shall be required of students outside this policy. This policy does not apply to tuition payments by nonresident students.

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

1. Extra-curricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school district;
2. Postsecondary education costs means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from postsecondary educational institution.

The district may charge student fees or require students to provide specialized equipment or attire in the following areas:

1. Participation in extracurricular activities, including extracurricular music courses;
2. Admission fees and transportation charges for spectators attending extracurricular activities;
3. Postsecondary education costs, limited to tuition and fees associated with obtaining credits from the postsecondary institution;
4. Transportation fees for option students not qualifying for free lunches and nonresident students as allowed by state statute;
5. Copies of student files or records as allowed by state statute;
6. Reimbursement to the district for property lost or damaged by the student;
7. Before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services in accordance with state statute;
8. Summer school or night school; and
9. Breakfast and lunch programs.

The district may also require students to furnish musical instruments for participation in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunches shall be provided with a musical instrument of the school's choice.

Waiver for any of the following shall be provided for students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches:

- Section 1** Fees and specialized equipment and specialized attire required for participation in extracurricular activities;
- Section 2** Admission fees for onsite district-sponsored extra-curricular activities and district transportation charges for spectators attending offsite extracurricular activities; and
- Section 3** Materials required for course projects where the project becomes the property of the student upon completion.

The superintendent shall establish a Student Fee Fund and ensure the funds collected as fees for the following purposes are properly recorded and deposited to it:

- Section 4** Participation in extracurricular activities;
- Section 5** Postsecondary education costs; and

Section 6 Summer school or night school.

The superintendent shall promulgate regulations outlining the purposes for which fees in these three areas are collected and shall ensure such fees are spent for those purposes.

The superintendent shall promulgate regulations to be published annually in the student handbook authorizing and governing:

1. Any non-specialized clothing required for specified courses and activities;
2. Any personal or consumable items a student will be required to furnish for specified courses and activities;
3. Any materials required for course projects if the project becomes the property of the student upon completion; and
4. Any specialized equipment or specialized attire which a student will be required to provide for any extracurricular activity, including extracurricular music courses.
5. The superintendent shall also promulgate regulations authorizing and governing the following areas:
6. All fees to be collected within the nine numbered areas of the third paragraph of this policy;
7. Any other types of specialized equipment or attire to be provided by all students in the nine numbered areas of the third paragraph of this policy;
8. Procedures and forms for students or parent/guardians to apply for waivers under this policy;
9. Deadlines for waivers for all types of fees;
10. Procedures for allowing facilities use for NSAA District events to avoid conflict with this policy;
11. Procedures [to avoid the direct handling of fees; for the handling of fees] for students receiving postsecondary education credits;
12. Procedures for handling of fees related to summer school or night school;
13. Attendance requirements and procedures in connection with evening, weekend or summer use of facilities related to all extracurricular activities to avoid conflict with this policy;
14. Procedures for admitting students on waiver to extracurricular activities; and
15. Procedures for transportation of student spectators to extracurricular activities and collection of any related fees.

Public concerns or complaints regarding required fees, attire or equipment shall be addressed under Policy 1003.3 Complaints.

This policy will be reviewed and re-adopted annually by August 1 at a regular or special meeting of the Board. This shall include a review of the amount of money collected under this policy and the use of waivers as provided by this policy. The policy shall be published in the student handbook provided at no cost to each student.

Legal Reference: Neb. Constitution, Art VII, Sect. 1
 Neb. Statute 79-215 (tuition)
 79-241 (option student busing)
 79-605 (nonresident busing)
 79-611 (transportation fee)
 79-734 (books, equipment and supplies)
 79-2,104 (student files)
 79-2,125 to 2,134 (student fees law)
 79-1104 (before-and-after-school services)
 79-1106 to 1108 (learners with high ability)

ARTICLE 10 – STATE & FEDERAL PROGRAMS

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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

Name: Colin Bargaen

Title: Secondary Principal

Address: PO Box 187, 1301 Centennial Ave, Utica, NE 68456

Telephone: (402) 534-2321

E-mail: colin.bargaen@centennialbroncos.org

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit <http://wcdrcobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area or call 1-800-421-3481.

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

DESIGNATION OF COORDINATOR(S)

Any person having inquiries concerning this 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.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin;	Ken Booth
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Colin Bargaen
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Kris Elmshaeuser
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Tim DeWaard
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Colin Bargaen

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT POLICY

Elimination of Discrimination

The Centennial Public School 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: Centennial Public School 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 Centennial Public School 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, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age 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, religion, disability or national origin 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:

1. 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;
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 Centennial

Public School. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent of Centennial Public School, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent of Centennial Public School 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.

MULTI-CULTURAL EDUCATION POLICY

In every curriculum area and at all grades, the school district will provide programs which foster and develop an appreciation and understanding of the racial, ethnic, and cultural heritage of all students. These programs will allow students to explore the history and contributions made by various ethnic groups and will emphasize the rich diversity of the population of the United States.

The programs shall be implemented within the guidelines of the State Department of Education and in accordance with any other applicable laws and/or regulations. The superintendent shall provide the board with a report on the status of the district's multicultural education program annually.

NOTICE TO PARENTS OF RIGHTS AFFORDED BY SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law to qualifying students with disabilities. 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.

NOTICE CONCERNING STUDENT RECORDS

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") provides parents certain rights with respect to their student's education records. These rights include the right to inspect and review the

student's education records within 45 days of the date the school receives a request for access; and the right to request the amendment of the student's education records that you believe to be inaccurate.

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

Directory Information

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

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

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

Federal law requires school districts to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses, and telephone listings of high school students unless parents have notified the school district in writing that they do not want this information disclosed without prior written parental consent. Military recruiters will be granted the same access to a student in a high school grade as is provided to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

Parents who **OBJECT** to the disclosure of any directory information about their student should write a letter to the principal. This letter should specify the particular categories of directory information that the parents do not wish to have released about their child or the particular types of outside organizations to which they do not wish directory information to be released. This letter must be received by the school district no later than September 1, 2019.

Non-Directory Information

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

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

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

Transfer of Records Upon Student Enrollment

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

Complaints

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

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

NOTICE CONCERNING 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. Upon request, Centennial Public School 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, Centennial Public School will give timely notice to you if your 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 Act.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS

The Centennial Board of Education respects the rights of parents and their children, and has adopted this policy in consultation with parents to comply with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA).

1. Surveys

- a. Surveys Created by a Third Party
 - i. This section applies to every survey:
 1. that is created by a person or entity other than a district staff member or student;
 2. regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified; and
 3. regardless of the subject matter of the questions
 - ii. Parents have the right to inspect any survey created by a third party before that survey is distributed to their student.
- b. Surveys Requesting Particular Sensitive Information
 - i. Sensitive information shall include:
 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent(s);
 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
 3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have 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 student or student's parent(s); or
 8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program), without prior written consent of the parent or eligible student.
 - ii. No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that requests sensitive information.
 - iii. If a survey requesting sensitive information is funded, in whole or in part, by a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education, the school district must obtain the written consent of a student's parent(s) before the student participates in the survey.
 - iv. School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey (created by any person or entity, including the district) containing any sensitive information.
 - v. Parents have the right to inspect any survey which requests sensitive information before that survey is distributed to their student.
- c. Survey Inspection Requests
 - i. School officials shall inform parents of their right to inspect surveys requesting sensitive information before the surveys are distributed to any student.
 - ii. All survey inspection requests must be in writing to the building principal and delivered to the building principal prior to the date on which the survey is scheduled to be administered to the students.
 - iii. The principal shall respond to survey inspection requests without delay.

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

2. Invasive Physical Examinations

- a. The term "invasive physical examination" means:
 - i. any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts; or

- ii. any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body; and
 - iii. does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.
 - b. Parents may refuse to allow their student to participate in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is:
 - i. required as a condition of attendance;
 - ii. administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
 - iii. not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.
 - c. This policy does not apply to any physical examination or screening that:
 - i. is permitted or required by an applicable state law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification;
 - ii. is administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*)
 - iii. is otherwise authorized by Board policy.
- 3. Collection of Personal Information from Students for Marketing**
- a. The term “personal information” means individually identifiable information including:
 - i. student’s and parent(s)’ first and last name;
 - ii. home or other physical address;
 - iii. telephone number; and/or
 - iv. social security number.
 - b. No school official or staff member shall administer or distribute to students a survey or other instrument for the purpose of collecting personal information for marketing or for selling that information.
 - c. This policy does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for the exclusive purpose of providing educational services to students, such as the following:
 - i. post-secondary education recruitment;
 - ii. military recruitment;
 - iii. tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic or achievement information about students; and/or
 - iv. student recognition programs.
- 4. Inspection of Instructional Material**
- a. Definition
 - i. The term “instructional materials” means instructional content that is provided to a student regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet).
 - ii. The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.
 - b. Parents may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child’s education curriculum.
 - c. Curriculum inspection requests must be made to the building principal in writing.
 - d. Building principals shall respond to inspection requests within a reasonable amount of time.
- 5. Notification of Rights and Procedures**
- a. The superintendent shall notify parents of:
 - i. this policy and its availability upon request from the office of the district;
 - ii. how to opt their child out of participation in activities as provided for in this policy;
 - iii. the approximate dates during the school year when a survey requesting personal information is scheduled or expected to be scheduled; and
 - iv. how to request access to any survey or other material described in this policy.
 - b. This notification shall be given to parents as least annually, at the beginning of the school year and within a reasonable period after any substantive change in this policy.

PARENT & GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION PRACTICES

The school district recognizes the importance of parental and guardian involvement in the education of their children. The school district will take the following steps to ensure that the rights of parents and guardians to participate in the education of their children are preserved.

Parents/Guardians will be provided access, as described in district procedures, to district-approved textbooks and other curricular materials and tests used in the district upon request.

- a. A parental request to review specific approved textbooks and other district- or building-approved curricular materials (written, visual, and audio) should be made to the principal of the building where the textbooks and curriculum materials are used.
 - b. Parents may check out textbooks and may review curricular materials such as video and audio recordings within a time frame determined by the building principal to prevent disruption of the instructional process.
 - c. A parental request to review specific standardized and criterion-referenced tests used in the district should be made in writing to the building principal. Copies of the most recent tests used in the district will be available for parent review. Parents wishing to review statewide NSCAS assessments will be provided with sample questions and a copy of a practice test, but will not be provided with copies of the actual assessment due to testing security. In the case of other secure tests such as the ACT, parents must contact the publisher to obtain copies of the test.
2. Parents/Guardians will be permitted, within district procedures, to attend and observe courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities.
- a. Parents/guardians are invited to make appointments with the building principal to visit classes, assemblies and other instructional activities. The principal shall give permission after determining that parental/guardian observation would not disrupt the activity. Observations that last more than 60 minutes or occur on consecutive days are typically disruptive and will not be permitted absent unusual circumstances, in the sole discretion of the building principal.
 - b. Parents/guardians may contact the building principal to request permission to attend counseling sessions in which their child is involved.
3. Parents/guardians will be permitted, within district procedures, to ask that their children be excused from school experiences that parents find objectionable.
- a. Building principals may excuse a student from any single school experience at the parent's written request.
 - b. When appropriate, alternative experiences will be provided for the student by the school.
4. Parents/guardians will be informed through the student handbook and district policies of the manner that the district will provide access to records of students.
5. Parents/guardians will be informed of the standardized and criterion-referenced district testing program. Parents may request additional information from the building principal.
6. Parents/guardians will be informed of the circumstances under which they may opt-out of state and federal assessments.
- a. In accordance with federal law, at the beginning of the school year, the District shall provide notice of the right to request a copy of this policy to parents/guardians of students attending schools receiving Title I funds. The District will provide a copy of this policy to a requesting parent in a timely manner.
 - b. State Assessments - The District cannot approve requests to opt out of state assessments. Approval of such requests is contrary to state law.
 - c. National Assessment of Educational Progress - As a condition of receiving federal funds, the District participates in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). To help ensure that the District has a representative sample of students taking the NAEP, which will allow the District to assess the quality and effectiveness of its programming on a national level, the District strongly encourages all eligible students to participate. However, student participation in NAEP is voluntary.
The District shall provide parents/guardians of eligible students with reasonable notice prior to the exam being administered. Parents/guardians wishing to opt their students out of the

NAEP assessment must notify the district in writing at least three school days prior to the exam date to ensure that the District can coordinate supervision and alternative activities for students who have opted out.

7. Parents/guardians will be notified of their right to remove their children from surveys prior to district participation in surveys.
 - a. The principal must approve all surveys intended to gather information from students before they are administered to students.
 - b. Students' participation in surveys is voluntary. Parents/guardians may restrict their child from participating in any survey.

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 Superintendent shall serve as the District's designated 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 why 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. 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. In the event of an enrollment dispute, the placement shall be at the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute in accordance with the dispute resolution process. The homeless child shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which the District has determined to place the child, even if the child is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, medical records, proof of residency, or other documentation. 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 Centennial Public School, and the homeless child continues to live in the Centennial Public School district, transportation to and from the school or origin shall be provided by the Centennial Public School; and (2) if the homeless child lives in a school district other than the Centennial Public School, but continues to attend the Centennial Public School based on it being the school of origin, the new school and the Centennial Public School 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.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAMS

The Centennial Public School 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 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. The District provides the United States Department of Agriculture's required nondiscrimination 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, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. 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, (AD3027) found online at: 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

In fulfilling its responsibilities the school food authority, Centennial Public School:

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:
 - i. A publicly-announced, simple method for making an oral or written request for a hearing.
 - ii. An opportunity to be assisted or represented by an attorney or other person.
 - iii. An opportunity to examine, prior to and during the hearing, the documents and records presented to support the decision under appeal.
 - iv. Reasonable promptness and convenience in scheduling a hearing and adequate notice as to the time and place of the hearing.
 - v. An opportunity to present oral or documentary evidence and arguments supporting a position without undue interference.
 - vi. An opportunity to question or refute any testimony or other evidence and to confront and cross-examine any adverse witnesses.
 - vii. 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.
 - viii. 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 attachments will be available in the office of the Superintendent:

- Eligibility criteria for free and reduced meals
- Parent letter and application
- Public release
- Collection procedure

LUNCH TICKETS

Students' lunch money will be credited to a "family account" versus an "individual account." Each day a student eats breakfast (\$2.00) and/or lunch (PK-6th -- \$2.80, 7th-12th -- \$2.90) will be subtracted from the family account. Should three 7th-12th grade children from the same family eat lunch on the same day, \$8.70 would be subtracted from the family account. Students will be notified when there are six meals \$17.40 remaining in the account. Students will still be expected to purchase a minimum of 10 lunches per student \$29.00.

Students purchasing lunches will receive a bar coded lunch ticket. As students go through the lunch line, a computer wand will scan the ticket and deduct the price of the meal from the student's family account.

**RECEIPT OF THE 2019-2020 STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK
OF CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL**

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the 2019-2020 Student-Parent Handbook of Centennial Public School. This receipt acknowledges that it is understood that the handbook contains student conduct and discipline rules. 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 responding to harassment or discrimination.

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS STATEMENT: RECEIPT SHALL ALSO SERVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU AS PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT ATTENDING CENTENNIAL 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 THE SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS LAW AND 34 C.F.R. PART 86, BOTH FEDERAL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT TO OBTAIN 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 THE POSSESSION, USE, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO, **INCLUDING VAPOR PRODUCTS**, 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.

Student #1 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #2 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #3 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #4 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #5 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature Date: _____

STUDENT’S INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

In order to make sure that all members of Centennial Public School community understand and agree to these rules of conduct, Centennial Public School asks that you as a student user sign the following statement:

I have received a copy of, and have read, the Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy adopted by the Centennial Public School, and I understand and will abide by those district guidelines and conditions for the use of the facilities of Centennial Public School and access to the Internet. I further understand that any violation of the district guidelines is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges will be revoked. School disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action will be taken.

I agree not to hold the Centennial Public School, any of its employees, or any institution providing network access to Centennial Public School responsible for the performance of the system or the content of any material accessed through it.

Student #1 Name (Printed): _____

Student #1 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #2 Name (Printed): _____

Student #2 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #3 Name (Printed): _____

Student #3 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #4 Name (Printed): _____

Student #4 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student #5 Name (Printed): _____

Student #5 Signature: _____ Date: _____

This form will be retained on file by authorized
faculty designee for duration of applicable
computer/network/Internet use.

**Please return this page, signed, to the Centennial Secondary Office no later than Friday,
August 23, 2019.**

Sincerely,

**Colin Bargaen
Secondary Principal**

2017
Indemnification and Liability Insurance

In addition to circumstances where it is obligated to provide indemnity or procure insurance, the school board has broad authority to purchase insurance or otherwise indemnify school board members, officers, employees, or agents of the school district. The school board will purchase liability insurance and provide indemnification at its discretion and review its current coverages and indemnification obligations when it deems appropriate.

In the event the school district's current insurance, indemnification agreements, contract obligations, or other promises to indemnify do not cover a situation which the school board can agree to cover, the school board may authorize indemnification. The school board may elect to indemnify any board member, officer, agent, or employee if he or she is a party or is threatened to be made a party in any pending or completed suit, proceeding, or any other action, whether criminal, civil, administrative, or investigative, if the individual is involved because of current or past service on the board, employment, or agency relationship with the school district. However, the indemnification and defense will only be considered if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in the best interests or not opposed to the best interests of the school district, including in a criminal proceeding if he or she had no reasonable cause to believe the conduct was unlawful.

In circumstances involving employees, the board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to provide the indemnification to the extent the Superintendent is authorized to procure legal services, as long as the indemnification is otherwise consistent with the authority granted under the law.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

KAREN A. HAASE
STEVE WILLIAMS
BOBBY TRUHE



COADY H. PRUETT
SHARI RUSSELL, Paralegal

M E M O R A N D U M

To: KSB Policy Service Subscribers
FROM: KSB School Law
DATE: June 3, 2019
RE: Annual Policy Updates

Attached are the 2019 KSB School Law policy updates. We have also included changes to our standard forms and updates on some other laws which do not require changes to policies but do present new obligations or things to keep in mind as you enter the 2019-20 year. We have broken these down in 3 sections: "Policy Changes;" "Forms Changes;" and "Other Issues to Consider."

To assist subscribers in implementing these policy changes and the other considerations laid out in this Memo, **KSB will hold a webinar on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Central Time.** In the webinar, we will give a brief overview of the changes and then answer questions from attendees regarding the policies and other considerations. We have included the link to the ZOOM conference in the cover e-mail that transmitted these updates. We will also record the webinar and will post it on the KSB School Law website in the Policy Updates section.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any additional questions or if you would like to have a policy customized or "tweaked" to meet your individual circumstances.

Policy Changes

REVISION OF POLICY 2002: Organization of the Board

LB 399 changes the name of the Committee on Americanism to the Committee on American Civics. You must appoint this committee at the

beginning of each calendar year. Previously, you appointed the committee at the beginning of each school year.

The duties of this committee now include the following:

- Hold no fewer than two public meetings annually, at least one when public testimony is accepted;
- Keep minutes of each meeting showing the time and place of the meeting, which members were present or absent, and the substance and details of all matters discussed;
- Examine and ensure that the social studies curriculum used in the district is aligned with the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01 and teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography;
- Review and approve the social studies curriculum to ensure that it stresses the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of the union and includes the incorporation of multicultural education as set forth in sections 79-719 to 79-723 in order to instill pride and respect for the nation's institutions and not be merely a recital of events and dates;
- Ensure that any curriculum recommended or approved by the committee on American civics is made readily accessible to the public and contains a reference to this section;
- Ensure that the district develops and utilizes formative, interim, and summative assessments to measure student mastery of the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01;
- Ensure that the social studies curriculum in the district incorporates one or more of the following for each student:
 - Administration of a written test that is identical to the entire civics portion of the naturalization test used by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services prior to the completion of eighth grade and again prior to the completion of twelfth grade with the individual score from each test for each student made available to a parent or guardian of such student; or
 - Attendance or participation between the commencement of eighth grade and completion of twelfth grade in a meeting of a public body as defined by section 84-1409 followed by the completion of a project or paper in which each student demonstrates or discusses the personal learning experience of such student related to such attendance or participation; or
 - Completion of a project or paper and a class presentation between the commencement of eighth grade and the completion of twelfth grade on a person or persons or an event

commemorated by a holiday listed in section 79-724(6) or on a topic related to such person or persons or event; and

- Take all such other steps as will assure the carrying out of the provisions of this section and provide a report to the school board regarding the committee's findings and recommendations.

Other requirements of LB 399 include the following:

- All social studies courses approved for grade levels as provided by this section shall include and adequately stress contributions of all ethnic groups to (a) the development and growth of America into a great nation, (b) art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government, and (c) the military in all of this nation's wars.
- All grades of all public, private, denominational, and parochial schools, below the sixth grade, shall devote at least one hour per week to exercises or teaching periods for the following purpose:
 - The discussion of noteworthy events pertaining to American history or the exceptional acts of individuals and groups of Americans;
 - The historical background, memorization, and singing of patriotic songs such as the Star-Spangled Banner and America the Beautiful;
 - The development of respect for the American flag as a symbol of freedom and the sacrifices of those who secured that freedom; and
 - Instruction as to proper conduct in the presentation of the American flag.
- In at least two of the three grades from the fifth grade to the eighth grade in all public, private, denominational, and parochial schools, time shall be set aside for the teaching of American history from the social studies curriculum which shall be taught in such a manner that all students are given the opportunity to (a) become competent, responsible, patriotic, and civil citizens who possess a deep understanding of and respect for both the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Nebraska and (b) prepare to preserve, protect, and defend freedom and democracy in our nation and our world.
- In at least two courses in every high school, time shall be devoted to the teaching of civics and American history as outlined in the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01, during which courses specific attention shall be given to the following matters:
 - The Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Constitution of Nebraska, and the structure and function of local government in this state;

- The benefits and advantages of representative government, the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in our government, and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals such as, but not limited to, Nazism and communism;
- The duties of citizenship, which include active participation in the improvement of a citizen's community, state, country, and world and the value and practice of civil discourse between opposing interests; and
- The application of knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography to address societal issues.
- Appropriate patriotic exercises suitable to the occasion shall be held under the direction of the superintendent in every public, private, denominational, and parochial school on George Washington's birthday, Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Native American Heritage Day, Constitution Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving Day, or on the day or week preceding or following such holiday, if the school is in session.
- Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out this section. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

The State Board of Education has been directed to adopt rules and regulations to carry out these provisions and to ensure that all of these requirements are carried out by each school district.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 2006: Complaints

We have added a section to this policy that makes it clear that parents of students with IEPs and Section 504 plans cannot use the complaint process to side-step the formal administrative exhaustion requirements found in those laws and the accompanying regulations. We have had several instances over the last year in which unhappy special education parents have tried to appeal to the board to override decisions made by the student's IEP team. That is simply not allowed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. We also believe this edit will make it more difficult for special education parents to sue the school district for money damages by seeking to identify a conflict over a disabled students' education as a Section 504 issue rather than an IDEA issue.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 2014: Relationship with School Attorney
NEW NAME: Relationship with District Legal Counsel

We have revised this policy to swap out the term “school’s attorney” for “district legal counsel.” We think this will make it clearer that the school’s law firm serves at the discretion of the board of education, and the board is free to use law firms and legal services whenever it deems advisable. We have also added a provision in the policy that allows the board president or superintendent to retain an attorney if there is a pressing situation between board meetings. For example, this will allow the superintendent to retain a hearing officer before a personnel hearing if there is not a board meeting before the date of the hearing.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

NEW POLICY 2017: Indemnification and Liability Insurance

Nebraska statute section [79-516](#) has long provided broad authority for a board to purchase liability insurance and to indemnify board members, employees, and agents of the school in the event they become involved in a legal proceeding. This includes lawsuits, as well as administrative hearings, investigations, and others.

Most boards have purchased broad insurance coverage for defense costs and damages, but no insurance provider covers every single circumstance in which a board might want to indemnify board members or employees. This is why many administrator contracts have provisions providing indemnification if the administrator is involved in employment-related legal proceedings.

Some circumstances are trickier than the standard employment contract covers. For example, the board might want to provide indemnification for a principal facing a PPC complaint in some but not all situations. Similarly, there are a few obscure statutes under which a school board member could face criminal charges for the execution of his/her duties. These circumstances are not covered by insurance carriers but section 79-516 will allow the school board to provide a legal defense to the employees or board members in these circumstances.

This policy is designed to make it clear that the board may, but is not required, to provide a defense at the outset of these sorts of circumstances. This policy also allows the superintendent to procure legal services for other

employees in certain circumstances under their authority to secure legal services.

This policy is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION OF POLICY 3003.1: Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds

Very few school districts in Nebraska use federal funds for construction projects. However, those districts that do use federal dollars for construction must follow all of the special provisions required by the federal government. We included all of these special requirements in Policy 3004.1, but we have had feedback from auditors and NDE compliance reviewers that it is better to have all of these unique requirements centralized in the construction policy as well.

We have also modified this policy to make it clear that, although the federal limit for solicitation of sealed bids is \$250,000, Nebraska state law requires formal bidding for all construction projects with an anticipated aggregate cost of \$100,000 or more.

This change is required, even though it is likely to impact very few districts.

REVISION OF POLICY 3004.1: Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds

This revision just fixes a typographical error that we discovered when we were transferring duplicate sections of Policy 3004.1 into Policy 3003.1.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 3016: Smoking

Two bills passed this year criminalizing the use of “electronic nicotine delivery systems,” defined as “any product or device containing nicotine, tobacco, or tobacco derivatives that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other electronic, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to simulate smoking by delivering the nicotine, tobacco, or tobacco derivatives in vapor, fog, mist, gas, or aerosol form to a person inhaling from the product or device.” LB 149 criminalizes the use of an electronic nicotine delivery system by any minor *under the age*

of 19. LB 397 criminalizes the use of an electronic nicotine delivery system by any minor *under the age of 18*. We have added the term “electronic nicotine delivery system” to the policy and cleaned up and added some additional terms. There are three options under this policy, and the district must choose one.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION OF POLICY 3028: Sex Offenders

This policy has been amended to note that the second paragraph is no longer required by the Nebraska Sex Offender Registration Act. Several years ago, prior to changes to the Act, schools would get information about certain offenders not available to the general public. The Act used to require schools to disclose that information to its stakeholders. Now that nearly all offender information is publicly available, school districts may, but are not required to, notify staff members, parents, and students of any registered sex offenders residing in the school district. If you wish to continue to provide such notice, no policy change is required. If you do not wish to continue to provide such notice, you may delete this paragraph.

This change is not required.

POLICY 3039: Threat Assessment and Response

Policy 3039 was revised for clarity, but no substantive changes were made to Options 1 and 2.

These changes are required.

This policy was also updated to add a third option for school boards who decide to adopt the policy naming a “Law Enforcement Unit” under FERPA, discussed below. This option to Policy 3039 provides that the law enforcement unit will be responsible for conducting threat assessment investigations, and will share the results of that investigation with the superintendent for further action. However, please note that this is not required even if you chose to adopt the policy designating a law enforcement unit.

This change is not required.

POLICY 3046: Animals at School

We received many questions over the past year about former Policies 3046: Service Animals; 5060: Animals; and 5061: Therapy Dogs. In an attempt to better address these issues and to avoid further confusion, we have decided to combine all of the animal policies into Policy 3046: Animals at School.

The first section of this policy addresses the instructional use of animals in school. The policy requires the written permission of the superintendent or the building principal before a teacher can have an animal like a class pet in the building. We would be happy to tailor this section of the policy to address any different procedure that you might use.

The second section of this policy addresses service animals and is identical to our 2017 Policy Update, when we changed Policy 5060: Animals into Policy 3046: Service Animals. Some policy subscribers did not delete Policy 5060 at that time, which has resulted in some confusion. **If you have Policy 5060: Animals in your service, please delete it!**

The third section of this policy addresses “therapy animals” and was in former Policy 5061: Therapy Dogs. That policy was originally limited to dogs and placed in the 5000 series when it was created in 2012 at the specific request of policy subscribers that wanted to allow teachers to bring their therapy dogs to school. As you are probably aware, the news has been full of stories regarding people taking or attempting to take their therapy animals to a wide variety of public locations. Nebraska schools have not been immune to this trend. Many of our client schools have received requests from staff members, students, and members of the public to be allowed to bring their “therapy animals” to school.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires schools to allow students who comply with federal regulations to bring dogs and miniature horses to school. However, those regulations explicitly state that animals that provide only “emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship” (i.e. “therapy dogs”) are not service animals. Schools are not *required* to allow therapy animals at school under the service animal regulations. Are schools required to allow therapy animals into school as an accommodation under the ADA? Unfortunately, there is no guidance in the ADA or its regulations about allowing emotional support animals or therapy animals at school as an accommodation for a staff member, student, or patron. For this reason, we have given you **two options**. One is to allow therapy animals brought by a school employee when (1) approved by an administrator and (2) it is for the benefit of students. Otherwise, therapy animals are prohibited except as otherwise required by law. The second option bans therapy animals in school except as otherwise required by law. Obviously, there are other

options available. Please contact us if you would like to explore those other options.

This change is required. DELETE Policy 5060: Animals if you did not do so after the 2017 policy updates; DELETE Policy 5061: Therapy Dogs; and select either Option 1 or Option 2 under the third section of this policy.

REVISION OF POLICY 3050: Technology in the Classroom

Over the last year, we've received a number of calls regarding the use of smart speakers and other devices, such as AngelSense devices. In response, we updated this policy to provide additional clarity regarding the use of smart speaker devices and other forms of assistive technology that are becoming more widely used and requested. The updated language indicates that teachers may use smart speakers with the permission of building administration. Additionally, the updated language clarifies that assistive technology devices, such as AngelSense devices, that actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings must have that function disabled while being used in district classrooms, unless otherwise required by law.

This change is not required.

NEW POLICY 3051: Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response

In 2015 the Nebraska Unicameral authorized expanded access to naloxone, an opioid antagonist which is administered to individuals who are experiencing an opioid overdose. Naloxone, also known by its brand name Narcan, has been used by emergency responders for many years. Although the naloxone statute allows for dispensing naloxone without a prescription, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, has also issued a standing order to facilitate the availability of naloxone.

We have had several policy service subscribers ask us about the policy which they should have in place if they wish to stock and administer naloxone. This policy has been reviewed by both the Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. The National Association of School Nurses has a naloxone administration protocol, which school nursing staff can review [here](#). There are also a number of programs which will provide schools with access to naloxone at little or no cost, which you can review [here](#).

This policy is NOT required unless your district wants to stock and administer naloxone.

NEW POLICY 3052: Leasing Personal Property

This is a new policy. It provides the authority for authorized personnel to lease personal property (e.g., equipment, goods, etc.) from vendors for school district use. Each board of education will need to select the total lease amount above which written quotes/estimates will be required to be obtained from multiple vendors.

This policy also provides the authority for the superintendent to lease out district-owned personal property that is not needed for school purposes. Boards will have to decide (1) the threshold (dollar amount) of the fair market value of the personal property under which the superintendent may lease out such property without board authorization, and (2) the maximum number of days that the superintendent can agree to lease out district-owned personal property.

This policy is not required but is highly recommended. If it does not reflect your current practice, you should speak with one of us to tailor it to meet your current practices.

MOVED POLICY 3053: Nondiscrimination

This policy has been 4001 in our series for some time. However, because it contains nondiscrimination provisions for laws that apply to students and staff, we have decided that it is more appropriate to have it in the 3000 series. Policy 4001 will now be “[Intentionally Left Blank].”

Be sure to check any internal references you may have made to this policy in other locations. Please note this is a nondiscrimination policy. You are also required to have nondiscrimination notices which you likely include in your handbooks, on your website, etc. We have updated our standard nondiscrimination notice below, as well, so now is a good time to review the policy and notices together.

This move is required.

POLICY 3054: Law Enforcement Unit

In the wake of increased threats to school districts' safety and security, we've had several subscribers interested in providing more information to law enforcement and other third parties outside the district. For example, several schools have asked whether they can provide law enforcement with live access to video surveillance cameras. Generally speaking, FERPA requires schools to obtain parental consent before disclosing education records, unless the disclosure fits within one of the narrow exceptions.

However, FERPA places no limits on the disclosure of records created and maintained by a district's designated "law enforcement unit." That means "law enforcement unit" records may be shared much more freely, because they do not constitute education records under FERPA.

Law enforcement units are defined as the school district staff or group which is charged with (1) maintaining the physical security and safety of the district to enforce any local, state, or federal law, or (2) authorized to refer criminal matters to appropriate authorities. These responsibilities mean that the school district's "law enforcement unit" may be responsible for the creation of records, such a video surveillance footage, that can be disclosed without regard to the restrictions of state and federal law.

Boards of education who want to share information like security footage with the police and others can use this policy to designate a school staff member or group as the district's "law enforcement unit." Before designating a law enforcement unit, however, boards should consider the complex legal and practical implications of designating a law enforcement unit. This includes understanding the scope and application of this "exemption" from FERPA, the use of law enforcement units and law enforcement unit records for disciplinary purposes, and the treatment of law enforcement unit records in different contexts and under different laws.

If you choose to adopt this policy, you should also update Policy 5016: Student Records, with the optional language addressing law enforcement unit records. As further discussed above, Policy 3039: Threat Assessment and Response was also updated with optional language available to schools that adopt this policy.

This policy is not required.

DELETE POLICY 4001: Nondiscrimination

This policy has been moved to the 3000 series. It will now be Policy 3053. Your index for the 4000 series should indicate that Policy 4001 will now be “[Intentionally Left Blank].”

This move is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 4048: Assessment Administration and Security

We have updated the internal references from Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) to the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS).

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 4052: Job References to Prospective Employers

Last summer the US Department of Education issued a Dear Colleague letter highlighting the requirements of Section 8546 of ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 7926). You can review the letter [here](#). ESEA states that all schools must have a policy prohibiting school employees from providing assistance in obtaining a new job to an employee, contractor, or agent if the school knows or has probable cause to believe that he/she has engaged in sexual misconduct with a student or minor in violation of the law. The prohibition does not apply to routine procedures regarding the transmission of administrative or personnel files, but prohibits the district or its agents from doing anything more than that to help the employee obtain new employment. This policy has been updated with a general prohibition as required by law.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5002: Admission of Students

The Nebraska Supreme Court’s Commission on Children and Families in the Courts is working to improve the educational outcomes for court-involved students. One of the major impediments to these students’ educational success is a lack of educational stability. The Commission’s Education Sub-committee has developed a form called the “Education Court Report” which is designed to force probation officers and DHHS caseworkers to seek information about a student’s educational situation before the agency changes the student’s educational placement. If you have never seen the

form, [here](#) is a copy for you to review. Unfortunately, too few probation officers and caseworkers are completing this form. The new wording in Policy 5002 states that schools will ask to review the Education Court Report before enrolling a court-involved student. Note that we cannot refuse to enroll a student without the Education Court Report. We are hopeful that if schools consistently ask to review the Report, however, that this will prod the agencies to more consistently complete the form.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISIONS OF POLICY 5016: Student Records

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) there must be "data protections" set up around the personally identifiable student information in education records. The US Department of Education identifies elements which must be present in contracts between local education agencies and the testing companies. The good news is that in Nebraska the state department of education has signed a single statewide contract with ACT, Inc. The revision to Policy 5016 makes it clear that any information disclosed to ACT, Inc. by the school is pursuant to the portion of FERPA which allows schools to disclose information to their state departments of education. It also makes it clear that any redisclosure of information about student test scores by ACT, Inc. is governed by the NDE contract and not within the control of the local school district.

This change is required.

Under the section designating "school officials," we have added in the school district's insurance carriers. When schools report incidents which may trigger coverage, we often get the question of whether FERPA-protected information can be disclosed. This allows schools to disclose information and records to insurance representatives required to exercise the district's rights under the policy. It also eliminates a sentence which is more restrictive than required under federal law.

This change is required.

This policy was further updated to include optional language regarding the records of law enforcement units. This language should only be included if you also adopt the policy designating a law enforcement unit, discussed above.

This change is optional, and should only be made if you also adopt a policy designating a law enforcement unit.

REVISION OF POLICY 5017: Routine Directory Information

LB 575 adds a provision to state law to provide equal access to high schools for military recruiters that is enjoyed by all other post-secondary recruiters who visit high schools and speak with students about opportunities after graduation. This is the same concept put into law by the federal government under the 2001 No Child Left Behind Act, but the wording of the state law is slightly different than the federal law which necessitates an amendment to this policy.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5022 OPTION A: Investigations, Arrests, and Other Student Contact by Law Enforcement and Health and Human Services

We modified the section in only this option of the policy relating to administrators being present in student interviews by law enforcement. We also deleted the requirement for administrators to intervene in the interviews with law enforcement.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION OF POLICY 5035: Student Discipline

We revised two of the "school rules" in this policy. First, we added provisions prohibiting the possession, handling, or transmission of a look-a-like weapon and simulating the possession of a weapon. Second, we updated the wording related to vaping to include "an electronic nicotine delivery system" (discussed above in Policy 3016). We also changed a reference to "state law" to "the Nebraska Criminal Code" to track the wording found in section 79-293 regarding the requirement to report certain violations to law enforcement.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5045: Student Fees

We revised this policy to add a section addressing fees associated with technological devices, which are becoming increasingly prevalent as more schools utilize 1:1 device programs. While such fees are lawful in limited circumstances, it is important that the policy and the district's practice make clear that fees will not be charged for the use of these devices when they are necessary to access the basic curriculum.

Additionally, we revised the formatting of the policy, because the previous tables used to list fees sometimes made it difficult to customize the policy.

This change is not required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5063: Audio and Video Recording

We've had a number of districts ask for guidance in dealing with student use of devices that actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings. This policy was updated to provide additional clarity with respect to this issue. As devices like Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod, and AngelSense trackers are becoming more popular in use, more students are bringing these devices to school, sometimes unbeknownst to the district. In some situations, parents may be under the impression that their student is entitled to bring such a device to school. The updated language makes clear that students are generally prohibited from using such devices unless otherwise permitted by district policy or administration.

This change is not required.

Forms Changes

REVISION of Notice of Nondiscrimination

Regulations implementing various antidiscrimination laws require recipients of federal funds to issue notices of nondiscrimination notifying students, parents, and others that the recipients do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age, and, if applicable, that they provide equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Over the years, the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has approved various versions of the Notice of

Nondiscrimination used by our school district clients. Those different versions found their way into our stand-alone notices, handbook provisions, policy provision, etc. In order to ensure uniformity, we have revised our Notice of Nondiscrimination to essentially follow the sample notice provided by OCR across our policies and handbooks.

This revision is required.

REVISION OF 3000 FORM: General Facility Use Application

The liability insurance coverage limits appearing in this form have been updated to reflect the school district requiring applicants seeking to use district facilities to furnish liability coverage with limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence. This level of coverage is consistent with the limit on the school district's tort liability under the Nebraska Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act. Applicants can meet this requirement through a combination of underlying liability policies and umbrella/excess policies. Applicants are also required to name the school district as an additional insured to such policies on a primary and non-contributory basis.

This change is required. Failure to adopt this update may leave a gap between the insurance coverage furnished by a facility user for the benefit of the district and the liability limitation under the Nebraska Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act.

Veterans Preference Not Hiring Letter (4000 Series)

Under Nebraska's Veterans Preference laws (48-225 to 48-231), any preference-eligible applicant must be informed if they will not be hired and provided with their appeal rights. Here is the exact provision of the law:

Within thirty days after filling a position, veterans who have applied and are not hired shall be notified by regular mail, electronic mail, telephone call, or personal service that they have not been hired. Such notice also shall advise the veteran of any administrative appeal available.

If you have a preference-eligible veteran apply and submit the required forms and documentation, this letter can be used to provide the required notices. You can also provide notice via phone call or e-mail, but we prefer using a letter to document the notice when possible.

The law does not require a school district to have an appeal procedure. Our form policy service does not include an appeal right. If you permit an appeal, you should include that process in this letter.

This form is not required but can be used to satisfy your obligations under the Veterans Preference law in Nebraska.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROCEDURES (6000 Series Form)

KSB updated our procedures in February in response to new requirements conveyed to school districts during the special education audits conducted by NDE. The revised procedures address all of the areas required by Rule 51, IDEA, and its implementing regulations.

The adoption of these procedures is required.

Other Issues to Consider

COMMENT ON POLICY 5015: Protection of Pupil Rights and Related Handbook Requirement

Nebraska is 1 of 29 states which require administration of a college entrance exam to meet the requirement to administer an assessment in reading/language arts and mathematics at least once in grades 9-12 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). However, last spring, the department within the U.S. Department of Education in charge of protecting student privacy issued a document which requires schools to take certain steps related to administration of these exams. You can review a copy of that document [here](#).

One of the issues that the US Department of Education is concerned about is the voluntary pre-test surveys that the testing companies include in their exams. These surveys ask questions about all kinds of topics: academic interests, participation in extracurricular activities and religious affiliation. That information is then sold by the testing companies to colleges, universities, scholarship services and other organizations for the purposes of college recruitment and scholarship solicitation.

The US Department of Education's new guidance emphasizes that these surveys implicate the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). Under PPRA, parents have a right to be consulted regarding the development of

district policies related to surveys covering restricted topics; they must also be notified annually about the policies and "informed "whenever a survey includes questions on a restricted topic or when student information will be for the purposes of marketing or selling.

Most educators have assumed that since the survey questions at the beginning of the ACT are voluntary, a student can choose whether to complete them or not. But note that, unless the student is 18, it is not the *student* who gets to decide whether the survey will be completed, it is the parent. PPRA requires schools to notify *parents* and give *parents* the opportunity to opt their student out of participation in the pre-surveys (unless the student is emancipated or is 18 or older).

The PPRA also requires schools to make pre-test survey questions available for review by parents and students and to provide parents (and emancipated students or those 18 or older) with notice of the date the survey will be administered.

As written, Policy 5015 is general enough that it will not have to be revised. However, your student handbooks will need to be updated to address this issue. The updated KSB student handbooks will be distributed to full service subscribers soon. If you do not use KSB's form handbooks, you will need to provide this updated notice to parents.

No change to 5015 is required, but your handbooks will need to be updated.

**COMMENT ON POLICY 5057: District Title I Parent
and Family Engagement and School-Parent-Student Compact
Example Title I**

Each year, our service subscribers get visits from the ESSA Federal Programs monitoring staff from NDE. As many of you will recall, we've worked with NDE proactively on policies like Homeless Students and Title I Parent and Family Engagement to be sure the policies are in compliance long before the monitoring staff ask for them.

This year, NDE staff told some administrators who that our policy 5057 was not sufficient. After discussing the matter with NDE, and after they once again reviewed our policy in light of the compliance checklist, we have been assured that our policy is compliant. If you are going through the ESSA Federal Programs monitoring check and run into any issues, please let us know. If you're a full policy subscriber and want to be sure your policy is the

most current version, you can always get it from our website under the Complete Policy Service link.

Finally, we have provided an updated "School-Parent-Student Compact Example Title I" which removes the signature lines. If you want to use this version moving forward, you can. If you have been obtaining signatures on this document, it is no longer required to do so.

REMINDER FOR POLICY 6036: Reading Instruction and Intervention Services

Last year, the Unicameral passed LB 1081, thereby creating the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act (sections 79-2601 through 79-2607). This Act expresses the Unicameral's intent that all students in public schools be able to read at or above grade level by third grade. In order to meet this goal, school boards are required to develop policies to facilitate reading instruction and intervention services to address student reading needs, including, but not limited to, dyslexia. Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, schools will be required to administer reading assessments approved by NDE three times per school year to all students in kindergarten through third grade. A list of reading assessments that have been reviewed and approved by the Nebraska Department of Education can be [found here at NebraskaREADS](#). Schools will also be required to provide supplemental reading intervention programs to students identified with reading deficiencies to ensure that they are reading at or above grade level by the end of third grade. NDE's FAQ indicates that it will be providing a supplemental reading program template, but it was not yet available as of this writing. This policy, which we sent out last year, addresses all of the requirements of the new Act.

The Act also authorizes NDE to adopt rules and regulations. While the department has not yet done so, it has created [a list of Frequently Asked Questions that can be viewed here](#).

This policy is required.

Fair Credit Reporting Act and Background Checks

Some school business officials have reached out to us regarding changing obligations under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act when schools and ESUs use third-party background check companies, like OneSource. If you've seen "FCRA" updates in various HR emails or tweets over the last year, it's likely because the FTC put out new forms last fall, and in January

the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a FCRA decision regarding the required notices.

These items are important, because the compliance obligations under FCRA fall to the employer and not the third-party company (and FCRA generally doesn't apply if you conduct your own). However, most schools work with an entity like OneSource which provides the required notices as a service. If you have questions about your FCRA obligations, please feel free to contact us. However, at this time we are not making any changes to our standard policies or forms.

Finally, please keep in mind that FCRA is different from Nebraska's state "ban the box" statutes which prohibit conducting criminal background checks (other than for crimes of abuse) until your school or ESU has determined that the employee meets the "minimum essential qualifications" for employment. These differ from the ADA and the "essential function" analysis, as well, and we already have the "MEQ" section at the beginning of our form job application in the 4000 series forms.

LB 103: Changes in Property Tax Requests

The Unicameral passed LB 103 and the Governor signed it early in the legislative session. It requires boards of education to hold an extra public hearing and pass a resolution when the district's tax collections will increase, regardless of whether the increase resulted from higher property valuations or from a higher property tax levy. The bill specifies what information must be provided in published notices of the public hearing.

Boards of education and school administrators should be aware of these new requirements. Both the Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska State Auditor will be developing the forms necessary for boards of education to use in making property tax requests in compliance with LB 103. These new requirements do not require a policy change or any immediate board action, but you should prepare for them.

LB 281: Posting the Child Abuse Hotline Number

This bill requires all public schools to either:

1. Post a sign with the statewide toll-free child abuse and neglect number in English and Spanish in a “clearly visible location in a public area of the school”; OR
2. Post a link to the sign or poster on its website.

NDE has been given the authority to contract with an appropriate entity to create such a poster.

LB 675: Contracts for Certain Services

This bill changes the maximum length of contracts for utility services, refuse disposal, transportation services, maintenance services, financial services, insurance, security services, and instructional materials, supplies, and equipment from four years to seven year. The maximum contract length allowed for collective bargaining agreements remains four years.

LB 630: Sexting and Revenge Porn

LB 630 changes the criminal penalties for sexting and creates a new criminal offense for revenge porn and sexual extortion. This new law doesn't require any policy changes, but the new crimes will be included in the definitions of the crimes which principals must report to law enforcement under Policy 5035. When schools provide the annual digital citizenship training to students required by the Children's Internet Privacy Protection Act, you should be sure to include a summary of these new crimes.

Title IX Regulatory Changes

In November of 2018, the US Department of Education released new proposed Title IX regulations. We have been warning for several months that the revisions to the Title IX regulations which have been proposed by the US Department of Education will have enormous policy implications for K-12 school districts. If you would like to review our summary of the proposed regulations, we blogged about the regulations [here](#).

News reports indicate that the proposed rule generated more than 100,000 pieces of feedback. Now that the notice-and-comment period has closed, the Department of Education is under legal obligation to consider and respond to all substantive comments. Department of Education has set an internal goal of releasing the final regulations in September, although that

target date can be extended. Once we have the final regulation, KSB will develop compliant Title IX policies for subscribers' consideration. We will also be training both administrators and board members on the new regulations. In the meantime, there is nothing to do but wait to see if the regulators take the concerns of the K-12 education community to heart and revise the proposed regulations.

CONCLUSION

It is all too easy to adopt policies that look good, but that do not actually reflect how the school operates or assist the school in accomplishing its goals. Every year we stress that it is very important to us to give you a working, useful set of policies and a continuing ***policy service***. There is no additional charge for revisions to these policies or consultation about them. Please don't hesitate to contact any one of us with questions. Our group e-mail address is ksb@ksbschoollaw.com.

3051 Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response

The district will maintain an opioid antagonist in its schools, specifically naloxone, otherwise known by its brand name Narcan. Pursuant to Nebraska law and the Naloxone Standing Order issued by the Nebraska DHHS, Division of Public Health, the board will permit school nurses, trained school staff, or other individuals qualified by law to administer naloxone to any person at school or a school event displaying symptoms of an opioid overdose.

This policy shall not create a duty on the part of the school district and/or its personnel to administer naloxone. School representatives will not administer naloxone under the following circumstances:

- a. Naloxone is not available during the overdose emergency;
- b. There is no individual available who is qualified to administer naloxone; or
- c. School representatives are uncertain as to whether an opioid overdose is occurring.

Nothing in this policy is intended to regulate, restrict or otherwise deter a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, volunteer fire fighter, licensed medical professional or other authorized individual from administering his/her own supply of naloxone when responding in good faith to a suspected drug overdose occurring on school district property or at a school-sponsored event.

Procurement and Storage. The superintendent, in consultation with the school's nursing staff, will make the necessary arrangements to obtain naloxone. The naloxone will be stored unlocked in the nurses' office(s). The superintendent, in consultation with the school's nursing staff, will reorder naloxone.

Naloxone that is nearing its expiration date will be replaced. The school nurse shall maintain a log of naloxone supplies consistent with the district's practices for logging other medications.

Training. Licensed health care professionals and school resource officers employed on the high school and middle school levels shall all complete an approved naloxone training prior to carrying and/or administering naloxone. Other school staff members may be trained as determined by the administration. Once trained, staff members shall

review the DHHS standing order and applicable naloxone administration protocols as needed.

Recordkeeping and Reporting. Any individual who administers naloxone on behalf of the school district will promptly notify the building principal and superintendent of the facts and circumstances surrounding the drug overdose incident. The administration of naloxone to any student will be documented in his/her cumulative health record. The administration of naloxone to any staff member will be documented in his/her personnel file.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3052
Leasing Personal Property

I. Leases of Personal Property by the District

A. Applicability of this policy.

Leases of personal property using any federal funds, whether those funds are derived directly from the federal government (e.g. award of a federal grant) or are derived by pass-through awards from the Nebraska Department of Education (e.g. special education funds, school lunch funds, Title I funds) are subject to the policy on Purchasing and Procurement with Federal Funds, which is found elsewhere in this section.

This policy applies to all other leases of personal property made by the school district other than construction, remodeling, repair and site improvements.

B. General Leasing Policy

1. The school district's budget shall be the guide for all leases of personal property. Any leases of personal property must be approved by the board or superintendent.
2. The board intends to lease competitively, whenever possible, without prejudice and to seek maximum educational value for every dollar expended.
3. The leasing of equipment and other goods shall be centralized in the administration office under the supervision of the superintendent of schools, who shall be responsible for developing and administering the leasing program of the school district.
4. Leases of personal property or commitments of district funds that are not authorized by this policy will be the responsibility of the person making the commitment.
5. No board member, employee, volunteer, parent-teacher organization, or other individual or entity may use a school district account, its tax identification number, or its tax exemption to make personal leases of any kind or for any reason.

C. Leasing Procedures

1. School personnel must secure the approval of the board or superintendent before entering into a lease for personal property.
2. For lease of more than **\$2,500**, the district will secure written quotes and/or estimates from a reasonable number of vendors. The district will lease from a responsible vendor with the lowest price unless the board approves the lease from the more expensive vendor.

D. Relations with Vendors

1. The board wishes to maintain good working relations with vendors who lease equipment, goods, and other personal property to the school system. The school shall not extend favoritism to any vendors. Each lease shall be entered into on the basis of quality, price and delivery, with past experiences being a factor if all other considerations are equal.
2. No lease shall be made that violates any conflict of interest policy or law.
3. The board believes in patronizing local businesses. Consequently, when proposals are judged to be equal in terms of quality, price, and/or service, the lease will be awarded to the firm that is located within the district. However, the board will not sacrifice either quality or economy to patronize local businesses.

II. Lease of District-Owned Personal Property to Others

A. Personal Property Valued at No More Than **\$2,500**

If the Superintendent determines that any personal property that is owned by the school district and has a fair market value of no more than **\$2,500** is not needed for school district use, the Superintendent may enter into a lease agreement for a period no longer than the period of time during which such property is not needed for school purposes and in no event longer than **120** days. The Superintendent is authorized to determine the terms and conditions of the lease of this district-owned personal property, provided

however that Superintendent will avoid leasing such personal property at a rate that is significantly lower than the fair market value for comparable rentals of similar personal property. At Superintendent's discretion, Superintendent may require lessors of this district-owned personal property to furnish property and liability insurance covering lessors use of such property.

B. Personal Property Valued in Excess of \$2,500

If the board of education determines that any personal property that is owned by the school district and has a fair market value of at least \$2,500 is not needed for school district use, the board may lease such property, or portion thereof, upon such terms and conditions as it determines.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5001 Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism

Required Attendance

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

Mandatory Attendance Age

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

Exceptions

This policy does not apply when attendance is made impossible or impracticable by severe weather conditions or by the temporary illness of the student or a child whom the student is parenting.

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

Discontinuing Enrollment – 5 Year Old Students

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

Discontinuing Enrollment – 16 and 17 Year Old Students

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

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

Attendance Officer

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

Excused Absences

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

1. Physical or mental illness of the student (a physician's verification is required after four (4) consecutive days of absence for illness)
2. Severe weather
3. Medical appointments for the student
4. Death or serious illness of the student's family member

5. Attending a funeral, wedding or graduation
6. Appearance at court or for other legal matters
7. Observance of religious holidays of the student's own faith
8. College planning visits
9. Personal or family vacations

Excessive Absenteeism

When a student receives 5 unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent in any semester, the Attendance Officer will follow the attached procedure for addressing barriers to the student's attendance.

When a student is absent more than twenty days per year or the hourly equivalent and any portion of the absences is unexcused, the Attendance Officer may/must file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the student resides. For example, if the student accumulates 23 days of excused absences due to documented illness and is tardy one time, the Attendance Officer may file a report with the appropriate county attorney.

Adopted on: __7/10/2017_____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5054 Student Bullying

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

Bullying Prohibited. Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of bullying behavior.

Disciplinary Consequences. The disciplinary consequences for bullying behavior will depend on the frequency, duration, severity and effect of the behavior.

A student who engages in bullying behavior on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events may be subject to disciplinary consequences including but not limited to long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.

Without limiting the foregoing, a student who engages in bullying behavior that materially and substantially interferes with or disrupts the educational environment, the district’s day-to-day operations, or the education process, regardless of where the student is at the time of engaging in the bullying behavior, may be subject to discipline to the extent permitted by law.

Bullying Based on Protected Class Status. Bullying based on protected class status is unique and may require additional investigation. The appropriate district staff member or coordinator will promptly investigate bullying complaints that violate the district’s antidiscrimination policies.

Support for Students Who Have Experienced Bullying. Regardless of where the bullying occurred, the district will consider whether victims of bullying are suffering an adverse educational impact and, if

appropriate, will refer those students to the district's student assistance team.

Bullying Prevention and Education. Students and parents are encouraged to inform teachers or administrators orally or in writing about bullying behavior or suspected bullying behavior. School employees are required to inform the administrator of all such reports. The appropriate administrator shall promptly investigate all such reports. Each building shall engage in activities which educate students about bullying, bullying prevention and digital citizenship.

Policy Review. The school district shall review this policy annually.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017

Revised on: 7/9/2018

Reviewed on: _____

KAREN A. HAASE
STEVE WILLIAMS
BOBBY TRUHE



COADY H. PRUETT
SHARI RUSSELL, Paralegal

M E M O R A N D U M

To: KSB Policy Service Subscribers

FROM: KSB School Law

DATE: June 3, 2019

RE: Annual Policy Updates

Attached are the 2019 KSB School Law policy updates. We have also included changes to our standard forms and updates on some other laws which do not require changes to policies but do present new obligations or things to keep in mind as you enter the 2019-20 year. We have broken these down in 3 sections: "Policy Changes;" "Forms Changes;" and "Other Issues to Consider."

To assist subscribers in implementing these policy changes and the other considerations laid out in this Memo, **KSB will hold a webinar on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Central Time.** In the webinar, we will give a brief overview of the changes and then answer questions from attendees regarding the policies and other considerations. We have included the link to the ZOOM conference in the cover e-mail that transmitted these updates. We will also record the webinar and will post it on the KSB School Law website in the Policy Updates section.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any additional questions or if you would like to have a policy customized or "tweaked" to meet your individual circumstances.

Policy Changes

REVISION OF POLICY 2002: Organization of the Board

LB 399 changes the name of the Committee on Americanism to the Committee on American Civics. You must appoint this committee at the

beginning of each calendar year. Previously, you appointed the committee at the beginning of each school year.

The duties of this committee now include the following:

- Hold no fewer than two public meetings annually, at least one when public testimony is accepted;
- Keep minutes of each meeting showing the time and place of the meeting, which members were present or absent, and the substance and details of all matters discussed;
- Examine and ensure that the social studies curriculum used in the district is aligned with the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01 and teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography;
- Review and approve the social studies curriculum to ensure that it stresses the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of the union and includes the incorporation of multicultural education as set forth in sections 79-719 to 79-723 in order to instill pride and respect for the nation's institutions and not be merely a recital of events and dates;
- Ensure that any curriculum recommended or approved by the committee on American civics is made readily accessible to the public and contains a reference to this section;
- Ensure that the district develops and utilizes formative, interim, and summative assessments to measure student mastery of the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01;
- Ensure that the social studies curriculum in the district incorporates one or more of the following for each student:
 - Administration of a written test that is identical to the entire civics portion of the naturalization test used by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services prior to the completion of eighth grade and again prior to the completion of twelfth grade with the individual score from each test for each student made available to a parent or guardian of such student; or
 - Attendance or participation between the commencement of eighth grade and completion of twelfth grade in a meeting of a public body as defined by section 84-1409 followed by the completion of a project or paper in which each student demonstrates or discusses the personal learning experience of such student related to such attendance or participation; or
 - Completion of a project or paper and a class presentation between the commencement of eighth grade and the completion of twelfth grade on a person or persons or an event

commemorated by a holiday listed in section 79-724(6) or on a topic related to such person or persons or event; and

- Take all such other steps as will assure the carrying out of the provisions of this section and provide a report to the school board regarding the committee's findings and recommendations.

Other requirements of LB 399 include the following:

- All social studies courses approved for grade levels as provided by this section shall include and adequately stress contributions of all ethnic groups to (a) the development and growth of America into a great nation, (b) art, music, education, medicine, literature, science, politics, and government, and (c) the military in all of this nation's wars.
- All grades of all public, private, denominational, and parochial schools, below the sixth grade, shall devote at least one hour per week to exercises or teaching periods for the following purpose:
 - The discussion of noteworthy events pertaining to American history or the exceptional acts of individuals and groups of Americans;
 - The historical background, memorization, and singing of patriotic songs such as the Star-Spangled Banner and America the Beautiful;
 - The development of respect for the American flag as a symbol of freedom and the sacrifices of those who secured that freedom; and
 - Instruction as to proper conduct in the presentation of the American flag.
- In at least two of the three grades from the fifth grade to the eighth grade in all public, private, denominational, and parochial schools, time shall be set aside for the teaching of American history from the social studies curriculum which shall be taught in such a manner that all students are given the opportunity to (a) become competent, responsible, patriotic, and civil citizens who possess a deep understanding of and respect for both the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Nebraska and (b) prepare to preserve, protect, and defend freedom and democracy in our nation and our world.
- In at least two courses in every high school, time shall be devoted to the teaching of civics and American history as outlined in the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01, during which courses specific attention shall be given to the following matters:
 - The Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Constitution of Nebraska, and the structure and function of local government in this state;

- The benefits and advantages of representative government, the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in our government, and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals such as, but not limited to, Nazism and communism;
- The duties of citizenship, which include active participation in the improvement of a citizen's community, state, country, and world and the value and practice of civil discourse between opposing interests; and
- The application of knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography to address societal issues.
- Appropriate patriotic exercises suitable to the occasion shall be held under the direction of the superintendent in every public, private, denominational, and parochial school on George Washington's birthday, Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Native American Heritage Day, Constitution Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving Day, or on the day or week preceding or following such holiday, if the school is in session.
- Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out this section. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

The State Board of Education has been directed to adopt rules and regulations to carry out these provisions and to ensure that all of these requirements are carried out by each school district.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 2006: Complaints

We have added a section to this policy that makes it clear that parents of students with IEPs and Section 504 plans cannot use the complaint process to side-step the formal administrative exhaustion requirements found in those laws and the accompanying regulations. We have had several instances over the last year in which unhappy special education parents have tried to appeal to the board to override decisions made by the student's IEP team. That is simply not allowed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. We also believe this edit will make it more difficult for special education parents to sue the school district for money damages by seeking to identify a conflict over a disabled students' education as a Section 504 issue rather than an IDEA issue.

This change is required.

**REVISION OF POLICY 2014: Relationship with School Attorney
NEW NAME: Relationship with District Legal Counsel**

We have revised this policy to swap out the term “school’s attorney” for “district legal counsel.” We think this will make it clearer that the school’s law firm serves at the discretion of the board of education, and the board is free to use law firms and legal services whenever it deems advisable. We have also added a provision in the policy that allows the board president or superintendent to retain an attorney if there is a pressing situation between board meetings. For example, this will allow the superintendent to retain a hearing officer before a personnel hearing if there is not a board meeting before the date of the hearing.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

NEW POLICY 2017: Indemnification and Liability Insurance

Nebraska statute section [79-516](#) has long provided broad authority for a board to purchase liability insurance and to indemnify board members, employees, and agents of the school in the event they become involved in a legal proceeding. This includes lawsuits, as well as administrative hearings, investigations, and others.

Most boards have purchased broad insurance coverage for defense costs and damages, but no insurance provider covers every single circumstance in which a board might want to indemnify board members or employees. This is why many administrator contracts have provisions providing indemnification if the administrator is involved in employment-related legal proceedings.

Some circumstances are trickier than the standard employment contract covers. For example, the board might want to provide indemnification for a principal facing a PPC complaint in some but not all situations. Similarly, there are a few obscure statutes under which a school board member could face criminal charges for the execution of his/her duties. These circumstances are not covered by insurance carriers but section 79-516 will allow the school board to provide a legal defense to the employees or board members in these circumstances.

This policy is designed to make it clear that the board may, but is not required, to provide a defense at the outset of these sorts of circumstances. This policy also allows the superintendent to procure legal services for other

employees in certain circumstances under their authority to secure legal services.

This policy is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION OF POLICY 3003.1: Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects Financed with Federal Funds

Very few school districts in Nebraska use federal funds for construction projects. However, those districts that do use federal dollars for construction must follow all of the special provisions required by the federal government. We included all of these special requirements in Policy 3004.1, but we have had feedback from auditors and NDE compliance reviewers that it is better to have all of these unique requirements centralized in the construction policy as well.

We have also modified this policy to make it clear that, although the federal limit for solicitation of sealed bids is \$250,000, Nebraska state law requires formal bidding for all construction projects with an anticipated aggregate cost of \$100,000 or more.

This change is required, even though it is likely to impact very few districts.

REVISION OF POLICY 3004.1: Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds

This revision just fixes a typographical error that we discovered when we were transferring duplicate sections of Policy 3004.1 into Policy 3003.1.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 3016: Smoking

Two bills passed this year criminalizing the use of “electronic nicotine delivery systems,” defined as “any product or device containing nicotine, tobacco, or tobacco derivatives that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other electronic, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to simulate smoking by delivering the nicotine, tobacco, or tobacco derivatives in vapor, fog, mist, gas, or aerosol form to a person inhaling from the product or device.” LB 149 criminalizes the use of an electronic nicotine delivery system by any minor *under the age*

of 19. LB 397 criminalizes the use of an electronic nicotine delivery system by any minor *under the age of 18*. We have added the term “electronic nicotine delivery system” to the policy and cleaned up and added some additional terms. There are three options under this policy, and the district must choose one.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION OF POLICY 3028: Sex Offenders

This policy has been amended to note that the second paragraph is no longer required by the Nebraska Sex Offender Registration Act. Several years ago, prior to changes to the Act, schools would get information about certain offenders not available to the general public. The Act used to require schools to disclose that information to its stakeholders. Now that nearly all offender information is publicly available, school districts may, but are not required to, notify staff members, parents, and students of any registered sex offenders residing in the school district. If you wish to continue to provide such notice, no policy change is required. If you do not wish to continue to provide such notice, you may delete this paragraph.

This change is not required.

POLICY 3039: Threat Assessment and Response

Policy 3039 was revised for clarity, but no substantive changes were made to Options 1 and 2.

These changes are required.

This policy was also updated to add a third option for school boards who decide to adopt the policy naming a “Law Enforcement Unit” under FERPA, discussed below. This option to Policy 3039 provides that the law enforcement unit will be responsible for conducting threat assessment investigations, and will share the results of that investigation with the superintendent for further action. However, please note that this is not required even if you chose to adopt the policy designating a law enforcement unit.

This change is not required.

POLICY 3046: Animals at School

We received many questions over the past year about former Policies 3046: Service Animals; 5060: Animals; and 5061: Therapy Dogs. In an attempt to better address these issues and to avoid further confusion, we have decided to combine all of the animal policies into Policy 3046: Animals at School.

The first section of this policy addresses the instructional use of animals in school. The policy requires the written permission of the superintendent or the building principal before a teacher can have an animal like a class pet in the building. We would be happy to tailor this section of the policy to address any different procedure that you might use.

The second section of this policy addresses service animals and is identical to our 2017 Policy Update, when we changed Policy 5060: Animals into Policy 3046: Service Animals. Some policy subscribers did not delete Policy 5060 at that time, which has resulted in some confusion. **If you have Policy 5060: Animals in your service, please delete it!**

The third section of this policy addresses “therapy animals” and was in former Policy 5061: Therapy Dogs. That policy was originally limited to dogs and placed in the 5000 series when it was created in 2012 at the specific request of policy subscribers that wanted to allow teachers to bring their therapy dogs to school. As you are probably aware, the news has been full of stories regarding people taking or attempting to take their therapy animals to a wide variety of public locations. Nebraska schools have not been immune to this trend. Many of our client schools have received requests from staff members, students, and members of the public to be allowed to bring their “therapy animals” to school.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires schools to allow students who comply with federal regulations to bring dogs and miniature horses to school. However, those regulations explicitly state that animals that provide only “emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship” (i.e. “therapy dogs”) are not service animals. Schools are not *required* to allow therapy animals at school under the service animal regulations. Are schools required to allow therapy animals into school as an accommodation under the ADA? Unfortunately, there is no guidance in the ADA or its regulations about allowing emotional support animals or therapy animals at school as an accommodation for a staff member, student, or patron. For this reason, we have given you **two options**. One is to allow therapy animals brought by a school employee when (1) approved by an administrator and (2) it is for the benefit of students. Otherwise, therapy animals are prohibited except as otherwise required by law. The second option bans therapy animals in school except as otherwise required by law. Obviously, there are other

options available. Please contact us if you would like to explore those other options.

This change is required. DELETE Policy 5060: Animals if you did not do so after the 2017 policy updates; DELETE Policy 5061: Therapy Dogs; and select either Option 1 or Option 2 under the third section of this policy.

REVISION OF POLICY 3050: Technology in the Classroom

Over the last year, we've received a number of calls regarding the use of smart speakers and other devices, such as AngelSense devices. In response, we updated this policy to provide additional clarity regarding the use of smart speaker devices and other forms of assistive technology that are becoming more widely used and requested. The updated language indicates that teachers may use smart speakers with the permission of building administration. Additionally, the updated language clarifies that assistive technology devices, such as AngelSense devices, that actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings must have that function disabled while being used in district classrooms, unless otherwise required by law.

This change is not required.

NEW POLICY 3051: Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response

In 2015 the Nebraska Unicameral authorized expanded access to naloxone, an opioid antagonist which is administered to individuals who are experiencing an opioid overdose. Naloxone, also known by its brand name Narcan, has been used by emergency responders for many years. Although the naloxone statute allows for dispensing naloxone without a prescription, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, has also issued a standing order to facilitate the availability of naloxone.

We have had several policy service subscribers ask us about the policy which they should have in place if they wish to stock and administer naloxone. This policy has been reviewed by both the Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. The National Association of School Nurses has a naloxone administration protocol, which school nursing staff can review [here](#). There are also a number of programs which will provide schools with access to naloxone at little or no cost, which you can review [here](#).

This policy is NOT required unless your district wants to stock and administer naloxone.

NEW POLICY 3052: Leasing Personal Property

This is a new policy. It provides the authority for authorized personnel to lease personal property (e.g., equipment, goods, etc.) from vendors for school district use. Each board of education will need to select the total lease amount above which written quotes/estimates will be required to be obtained from multiple vendors.

This policy also provides the authority for the superintendent to lease out district-owned personal property that is not needed for school purposes. Boards will have to decide (1) the threshold (dollar amount) of the fair market value of the personal property under which the superintendent may lease out such property without board authorization, and (2) the maximum number of days that the superintendent can agree to lease out district-owned personal property.

This policy is not required but is highly recommended. If it does not reflect your current practice, you should speak with one of us to tailor it to meet your current practices.

MOVED POLICY 3053: Nondiscrimination

This policy has been 4001 in our series for some time. However, because it contains nondiscrimination provisions for laws that apply to students and staff, we have decided that it is more appropriate to have it in the 3000 series. Policy 4001 will now be “[Intentionally Left Blank].”

Be sure to check any internal references you may have made to this policy in other locations. Please note this is a nondiscrimination policy. You are also required to have nondiscrimination notices which you likely include in your handbooks, on your website, etc. We have updated our standard nondiscrimination notice below, as well, so now is a good time to review the policy and notices together.

This move is required.

POLICY 3054: Law Enforcement Unit

In the wake of increased threats to school districts' safety and security, we've had several subscribers interested in providing more information to law enforcement and other third parties outside the district. For example, several schools have asked whether they can provide law enforcement with live access to video surveillance cameras. Generally speaking, FERPA requires schools to obtain parental consent before disclosing education records, unless the disclosure fits within one of the narrow exceptions.

However, FERPA places no limits on the disclosure of records created and maintained by a district's designated "law enforcement unit." That means "law enforcement unit" records may be shared much more freely, because they do not constitute education records under FERPA.

Law enforcement units are defined as the school district staff or group which is charged with (1) maintaining the physical security and safety of the district to enforce any local, state, or federal law, or (2) authorized to refer criminal matters to appropriate authorities. These responsibilities mean that the school district's "law enforcement unit" may be responsible for the creation of records, such a video surveillance footage, that can be disclosed without regard to the restrictions of state and federal law.

Boards of education who want to share information like security footage with the police and others can use this policy to designate a school staff member or group as the district's "law enforcement unit." Before designating a law enforcement unit, however, boards should consider the complex legal and practical implications of designating a law enforcement unit. This includes understanding the scope and application of this "exemption" from FERPA, the use of law enforcement units and law enforcement unit records for disciplinary purposes, and the treatment of law enforcement unit records in different contexts and under different laws.

If you choose to adopt this policy, you should also update Policy 5016: Student Records, with the optional language addressing law enforcement unit records. As further discussed above, Policy 3039: Threat Assessment and Response was also updated with optional language available to schools that adopt this policy.

This policy is not required.

DELETE POLICY 4001: Nondiscrimination

This policy has been moved to the 3000 series. It will now be Policy 3053. Your index for the 4000 series should indicate that Policy 4001 will now be “[Intentionally Left Blank].”

This move is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 4048: Assessment Administration and Security

We have updated the internal references from Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) to the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS).

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 4052: Job References to Prospective Employers

Last summer the US Department of Education issued a Dear Colleague letter highlighting the requirements of Section 8546 of ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 7926). You can review the letter [here](#). ESEA states that all schools must have a policy prohibiting school employees from providing assistance in obtaining a new job to an employee, contractor, or agent if the school knows or has probable cause to believe that he/she has engaged in sexual misconduct with a student or minor in violation of the law. The prohibition does not apply to routine procedures regarding the transmission of administrative or personnel files, but prohibits the district or its agents from doing anything more than that to help the employee obtain new employment. This policy has been updated with a general prohibition as required by law.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5002: Admission of Students

The Nebraska Supreme Court’s Commission on Children and Families in the Courts is working to improve the educational outcomes for court-involved students. One of the major impediments to these students’ educational success is a lack of educational stability. The Commission’s Education Sub-committee has developed a form called the “Education Court Report” which is designed to force probation officers and DHHS caseworkers to seek information about a student’s educational situation before the agency changes the student’s educational placement. If you have never seen the

form, [here](#) is a copy for you to review. Unfortunately, too few probation officers and caseworkers are completing this form. The new wording in Policy 5002 states that schools will ask to review the Education Court Report before enrolling a court-involved student. Note that we cannot refuse to enroll a student without the Education Court Report. We are hopeful that if schools consistently ask to review the Report, however, that this will prod the agencies to more consistently complete the form.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISIONS OF POLICY 5016: Student Records

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) there must be "data protections" set up around the personally identifiable student information in education records. The US Department of Education identifies elements which must be present in contracts between local education agencies and the testing companies. The good news is that in Nebraska the state department of education has signed a single statewide contract with ACT, Inc. The revision to Policy 5016 makes it clear that any information disclosed to ACT, Inc. by the school is pursuant to the portion of FERPA which allows schools to disclose information to their state departments of education. It also makes it clear that any redisclosure of information about student test scores by ACT, Inc. is governed by the NDE contract and not within the control of the local school district.

This change is required.

Under the section designating "school officials," we have added in the school district's insurance carriers. When schools report incidents which may trigger coverage, we often get the question of whether FERPA-protected information can be disclosed. This allows schools to disclose information and records to insurance representatives required to exercise the district's rights under the policy. It also eliminates a sentence which is more restrictive than required under federal law.

This change is required.

This policy was further updated to include optional language regarding the records of law enforcement units. This language should only be included if you also adopt the policy designating a law enforcement unit, discussed above.

This change is optional, and should only be made if you also adopt a policy designating a law enforcement unit.

REVISION OF POLICY 5017: Routine Directory Information

LB 575 adds a provision to state law to provide equal access to high schools for military recruiters that is enjoyed by all other post-secondary recruiters who visit high schools and speak with students about opportunities after graduation. This is the same concept put into law by the federal government under the 2001 No Child Left Behind Act, but the wording of the state law is slightly different than the federal law which necessitates an amendment to this policy.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5022 OPTION A: Investigations, Arrests, and Other Student Contact by Law Enforcement and Health and Human Services

We modified the section in only this option of the policy relating to administrators being present in student interviews by law enforcement. We also deleted the requirement for administrators to intervene in the interviews with law enforcement.

This change is not required but is highly recommended.

REVISION OF POLICY 5035: Student Discipline

We revised two of the "school rules" in this policy. First, we added provisions prohibiting the possession, handling, or transmission of a look-a-like weapon and simulating the possession of a weapon. Second, we updated the wording related to vaping to include "an electronic nicotine delivery system" (discussed above in Policy 3016). We also changed a reference to "state law" to "the Nebraska Criminal Code" to track the wording found in section 79-293 regarding the requirement to report certain violations to law enforcement.

This change is required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5045: Student Fees

We revised this policy to add a section addressing fees associated with technological devices, which are becoming increasingly prevalent as more schools utilize 1:1 device programs. While such fees are lawful in limited circumstances, it is important that the policy and the district's practice make clear that fees will not be charged for the use of these devices when they are necessary to access the basic curriculum.

Additionally, we revised the formatting of the policy, because the previous tables used to list fees sometimes made it difficult to customize the policy.

This change is not required.

REVISION OF POLICY 5063: Audio and Video Recording

We've had a number of districts ask for guidance in dealing with student use of devices that actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings. This policy was updated to provide additional clarity with respect to this issue. As devices like Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod, and AngelSense trackers are becoming more popular in use, more students are bringing these devices to school, sometimes unbeknownst to the district. In some situations, parents may be under the impression that their student is entitled to bring such a device to school. The updated language makes clear that students are generally prohibited from using such devices unless otherwise permitted by district policy or administration.

This change is not required.

Forms Changes

REVISION of Notice of Nondiscrimination

Regulations implementing various antidiscrimination laws require recipients of federal funds to issue notices of nondiscrimination notifying students, parents, and others that the recipients do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age, and, if applicable, that they provide equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Over the years, the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has approved various versions of the Notice of

Nondiscrimination used by our school district clients. Those different versions found their way into our stand-alone notices, handbook provisions, policy provision, etc. In order to ensure uniformity, we have revised our Notice of Nondiscrimination to essentially follow the sample notice provided by OCR across our policies and handbooks.

This revision is required.

REVISION OF 3000 FORM: General Facility Use Application

The liability insurance coverage limits appearing in this form have been updated to reflect the school district requiring applicants seeking to use district facilities to furnish liability coverage with limits of \$5,000,000 per occurrence. This level of coverage is consistent with the limit on the school district's tort liability under the Nebraska Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act. Applicants can meet this requirement through a combination of underlying liability policies and umbrella/excess policies. Applicants are also required to name the school district as an additional insured to such policies on a primary and non-contributory basis.

This change is required. Failure to adopt this update may leave a gap between the insurance coverage furnished by a facility user for the benefit of the district and the liability limitation under the Nebraska Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act.

Veterans Preference Not Hiring Letter (4000 Series)

Under Nebraska's Veterans Preference laws (48-225 to 48-231), any preference-eligible applicant must be informed if they will not be hired and provided with their appeal rights. Here is the exact provision of the law:

Within thirty days after filling a position, veterans who have applied and are not hired shall be notified by regular mail, electronic mail, telephone call, or personal service that they have not been hired. Such notice also shall advise the veteran of any administrative appeal available.

If you have a preference-eligible veteran apply and submit the required forms and documentation, this letter can be used to provide the required notices. You can also provide notice via phone call or e-mail, but we prefer using a letter to document the notice when possible.

The law does not require a school district to have an appeal procedure. Our form policy service does not include an appeal right. If you permit an appeal, you should include that process in this letter.

This form is not required but can be used to satisfy your obligations under the Veterans Preference law in Nebraska.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROCEDURES (6000 Series Form)

KSB updated our procedures in February in response to new requirements conveyed to school districts during the special education audits conducted by NDE. The revised procedures address all of the areas required by Rule 51, IDEA, and its implementing regulations.

The adoption of these procedures is required.

Other Issues to Consider

COMMENT ON POLICY 5015: Protection of Pupil Rights and Related Handbook Requirement

Nebraska is 1 of 29 states which require administration of a college entrance exam to meet the requirement to administer an assessment in reading/language arts and mathematics at least once in grades 9-12 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). However, last spring, the department within the U.S. Department of Education in charge of protecting student privacy issued a document which requires schools to take certain steps related to administration of these exams. You can review a copy of that document [here](#).

One of the issues that the US Department of Education is concerned about is the voluntary pre-test surveys that the testing companies include in their exams. These surveys ask questions about all kinds of topics: academic interests, participation in extracurricular activities and religious affiliation. That information is then sold by the testing companies to colleges, universities, scholarship services and other organizations for the purposes of college recruitment and scholarship solicitation.

The US Department of Education's new guidance emphasizes that these surveys implicate the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). Under PPRA, parents have a right to be consulted regarding the development of

district policies related to surveys covering restricted topics; they must also be notified annually about the policies and "informed "whenever a survey includes questions on a restricted topic or when student information will be for the purposes of marketing or selling.

Most educators have assumed that since the survey questions at the beginning of the ACT are voluntary, a student can choose whether to complete them or not. But note that, unless the student is 18, it is not the *student* who gets to decide whether the survey will be completed, it is the parent. PPRA requires schools to notify *parents* and give *parents* the opportunity to opt their student out of participation in the pre-surveys (unless the student is emancipated or is 18 or older).

The PPRA also requires schools to make pre-test survey questions available for review by parents and students and to provide parents (and emancipated students or those 18 or older) with notice of the date the survey will be administered.

As written, Policy 5015 is general enough that it will not have to be revised. However, your student handbooks will need to be updated to address this issue. The updated KSB student handbooks will be distributed to full service subscribers soon. If you do not use KSB's form handbooks, you will need to provide this updated notice to parents.

No change to 5015 is required, but your handbooks will need to be updated.

**COMMENT ON POLICY 5057: District Title I Parent
and Family Engagement and School-Parent-Student Compact
Example Title I**

Each year, our service subscribers get visits from the ESSA Federal Programs monitoring staff from NDE. As many of you will recall, we've worked with NDE proactively on policies like Homeless Students and Title I Parent and Family Engagement to be sure the policies are in compliance long before the monitoring staff ask for them.

This year, NDE staff told some administrators who that our policy 5057 was not sufficient. After discussing the matter with NDE, and after they once again reviewed our policy in light of the compliance checklist, we have been assured that our policy is compliant. If you are going through the ESSA Federal Programs monitoring check and run into any issues, please let us know. If you're a full policy subscriber and want to be sure your policy is the

most current version, you can always get it from our website under the Complete Policy Service link.

Finally, we have provided an updated "School-Parent-Student Compact Example Title I" which removes the signature lines. If you want to use this version moving forward, you can. If you have been obtaining signatures on this document, it is no longer required to do so.

REMINDER FOR POLICY 6036: Reading Instruction and Intervention Services

Last year, the Unicameral passed LB 1081, thereby creating the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act (sections 79-2601 through 79-2607). This Act expresses the Unicameral's intent that all students in public schools be able to read at or above grade level by third grade. In order to meet this goal, school boards are required to develop policies to facilitate reading instruction and intervention services to address student reading needs, including, but not limited to, dyslexia. Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, schools will be required to administer reading assessments approved by NDE three times per school year to all students in kindergarten through third grade. A list of reading assessments that have been reviewed and approved by the Nebraska Department of Education can be [found here at NebraskaREADS](#). Schools will also be required to provide supplemental reading intervention programs to students identified with reading deficiencies to ensure that they are reading at or above grade level by the end of third grade. NDE's FAQ indicates that it will be providing a supplemental reading program template, but it was not yet available as of this writing. This policy, which we sent out last year, addresses all of the requirements of the new Act.

The Act also authorizes NDE to adopt rules and regulations. While the department has not yet done so, it has created [a list of Frequently Asked Questions that can be viewed here](#).

This policy is required.

Fair Credit Reporting Act and Background Checks

Some school business officials have reached out to us regarding changing obligations under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act when schools and ESUs use third-party background check companies, like OneSource. If you've seen "FCRA" updates in various HR emails or tweets over the last year, it's likely because the FTC put out new forms last fall, and in January

the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a FCRA decision regarding the required notices.

These items are important, because the compliance obligations under FCRA fall to the employer and not the third-party company (and FCRA generally doesn't apply if you conduct your own). However, most schools work with an entity like OneSource which provides the required notices as a service. If you have questions about your FCRA obligations, please feel free to contact us. However, at this time we are not making any changes to our standard policies or forms.

Finally, please keep in mind that FCRA is different from Nebraska's state "ban the box" statutes which prohibit conducting criminal background checks (other than for crimes of abuse) until your school or ESU has determined that the employee meets the "minimum essential qualifications" for employment. These differ from the ADA and the "essential function" analysis, as well, and we already have the "MEQ" section at the beginning of our form job application in the 4000 series forms.

LB 103: Changes in Property Tax Requests

The Unicameral passed LB 103 and the Governor signed it early in the legislative session. It requires boards of education to hold an extra public hearing and pass a resolution when the district's tax collections will increase, regardless of whether the increase resulted from higher property valuations or from a higher property tax levy. The bill specifies what information must be provided in published notices of the public hearing.

Boards of education and school administrators should be aware of these new requirements. Both the Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska State Auditor will be developing the forms necessary for boards of education to use in making property tax requests in compliance with LB 103. These new requirements do not require a policy change or any immediate board action, but you should prepare for them.

LB 281: Posting the Child Abuse Hotline Number

This bill requires all public schools to either:

1. Post a sign with the statewide toll-free child abuse and neglect number in English and Spanish in a “clearly visible location in a public area of the school”; OR
2. Post a link to the sign or poster on its website.

NDE has been given the authority to contract with an appropriate entity to create such a poster.

LB 675: Contracts for Certain Services

This bill changes the maximum length of contracts for utility services, refuse disposal, transportation services, maintenance services, financial services, insurance, security services, and instructional materials, supplies, and equipment from four years to seven year. The maximum contract length allowed for collective bargaining agreements remains four years.

LB 630: Sexting and Revenge Porn

LB 630 changes the criminal penalties for sexting and creates a new criminal offense for revenge porn and sexual extortion. This new law doesn't require any policy changes, but the new crimes will be included in the definitions of the crimes which principals must report to law enforcement under Policy 5035. When schools provide the annual digital citizenship training to students required by the Children's Internet Privacy Protection Act, you should be sure to include a summary of these new crimes.

Title IX Regulatory Changes

In November of 2018, the US Department of Education released new proposed Title IX regulations. We have been warning for several months that the revisions to the Title IX regulations which have been proposed by the US Department of Education will have enormous policy implications for K-12 school districts. If you would like to review our summary of the proposed regulations, we blogged about the regulations [here](#).

News reports indicate that the proposed rule generated more than 100,000 pieces of feedback. Now that the notice-and-comment period has closed, the Department of Education is under legal obligation to consider and respond to all substantive comments. Department of Education has set an internal goal of releasing the final regulations in September, although that

target date can be extended. Once we have the final regulation, KSB will develop compliant Title IX policies for subscribers' consideration. We will also be training both administrators and board members on the new regulations. In the meantime, there is nothing to do but wait to see if the regulators take the concerns of the K-12 education community to heart and revise the proposed regulations.

CONCLUSION

It is all too easy to adopt policies that look good, but that do not actually reflect how the school operates or assist the school in accomplishing its goals. Every year we stress that it is very important to us to give you a working, useful set of policies and a continuing ***policy service***. There is no additional charge for revisions to these policies or consultation about them. Please don't hesitate to contact any one of us with questions. Our group e-mail address is ksb@ksbschoollaw.com.

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Organization of the Board

1. Membership, Term and Election

- a. The Board of Education shall be comprised of six members who will be elected at large.
- b. Those who wish to serve on the board shall file, be elected, and serve terms of office on the board according to law.

2. Internal Organization and Officers

a. President

- i. At the regular January meeting, the board shall elect from among its members a president who shall serve in that capacity for one year.
- ii. The president shall preside at all board meetings, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law or by action of the board.

b. Vice President

- i. At the regular January meeting, the board shall elect from among its members a vice president who shall serve in that capacity for one year.
- ii. The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president, and shall perform such other duties as are assigned by the board.

c. Secretary

- i. At the regular January meeting, the board shall elect a secretary who need not be a member of the board. The secretary shall serve in that capacity for one year. If the secretary is a member of the board, an assistant secretary may be named and his or her duties and compensation set by the board.
- ii. The secretary shall see that an accurate record of the proceedings of the board is kept, that a copy of the

proceedings is provided to each board member and to the superintendent, and that a concise summary of each month's meeting is published along with a list of all approved claims. The secretary shall perform such other duties as are prescribed by law and assigned by the board.

d. Treasurer

- i. A treasurer from the board will be designated on a year-to-year basis.
- ii. The treasurer will sign checks and certain other documents. The treasurer is the custodian of the monies of the district.
- iii. The treasurer shall give bond or equivalent insurance coverage payable to the district as prescribed by law with the cost of the bond being paid by the district.
- iv. The treasurer shall issue no warrant of payment of claim against the district until such claim has been duly authorized by the board and has been duly countersigned by the president.
- v. The vice president or secretary may sign any warrant in the absence of either the president or the treasurer.

3. Board Officer Voting and Tie Breakers

- a. The vote to elect board officers may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.
- b. In the event any officer cannot be elected by a majority after 10 votes; no votes occur after ten motions fail for lack of a "second,"; or no member volunteers to serve as an officer for a particular position, the tie will be broken by the applicable method:
 - i. If the board is split between two members, the officer will be determined by coin flip. The winning member will be the officer for the upcoming year unless the position changes by action of the board.
 - ii. If the board is split between more than two members who wish to serve as the officer, any member wanting to serve

as the officer will put his or her name into a drawing. The name drawn out will be the officer for the upcoming year unless the position changes by action of the board.

- iii. If no member is willing to serve as an officer for a position which is required to be a member of the board, all non-officers' names will be put into a drawing. The name drawn out will be the officer for the upcoming year unless the position changes by action of the board.

4. Committees

- a. The board shall authorize such special committees as it deems necessary. The board president shall appoint members to the committee, and designate its function, tasks it is to perform, and a completion date for its work.
- b. On or before the beginning of each calendar year, the board shall appoint three members to form a Committee on American Civics. The committee's duties shall be those prescribed by Nebraska statutes, which include:
 - i. Hold no fewer than two public meetings annually, at least one when public testimony is accepted;
 - ii. Keep minutes of each meeting showing the time and place of the meeting, which members were present or absent, and the substance and details of all matters discussed;
 - iii. Examine and ensure that the social studies curriculum used in the district is aligned with the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01 and teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography;
 - iv. Review and approve the social studies curriculum to ensure that it stresses the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of the union and includes the incorporation of multicultural education as set forth in sections 79-719 to 79-723 in order to instill a pride and respect for the nation's institutions and not be merely a recital of events and dates;
 - v. Ensure that any curriculum recommended or approved by the committee on American civics is made readily accessible to the public and contains a reference to this section;

- vi. Ensure that the district develops and utilizes formative, interim, and summative assessments to measure student mastery of the social studies standards adopted pursuant to section 79-760.01;
- vii. Ensure that the social studies curriculum in the district incorporates one or more of the following for each student:
 - 1. Administration of a written test that is identical to the entire civics portion of the naturalization test used by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services prior to the completion of eighth grade and again prior to the completion of twelfth grade with the individual score from each test for each student made available to a parent or guardian of such student; or
 - 2. Attendance or participation between the commencement of eighth grade and completion of twelfth grade in a meeting of a public body as defined by section 84-1409 followed by the completion of a project or paper in which each student demonstrates or discusses the personal learning experience of such student related to such attendance or participation; or
 - 3. Completion of a project or paper and a class presentation between the commencement of eighth grade and the completion of twelfth grade on a person or persons or an event commemorated by a holiday listed in section 79-724(6) or on a topic related to such person or persons or event; and
- viii. Take all such other steps as will assure the carrying out of the provisions of this section and provide a report to the school board regarding the committee's findings and recommendations.

5. Vacancies

- a. A vacancy on the board of education shall exist when any one of the following occurs:
 - i. A member submits his or her formal resignation from the board.
 - ii. A member removes himself or herself from the district or is absent from the district for a continuous period of sixty days.

iii. A member misses more than two consecutive regular board meetings unless excused by a majority of the remaining members.

iv. Such other reasons as are set forth in Nebraska statutes.

b. The board shall make note the vacancy in its minutes and shall give notice of the date the vacancy occurred, the office vacated, and the length of the unexpired term to (1) the election commissioner or county clerk, and (2) the public by published notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the district.

c. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner set forth in Nebraska statutes.

Adopted on: __11/14/2016__

Revised on: __7/9/2018__

Reviewed on: _____

2006 Complaint Procedure

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

A preponderance of the evidence will be required to discipline a party accused of misconduct. This means that the investigator must conclude that it is more likely than not that misconduct occurred.

Complaint and Appeal Process.

1. The first step is for the complainant to speak directly to the person(s) with whom the complainant has a concern. For example, a parent who is unhappy with a classroom teacher should initially discuss the matter with the teacher. However, the complainant should skip the first step if complainant believes speaking directly to the person would subject complainant to discrimination or harassment.
2. The second step is for the complainant to speak to the building principal, Title IX/504 coordinator, superintendent of schools, or president of the board of education, as set forth below.
 - a) Complaints about the operation, decisions, or personnel within a building should be submitted to the principal of the building.
 - b) Complaints about the operations of the school district or a building principal should be submitted in writing to the superintendent of schools.
 - c) Complaints about the superintendent of schools should be submitted in writing to the president of the board of education.

- d) Complaints involving discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, or age may also be submitted, at any time during the complaint procedure to the School District's Title IX/504 coordinator. Complaints involving discrimination or harassment may also be submitted at any time to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: by email at OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov; by telephone at (816) 268-0550; or by fax at (816) 268-0599.
3. When a complainant submits a complaint to an administrator or to the Title IX/504 coordinator, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
- a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the staff member involved.
 - 1) If the complainant has not, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with that staff member, if appropriate.
 - 2) If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the staff member, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 - b) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 - c) Interview the complainant to determine:
 - 1) All relevant details of the complaint;
 - 2) All witnesses and documents which the complainant believes support the complaint;
 - 3) The action or solution which the complainant seeks.
 - d) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the

administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator received the complaint.

4. If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the administrator's or the Title IX/504 coordinator's decision regarding a complaint he or she may appeal the decision to the superintendent.
 - a) This appeal must be in writing.
 - b) This appeal must be received by the superintendent no later than ten (10) business days from the date the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) The superintendent will investigate as he or she deems appropriate. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - d) Upon completion of this investigation, the superintendent will inform the complainant in writing of his or her decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the superintendent shall submit the decision within 180 days after the superintendent received complainant's written appeal.

5. If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the superintendent's decision regarding a complaint he or she may appeal the decision to the board.
 - a) This appeal must be in writing.
 - b) This appeal must be received by the board president no later than ten (10) business days from the date the superintendent communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) This policy allows, but does not require the board to receive statements from interested parties and witnesses relevant to the complaint appeal. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.

- d) The board will notify the complainant in writing of its decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the board shall submit its decision within 180 days after it received complainant's written appeal.
 - e) There is no appeal from a decision of the board.
6. When a formal complaint about the superintendent of schools has been filed with the president of the board, the president shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
- a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the superintendent.
 - 1) If the complainant has not, the board president will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with the superintendent, if appropriate.
 - 2) If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the superintendent, the board president shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 - b) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 - c) Determine, in his or her sole discretion, whether to place the matter on the board agenda for consideration at a regular or special meeting.
 - d) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the president received the complaint.

No Retaliation. The school district prohibits retaliation against any person for filing a complaint or for participating in the complaint procedure in good faith.

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

Students with disabilities and their families have specific rights outlined in state and federal law, including administrative processes by which

they may challenge the educational services being provided by the school district. Therefore, the appeal process contained in this policy may not be used to challenge decisions made by a student's individualized education plan (IEP) team or 504 team.

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

Complaints about the educational services provided a student with a disability pursuant to a Section 504 plan must be submitted to the school district's 504 Coordinator. The 504 Coordinator will address the complaint in a manner that he/she deems appropriate and will provide the complainant with a copy of the Notice of Section 504 Parental Rights adopted by the board of education.

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

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

Adopted on: __11/14/2016__

Revised on: __7/9/2018__

Reviewed on: _____

2014

Relationship with District Legal Counsel

The board will engage legal counsel to assist it and the administration in dealing with legal issues. When the district faces circumstances in which legal counsel may be needed between board meetings, the board president or superintendent may engage legal counsel on the board's behalf.

The superintendent and the board president shall have the authority to contact the district's legal counsel on behalf of the district. The superintendent may give other members of the administration permission to contact the district's legal counsel on an as-needed basis. Individual board members other than the president may not contact the district's legal counsel on behalf of the board without the approval of the board president or a majority of the board.

Any board member who contacts the district's legal counsel without board approval may be personally responsible for any legal fees incurred as a result of the unapproved contact.

The superintendent will, to the extent permitted by law, keep the board informed of matters in which the district's legal counsel is involved.

Adopted on: __11/14/2016__

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3003.1
Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair, or Related Projects
Financed with Federal Funds

I. Applicability of the policy

This policy applies only to construction and contracts undertaken with federal funds which are subject to the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and other applicable federal law, including but not limited to the Education Department and General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations governing school food service programs. In the event this policy conflicts or is otherwise inconsistent with mandatory provisions of the UGG, EDGAR or other applicable federal law, the mandatory provisions of the laws shall control.

The District will also comply with the requirements of the public lettings laws (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 73-101 through 73-106) when the contemplated expenditure for the complete project exceeds \$100,000, the Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 13-2901 through 13-2914), energy financing contracts (NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 66-1062 through 66-1066), other applicable state laws, and the board's general policy on Bidding for Construction and Related Projects. In the event of a conflict between state and federal law, the more stringent requirement shall apply.

II. All projects undertaken pursuant to this policy will be subject to the following bond requirements

- A. A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" must consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.
- B. A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.
- C. A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "payment bond" is one executed in connection with

a contract to assure payment as required by law of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract.

III. Construction Projects with an Anticipated Cost of Under \$250,000

A. Methods of Bidding/Soliciting Quotations or Estimates

The type of procedures required depends on the anticipated cost of the project.

1. Construction with an Anticipated Cost of up to \$10,000 (Micro-Purchases)

Micro-purchase means a purchase of supplies or services using simplified acquisition procedures, the annual aggregate amount of which does not exceed \$3,500. Micro-purchases may be made or awarded without soliciting competitive quotations, to the extent district staff determine that the cost of the purchase is reasonable. For purposes of this policy "reasonable" means the purchase is comparable to market prices for the geographic area.

To the extent practicable, the District distributes micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. The District will follow its standard policy on purchasing.

2. Construction with an Anticipated Cost of between \$10,000 and \$250,000 (Small Purchase Procedures)

For construction projects subject to this policy, small purchases are purchases that, in the aggregate amount, is more than \$3,500 and less than \$100,000 annually. For small purchases, price or rate quotes shall be obtained in advance from a reasonable number of qualified sources as detailed in the district's standard policies on purchasing and on bid letting and contracts.

B. Construction Projects with an estimated cost of \$100,000 and \$249,999 will be made pursuant to the District's Policy on Bid Letting and Contracts.

Pursuant to Nebraska law, construction projects which have an

anticipated aggregate cost of \$100,000 or more are subject to state public lettings laws (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 73-101 through 73-106). The board will follow its standard policy on bid letting and contracts for construction projects financed with federal funds which have an anticipated aggregate cost of between \$100,000 and \$250,000.

IV. Construction Projects with an Anticipated Cost Over \$250,000

A. Sealed Bids: All constructions projects subject to this policy with an anticipated cost of \$250,000 will be publicly solicited using the sealed bid method

1. Bids must be solicited from an adequate number of known suppliers, providing them sufficient response time prior to the date set for opening the bids, for state, local, and tribal governments, the invitation for bids must be publically advertised;
2. The invitation for bids, which will include any specifications and pertinent attachments, must define the items or services in order for the bidder to properly respond;
3. Sealed bids will be publically opened in a place and at the specific time stated in the bid solicitation. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.
4. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
 - a) Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs must be considered in determining which bid is lowest.
 - b) Payment discounts will only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that such discounts are usually taken advantage of.
 - c) Any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason.
5. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications. This means that the board will select the bid that offers the best value and award a contract based upon the amount of the bid and the bidder's ability and capacity to carry on the work, its equipment and facilities, honesty, integrity, skills,

business judgment, experience, equipment, facilities, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors.

6. The board will generally complete its review of bids and select a vendor within 30 days of bid submission.

B. Advertising for Bids.

1. The superintendent or designee will arrange to advertise for bids by publishing notice in any newspaper of general circulation within the school district at least 7 calendar days prior to the date on which bids are due.

2. Nothing shall prevent the superintendent or designee from advertising in additional media outlets or for a longer period of time.

C. Bid Documents

1. The bid documents shall identify the day upon which the bids shall be returned, received, or opened and shall identify the hour at which the bids will close or be received or opened.

2. The bid documents shall also provide that such bids shall be opened simultaneously in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.

3. Bids received after the date and time specified in the bid documents shall be returned to the bidder unopened.

4. If bids are being opened on more than one contract, the board, in its discretion, may award each contract as the bids are opened.

5. Sealed bids will be opened in a place and at the specific time stated in the bid solicitation. Bidders shall be notified of the opening and invited to be present.

6. Bids will be reviewed by the Superintendent and/or designee and submitted to the board for approval.

7. The board shall have discretion in determining which bidders are responsible and responsive and shall award the contract to the lowest, responsible, and responsive bidder whose bid meets the

bid specifications. This means that the board will select the bid that offers the best value and award a contract based upon the amount of the bid and the bidder's ability and capacity to carry on the work, its equipment and facilities, honesty, integrity, skills, business judgment, experience, equipment, facilities, financial stability, past performance, and other relevant factors.

8. The board will generally complete its review of bids and select a vendor within 30 days of bid submission.

D. The terms of any construction project undertaken pursuant to this policy will be memorialized in a written contract which has been reviewed by the district's legal counsel and approved by the board.

V. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.326 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible consistent with state law.

To the maximum extent practicable, the school food program shall purchase domestic commodities or products produced in US or processed in US substantially using agricultural commodities produced in US.

C. Full and Open Competition

The district's procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 C.F.R §200.319.

D. Debarment and Suspension

The District awards contracts only to responsible contractors possessing

the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.

The District may not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For all contracts over \$25,000 the District verifies that the vendor with whom the District intends to do business with is not excluded or disqualified. 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(1) and 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 180.300.

The District will verify debarment or suspension by revising the excluded parties list on SAM.gov, collecting a certification through the bidding process, and/or by including a debarment and suspension provision in the bid and contract documents. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for such verification.

E. Settlements of Issues Arising Out of Contract

The District alone is responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the District of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

F. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an effective audit; and (6) other records to show compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and §§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or

financial audit.

b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding construction projects for a minimum of five (5) years after the sale or demolition of the building. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.

c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.

2. Maintenance of Construction Records for Projects Financed with Federal Funds

a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all construction projects financed with federal funds. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of construction, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.

b) Retention of construction records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

VI. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct

A. Board and staff member conflicts of interest are governed by the district's conflict of interest policies.

B. Contracts covered by this policy are subject to the following

additional provisions.

1. Employees, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and/or administration of district contracts which are prohibited from engaging in such actions if a real or apparent conflict of interest is present.

2. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.

3. The board may determine at its discretion that a financial interest is not substantial enough to give rise to a conflict of interest.

C. Favors and Gifts

The officers, employees, and agents of the District may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts, with the limited exception of unsolicited items of nominal value.

D. Enforcement

Disciplinary Actions will be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the District at the board's discretion.

Adopted on: __7/10/2017_____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3004.1

Fiscal Management for Purchasing and Procurement Using Federal Funds

I. Applicability of Policy

This policy applies only to non-construction related purchases undertaken with federal funds which are subject to the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) and other applicable federal law, including but not limited to the Education Department and General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations governing school food service programs. In the event this policy conflicts or is otherwise inconsistent with mandatory provisions of the UGG, EDGAR or other applicable federal law, the mandatory provisions of the laws shall control.

All other non-construction purchases will be governed by the Board's general purchasing policy, which can be found earlier in this subsection. In the event of a conflict between state and federal law, the more stringent requirement shall apply.

This procurement policy shall govern all purchasing activities that relate to any aspect of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. The district's goal is to fully implement all required procurement rules, regulations and policies set forth in 2 CFR 200, 7 CFR parts 210, 3016 and 3019, and by the Nebraska Department of Education.

II. Procurement System

The District maintains the following purchasing procedures.

A. Responsibility for Purchasing

The authority to make purchases shall be governed by the District's purchasing policy, which can be found elsewhere in this section. Except as otherwise provided in the District's purchasing policy, the acquisition of services, equipment, and supplies shall be centralized in the administration office under the supervision of the superintendent of schools, who shall be responsible for developing and administering the purchasing program of the school district. Purchases or commitments of district funds that are not authorized by this policy will be the responsibility of the person making the commitment.

B. Methods of Purchasing

The type of purchase procedures required depends on the cost of the item(s) being purchased.

1. Purchases up to \$10,000 (Micro-Purchases)

Micro-purchase means a purchase of supplies or services using simplified acquisition procedures, the annual aggregate amount of which does not exceed \$10,000. Micro-purchases may be made or awarded without soliciting competitive quotations, to the extent district staff determine that the cost of the purchase is reasonable. For purposes of this policy "reasonable" means the purchase is comparable to market prices for the geographic area.

To the extent practicable, the District distributes micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. The District will follow its standard policy on purchasing, which can be found earlier in this subsection.

2. Purchases between \$10,000 and \$250,000 (Small Purchase Procedures)

Small purchases are purchases that, in the aggregate amount, is more than \$10,000 and less than \$250,000 annually. For small purchases, price or rate quotes shall be obtained in advance from a reasonable number of qualified sources as detailed in the district's standard policies on purchasing and on bid letting and contracts, which can be found earlier in this subsection.

3. Purchases Over \$250,000

a) Sealed Bids (Formal Advertising)

For purchases over \$250,000, the district will generally follow the bidding process outlined in the board's policy on Bidding for Construction, Remodeling, Repair or Site Improvement.

b) Contract/Price Analysis

The District performs a cost or price analysis in connection with every procurement action in excess of \$250,000, including contract modifications. The district will make an independent estimate of costs prior to receiving bids or proposals.

4. Noncompetitive Proposals (Sole Sourcing)

- a) Procurement by noncompetitive proposals is procurement through solicitation of a proposal from only one source and may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:
 - 1) The item is available only from a single source;
 - 2) The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation;
 - 3) The federal awarding agency or pass-through entity expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the District; or
 - 4) After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.
- b) Noncompetitive proposals may only be solicited with the approval of the superintendent or the board. Sufficient and appropriate documentation that justifies the sole sourcing decision must be maintained by the superintendent or designee.
- c) A cost or price analysis will be performed for noncompetitive proposals when the price exceeds \$250,000.

C. Use of Purchase (Debit & Credit) Cards

District use of purchase cards is subject to the policy on purchase cards which can be found elsewhere in this subsection.

D. Federal Procurement System Standards

The district's procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with 2 C.F.R §200.319.

The District will maintain and follow general procurement standards consistent with 2 C.F.R. §200.318.

E. Debarment and Suspension

The District awards contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.

The District may not subcontract with or award subgrants to any person or company who is debarred or suspended. For all contracts over \$25,000 the District verifies that the vendor with whom the District intends to do business with is not excluded or disqualified. 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II(1) and 2 C.F.R. §§ 180.220 and 180.300.

The District will verify debarment or suspension by revising the excluded parties list on SAM.gov, collecting a certification through the bidding process, and/or by including a debarment and suspension provision in the bid and contract documents. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for such verification.

F. Settlements of Issues Arising Out of Procurements

The District alone is responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the District of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts. Violations of law will be referred to the local, state, or federal authority having proper jurisdiction.

III. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct

A. Board and staff member conflicts of interest are governed by the district's conflict of interest policies.

B. Purchases covered by this policy are subject to the following additional provisions.

- 1. Employees, officers, and agents engaged in the selection, award, and/or administration of district contracts which are prohibited from engaging in such actions if a real or apparent conflict of interest is present.**

2. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.
3. The board may determine at its discretion that a financial interest is not substantial enough to give rise to a conflict of interest.

C. Favors and Gifts

The officers, employees, and agents of the District may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts, with the limited exception of unsolicited items of nominal value.

D. Enforcement

Disciplinary Actions will be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the District at the board's discretion.

IV. Property Management Systems

A. Property Classifications

1. Equipment means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the District for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000.
2. Supplies means all tangible personal property other than those described in §200.33 Equipment. A computing device is a supply if the acquisition cost is less than the lesser of the capitalization level established by the District for financial statement purposes or \$5,000, regardless of the length of its useful life. 2 C.F.R. §200.94.
3. Computing Devices means machines used to acquire, store, analyze, process, and publish data and other information electronically, including accessories (or "peripherals") for

printing, transmitting and receiving, or storing electronic information. 2 C.F.R. §200.20.

4. Capital Assets means tangible or intangible assets used in operations having a useful life of more than one year which are capitalized in accordance with GAAP. Capital assets include:
 - a) Land, buildings (facilities), equipment, and intellectual property (including software) whether acquired by purchase, construction, manufacture, lease-purchase, exchange, or through capital leases; and
 - b) Additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallations, renovations or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life (not ordinary repairs and maintenance). 2 C.F.R. §200.12.

B. Inventory Procedure

Newly purchased property shall be received and inspected by the staff member who ordered it to ensure that that it matches the purchase order, invoice, or contract and that it is in acceptable condition.

Equipment, Computing Devices, and Capital Assets must be tagged with an identification number, manufacturer, model, name of individual who tagged the item, and date tagged).

C. Inventory Records

For equipment, computing devices, and capital assets purchased with federal funds, the following information is maintained in the property management system:

1. Serial number;
2. District identification number;
3. Manufacturer;
4. Model;
5. Date tagged and individual who tagged it;
6. Source of funding for the property;
7. Who holds title;
8. Acquisition date and cost of the property;
9. Percentage of federal participation in the project costs for the federal award under which the property was acquired;
10. Location, use and condition of the property; and

11. Any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sale price of the property.

The inventory list shall be adjusted by the superintendent of schools or his/her designee for property that is sold, lost, stolen, cannot be repaired, or that cannot be located.

D. Physical Inventory

1. A physical inventory of the property must be taken and the results reconciled with the property records at least once every two years.
2. The Superintendent or his/her designee will ensure that the physical inventory is performed. The physical inventory will generally occur during the months of June or July, but may be conducted during other time periods with the approval of the superintendent.

E. Maintenance

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. 313(d)(4), the District maintains adequate maintenance procedures to ensure that property is kept in good condition.

F. Lost or Stolen Items

The District maintains a control system that ensures adequate safeguards are in place to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property.

G. Use of Equipment

Equipment must be used in the program or project for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by the federal award, and the District will not encumber the property for any non-federal program use without prior approval of the federal awarding agency and the pass-through entity.

H. Disposal of Equipment

When it is determined that original or replacement equipment acquired under a federal award is no longer needed for the original project or program or for other activities currently or previously supported by a federal awarding agency, the Superintendent or his/her designee will contact the awarding

agency (or pass-through for a state-administered grant) for disposition instructions.

If the item has a current FMV of \$5,000 or less, it may be retained, sold, or otherwise disposed of with no further obligation to the federal awarding agency.

V. Other Contract Matters.

A. Required Terms

The non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions required by section 200.326 and described in Appendix II to Part 200—Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards.

B. Contracting with Certain Vendors

Pursuant to the standards contained in 2 C.F.R. § 200.321, the District will take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible consistent with state law.

To the maximum extent practicable, the school food program shall purchase domestic commodities or products produced in US or processed in US substantially using agricultural commodities produced in US.

C. Record Keeping

1. Record Retention

- a) The District maintains all records that fully show (1) the amount of funds under the grant or subgrant; (2) how the subgrantee uses those funds; (3) the total cost of each project; (4) the share of the total cost of each project provided from other sources; (5) other records to facilitate an effective audit; and (6) other records to show compliance with federal program requirements. 34 C.F.R. §§ 76.730-.731 and §§ 75.730-.731. The District also maintains records of significant project experiences and results. 34 C.F.R. § 75.732. These records and accounts must be retained and made available for programmatic or financial audit.

- b) The U.S. Department of Education is authorized to recover any federal funds misspent within 5 years before the receipt of a program determination letter. 34 C.F.R. § 81.31(c). Schedule 10 (Local School Districts) and Schedule 24 (Local Agencies General Records) of the Nebraska Records Management Division as approved by the Nebraska Secretary of State/State Records Administrator requires the District to maintain records regarding federal awards for a minimum of six (6) years. Consequently, the District shall retain records for a minimum of six (6) years from the date on which the final Financial Status Report is submitted, unless otherwise notified in writing to extend the retention period by the awarding agency, cognizant agency for audit, oversight agency for audit, or cognizant agency for indirect costs. However, if any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the record retention period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken. 2 C.F.R. § 200.333.
- c) Records will be destroyed in compliance with Schedule 10, Schedule 24, and State law. This includes the completion of a Records Disposition Report.

2. Maintenance of Procurement Records

- a) The District must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of all procurements. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to the following: rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, the basis for the contract price (including a cost or price analysis), and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.
- b) Retention of procurement records shall be in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

D. Privacy

The District has protections in place to ensure that the personal information of both students and employees is protected. These include the use of passwords that are changed on a regular basis; staff training on the

requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and State confidentiality requirements; and training on identifying whether an individual requesting access to records has the right to the documentation.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

**3016
Smoking**

Smoking, including the use of cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco or tobacco derivative products; vapor products or electronic nicotine delivery systems; alternative nicotine products; or any other such look-alike or imitation product, is permitted by non-students on school property only in specifically designated areas.

Adopted on: __1/9/2017__

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3028
Sex Offenders

The safety of the students attending school is very important to the board of education. School employees, parents, and students should be aware of dangers posed by sex offenders living within the school district, and should be vigilant in providing protection against these dangers.

The Nebraska Legislature has enacted the Nebraska Sex Offender Registration Act. The Act requires sex offenders to register with the local county sheriff where they reside. The school district shall notify staff members, parents, and students of any registered sex offenders residing in the school district. Such notice shall contain information about the availability of further information on the State Patrol's web page, and shall inform the recipient of the prohibition against using the information for any retaliatory purpose against the sex offender, the offender's family, or the offender's employer. Only information deemed non-confidential pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 29-4006 and 29-4009 will be disclosed in the aforementioned notification.

The board does not generally permit registered sex offenders on school grounds, at any school sponsored activity, or on any property under the control of the school district. The superintendent or his/her designee is hereby empowered to notify sex offenders of this policy and to grant limited permission to attend certain activities on a case-by-case basis.

Students who are registered sex offenders shall not be precluded from receiving a free education from the school district on that basis. The school district will consider a student's status as a registered sex offender in determining the student's educational placement and program.

Adopted on: 2/13/2017

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3039

Threat Assessment and Response

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

1. Obligation to Report threatening Statements or Behaviors.

All staff and students must report any threatening statements or behavior to a member of the administration. Staff and students must make such report regardless of the nature of the relationship between the individual who initiated the threat or threatening behavior and the person(s) who were threatened or who were the focus of the threatening behavior. Staff and students must also make such reports regardless of where or when the threat was made or the threatening behavior occurred.

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

2. Threat Assessment Team

The threat assessment team (team) shall consist of the superintendent, principals, special education director, counselors, and local law enforcement. The team is responsible for investigating all reported threats to school safety, evaluating the significance of each threat, and devising an appropriate response. The threat assessment team shall work closely with the crisis team in planning for crisis situations. The threat assessment team shall be familiar with mental health resources available to students, staff and patrons and shall collaborate with local mental health service providers as appropriate.

3. Threat Assessment Investigation and Response

All reports of violent, threatening, stalking or other behavior or statements which could be interpreted as posing a threat to school safety will immediately be forwarded to a member of the team. Upon receipt of an initial report of any threat, the team will take steps to verify the information, make an initial assessment, and document any decision involving further action. This investigation may include interviews with the person who made the statement(s) or engaged in the behavior of

concern, interviews with teachers and other staff members who may have information about the individual of concern, interviews with the target(s) of the threatening statements or behavior, interviews of family members, physical searches of the individual of concern's person, possessions, and home (as allowed by law and in cooperation with law enforcement), and any other investigatory methods that the team determines to be reasonable and useful.

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

4. Communication with the Public about Reported Threats

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

5. Coordination with the Crisis Team After Resolution of Threat

The threat assessment team will confer with the district's crisis team after a threat has been investigated to provide the crisis team with information that the crisis team may use in assessing or revising the district's All-Hazard School Safety Plan.

Adopted on: 1/9/2017

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3046 Animals at Schools

Animals are not allowed in school district buildings or on school district property without the written permission of the superintendent or his or her designee except as provided in this policy or as otherwise required by law.

I. Use of Animals for Instructional Purposes

Animals that support a district program or curriculum or that are used for instructional purposes are allowed in school district buildings or on school district property with the written permission of the superintendent or building principal.

II. Service Animals

The school district does not permit discrimination against individuals with disabilities, including those who require the assistance of a service animal. An individual with a disability is permitted to be accompanied by his/her service animal on school property when required by law, subject to the conditions of this policy.

Service Animal. A "service animal" is a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Work or tasks **do not** include the crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability or necessary to mitigate a disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. **See also,** Miniature Horses below.

School District Inquiries. School officials **may** ask the owner or handler of an animal whether the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to do **unless** the answers to these inquiries are readily apparent. School officials **may not** ask about the nature or extent of a person's disability and may not require documentary proof of certification or licensing as a service animal.

Procedural Requirements. The following requirements must be satisfied **before** a service animal will be allowed in school buildings or on school grounds:

Request. A person who wants to be accompanied by his/her service animal must submit a written request form to a principal or superintendent. The request form is attached to this policy. These requests must be renewed each school year or whenever a different service animal will be used.

Health and Vaccination. The owner or handler must have proof of current licensure from the local licensing authority including proof of the service animal's current vaccinations and immunizations required by law.

Service animals will not be allowed in school buildings or other school property until the school has approved the request.

Control. A service animal must be under the control of its handler at all times. The service animal must have a harness, backpack, vest identifying the dog as a trained service dog, leash, or other tether. If the handler is unable to use a harness, backpack, vest, leash, or other tether, because of a disability or the use of a harness, backpack, vest, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, the use of these items is not required. However, the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control.

Exclusion or Removal from School. A service animal may be excluded from school property and buildings if a school administrator determines that:

- (1) A handler does not have control of the service animal;
- (2) The service animal is not housebroken;
- (3) The service animal presents a direct and immediate threat to others in the school; or
- (4) The animal's presence fundamentally alters the nature of the service, program, or activity.

The handler or the student's parent or guardian shall be required to remove the service animal from school premises immediately upon such a determination. If the service animal is removed, the individual with a disability shall be provided with the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without the service animal.

Allergic Reactions. If any student or school employee assigned to a classroom or mode of transportation in which a service animal is permitted suffers an allergic reaction to the service animal, the person having custody and control of the animal will be required to remove the animal to a different location designated by an administrator. The school will arrange a meeting

between school personnel, the individual with the disability, and the parents or guardian(s) of the person with the disability if that person is a student to develop an alternate plan.

Supervision and Care of Service Animals. The owner or handler of a service animal is solely responsible for the supervision and care of the animal, including any feeding, exercising, and clean up while the animal is in a school building or on school property. The student's parent or guardian is responsible for providing for the supervision and the care of the animal in the event that his or her student is not able to do so. The school district is not responsible for providing any care, supervision, or assistance for a service animal.

Extra Charges. The owner or handler of a service animal will not be required to pay an admission fee or a charge for the animal to attend events for which a fee is charged.

Damage to School Property and Injuries. The owner or handler of a service animal is solely responsible and liable for any damage to school property or injury to personnel, students, or others caused by the animal.

Miniature Horses. Requests to permit the use of a miniature horse by an individual with a disability will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by considering the following factors:

- (1) The type, size, and weight of the miniature horse and whether the facility can accommodate these features;
- (2) Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse;
- (3) Whether the miniature horse is housebroken; and
- (4) Whether the miniature horse's presence in a specific facility compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation.

All additional requirements outlined in this policy, which apply to service animals, shall apply to miniature horses.

Service Animal in Training. This policy shall also be applicable to service animals in training that are accompanied by a bona fide trainer.

Denial of Access and Grievance. If a school official denies a request for access of a service animal, the disabled individual or parent or guardian can file a written grievance with the school's Section 504 Coordinator.

III. Therapy Animals

The school district supports the use of therapy animals by teachers or other qualified school personnel ("Owner") for the benefit of its students subject to the conditions of this policy.

Therapy Animal. A "therapy animal" is an animal that has been individually trained and certified to work with its Owner to provide emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship to school district students. Therapy animals are not "service animals" as that term is used in the American with Disabilities Act. The animal must be well behaved and have a temperament that is suitable for interaction with students and others in a public school. Therapy animals are personal property of the Owner and are not owned by the school district.

Therapy Animal Standards and Procedures. The following requirements must be satisfied *before* a therapy animal will be allowed in school buildings or on school grounds:

Request. An Owner who wants to bring a therapy animal to school must submit a written request form to a principal or superintendent. The request form is attached to this policy. The request must be renewed each school year or whenever a different therapy animal will be used.

Training and Certification. The Owner must submit training and certification information requested by the Superintendent or his or her designee. Any certification required by the school district must remain current at all times.

Health and Vaccination. The therapy animal must be clean, well groomed, in good health, house broken, and immunized against diseases common to such animals. The Owner must submit proof of current required licensure from the local licensing authority and proof of the therapy animal's current vaccinations and immunizations from a licensed veterinarian, if applicable.

Control. A therapy animal must be under the control of the Owner at all times.

Identification. The therapy animal must have appropriate identification identifying it as a therapy animal.

No Disruption. The therapy animal must not disrupt the educational process by any of its behaviors.

Health and Safety. The therapy animal must not pose a health and safety risk to any student, employee, or other person at school.

Supervision and Care of Therapy Animals. The Owner is solely responsible for the supervision and care of the therapy animal, including any feeding, exercising, and clean up while the animal is in a school building or on school property. The school district is not responsible for providing any care, supervision, or assistance for a therapy animal.

Authorized Area(s). The Owner shall only allow the therapy animal to be in areas in school buildings or on school property that are authorized by school district administrators.

Insurance. The Owner must submit a copy of an insurance policy that provides liability coverage for the therapy animal while on school property.

Exclusion or Removal from School. A therapy animal may be excluded from school property and buildings if a school administrator determines that:

- (1) A handler does not have control of the therapy animal;
- (2) The therapy animal is not housebroken;
- (3) The therapy animal presents a direct and immediate threat to others in the school; or
- (4) The animal's presence otherwise interferes with the educational process.

The Owner shall be required to remove the therapy animal from school premises immediately upon such a determination.

Allergic Reactions. If any student or school employee assigned to a classroom in which a therapy animal is permitted suffers an allergic reaction to the therapy animal, the Owner of the animal will be required to remove the animal to a different location designated by an administrator.

Damages to School Property and Injuries. The Owner of a therapy animal is solely responsible and liable for any damage to school property or injury to personnel, students, or others caused by the therapy animal.

Other Therapy Animals. Therapy animals (1) owned by students, patrons, or other non-school employees or (2) owned by school employees for their own benefit will not be allowed on school grounds or school property except as otherwise required by law.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3050 Technology in the Classroom

I. In General

The district desires to use technology in a way that aides in the education of students. New devices and applications offer a number of helpful tools that can improve the student experience and increase learning. Many of these devices and applications also create concerns about student privacy. It is the goal of the district to embrace the helpful elements of technological advancement while remaining mindful of potential student privacy issues.

II. Devices

A. Non-district issued electronic devices may be provided by teachers for use in their classroom, so long as the use of such devices is supervised by a staff member and subject to the conditions set forth below.

Teachers who wish to bring a device into the classroom should inform the principal before deploying the device. The building principal may at his or her discretion prohibit the use of such devices or otherwise limit their use. The building principal may at any time direct that a teacher discontinue use of a given device.

1. Smart speakers such as Google Home, Amazon Echo, Apple HomePod, and similar devices may be approved for use in the classroom. The device must be registered to an account linked to the classroom teacher's school email address. The district will not maintain any records created by use of the smart speaker device. Any record of use will be considered non-record communications pursuant to Nebraska's Records Management Act, and not be maintained by the district.
2. All other electronic devices that connect to the internet that a staff member wishes to use for the education of students should be disclosed to the administration prior to use.

B. Assistive technology may be used in district classrooms. Any assistive technology, such as an AngelSense device, that actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings must

have that function disabled while the student uses the device in a district classroom unless required by law. No assistive technology devices will be permitted to record or transmit the classroom activity of other students unless required by law.

- C. Any classroom recordings made by a staff member will be made pursuant to district policy.

III. Applications

- A. School as Agent. The school will serve as an agent for parents/guardians in the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for education purposes.

- B. District Applications. The district uses various software applications to record, track, and store student data. Each application selected by the district is in compliance with federal and state law, to the best of the administration's knowledge. Should the district become aware that an application used by the district has suffered a data breach, or been found to be out of compliance with federal or state law, the district will investigate the scope of the violations and notify students, parents, and staff in accordance with district policy.

- C. Staff-Selected Applications.

1. Staff are permitted to select applications for use in the classroom.
2. Staff must perform basic due diligence to ensure that the application is safe for students and serves a pedagogical purpose. Staff must notify their supervising administrator of the application they plan to use as part of their lesson plan prior to their use in the classroom. The district may at any time direct that a teacher discontinue use of a given application. The district will provide training on the relevant student privacy laws to staff members who are selecting and deploying applications in the classroom.

Adopted on: 7/9/2018

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

3053

Nondiscrimination

The School District does not discriminate on the basis of prohibited factors in employment and educational programs/activities. The School District affirmatively strives to provide equal opportunity for all as required by:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA) as amended - prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 as amended - prohibits sex discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - prohibits discrimination against the disabled

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations and telecommunications

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) - requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to "eligible" employees for certain family and medical reasons

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) - provides job protections and reemployment rights

to military reservists and National Guard members called to active duty

The Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act which prohibits discrimination against groups that wish to access district facilities

The Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act (FEPA) – prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), disability, marital status, and retaliation

Nebraska Age Discrimination in Employment Act (Age Act) – prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of age for those individuals who are over 40 years of age

The Equal Pay Act of Nebraska – prohibits discriminatory wage practices based on sex

The Nebraska Equal Opportunity in Education Act – prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (including pregnancy) by any educational institution

Veterans Preference Law (NEB. REV. STAT §§ 48-225 to 48-231) - stipulates categorical preferences for employment for military veterans and for the spouses of disabled veterans

Additional School Board policies prohibit harassment and/or discrimination against students, employees, or patrons on the basis of sex, race, color, ethnic or national origin, religion, marital status, disability, age, pregnancy, and any other legally prohibited basis. Retaliation for engaging in a protected activity is also prohibited.

Any person who believes she or he has been discriminated against, denied a benefit, or excluded from participation in any district education program or activity may file a complaint using the district's complaint procedures.

Inquiries regarding compliance with any of the laws referred to in this policy may be directed to the superintendent or to the district's Title IX and/or Section 504/ADA Coordinator.

Adopted on: 4/10/2017
Revised on: 7/10/2017
Reviewed on: _____

4048

Assessment Administration and Security

The purpose of all testing and assessments is to measure students' knowledge, skills or abilities in the area tested. All staff members are prohibited from engaging in any behavior that adversely affects the validity of test scores as a measure of student achievement. This policy applies to all national, state, and local assessments, including both standardized and general classroom assessments.

1. Assessment Responsibilities

- a. Each building principal, in consultation with the Superintendent and classroom teachers, will be responsible for:
 - overseeing the scheduling of state administered assessments, training all staff who administer assessments, and ensuring that all assessments, including make-up testing, is completed within required testing windows;
 - obtaining Standards, Assessment and Accountability Updates from the Department of Education and circulating the relevant portions of those updates to other staff members;
 - informing the board of education of changes to the **Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System Security Procedures**; and
 - signing and enforcing the **Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System Security Agreement**.
- b. Every classroom teacher or other staff member who administers assessments is responsible for:
 - complying with the **Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System Security Procedures**;
 - taking all reasonable and prudent steps to ensure the accuracy and integrity of all academic testing, including statewide assessments; and

- ensuring the security of all test materials.

2. Security Violations and Cheating

a. Classroom assessments

Staff members who suspect students of having cheated on a classroom assessment should conduct a reasonable inquiry and impose consequences on the student consistent with classroom rules and the student handbook.

b. State Accountability Tests

Staff members who suspect a breach of security on State Accountability Tests, must promptly report their suspicions to the building principal or superintendent. The superintendent must notify the Department of Education's Statewide Assessment Office and follow the Department's protocol for Reporting and Investigating Test Security Violations.

Staff members who engage in or enable students to engage in academic dishonesty in any testing or assessment will be subject to discipline up to and including the immediate cancellation of their employment contract.

Adopted on: 4/10/2017

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

4052

Job References to Prospective Employers

All requests for employment-related references or employment history by prospective employers of current or former employees must be referred to a member of the administrative team. The administrator will either provide a reference in compliance with this policy or will forward the request to the superintendent.

If the school district is subject to a written separation agreement regarding a particular employee, the terms of that agreement will govern the district's response to requests for information, regardless of any written consent provided to the school district.

If the school district is not bound by a separation agreement and receives a legally enforceable written consent to release information, the district may provide the information authorized by that document. The school district may provide additional truthful information to prospective employers of current and former employees in accordance with this policy.

Employees Suspected of Sexual Misconduct Against a Minor or Student

Apart from the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files or unless otherwise permitted by law, the district and any employee, contractor, or agent of the school district is prohibited from providing any employee any assistance in obtaining a new job if the school district or the individual acting for the school district has probable cause to believe said employee has engaged in sexual misconduct with a student or minor in violation of the law.

Adopted on: __4/10/2017__

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5002 Admission of Students

Students shall be admitted to the school district who are:

- legal residents of the school district or otherwise entitled by Nebraska law to attend the schools of the district tuition-free;
- approved for option enrollment pursuant to policy;
- approved as foreign exchange students pursuant to policy;
- legal residents of a district that has contracted with this district for their educational services;
- statutorily entitled to attend the schools of the district on a part-time basis pursuant to policy; or
- out-of-state students who have been enrolled pursuant to policy.

Students who have been placed in a foster home within the school district are not residents of the district and will not be permitted to enroll unless the district has received a written determination from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services that it is in the best interests of the student not to attend his or her district of residence.

Prior to enrolling any student who is a ward of the state of Nebraska or a ward of any court, the district will ask to review a completed copy of the "Education Court Report Form" promulgated by the Nebraska Supreme Court's Commission on Children and Families in the Courts - Education Sub-Committee. If there is no such completed form, district staff will offer assistance to the appropriate responsible individual in securing the information necessary to complete the form as part of the district's enrollment process.

Except in adult education classes or when otherwise required by law, no student who is of 21 years of age or older, or who has earned a high school diploma or its equivalent will be allowed to be enrolled in or continue to attend school in the district.

Students who seek to enroll in the district must comply with each board policy, state statute and regulation that applies to their situation. Grade level placement will be determined in accordance with district policy.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____

5016 Student Records

The school district shall manage student records and reports as is necessary for effective administration and in compliance with law. In general "student records" shall not include transitory communications such as e-mail, text messages, handwritten communication between school and home, and the like, and these items will not generally be maintained by the district.

For purposes of the district's compliance with state and federal law, the district "maintains" student records which are printed and kept in the student's physical file or which school district staff have intentionally saved within the official school district digital student information system that specifically identifies the student for whom those records are maintained. The school district may also use learning management systems, which deliver and manage instructional content. The school district maintains student records within its student information system but not in its learning management system. The official school district student information system is PowerSchool.

Each building principal will assign responsibilities for the preparation and maintenance of records and will ensure compliance with the applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and record retention schedules regarding their storage and use in the building. No "student record" or record required to be retained by the Nebraska Secretary of State's Record Retention Schedules applicable to the district will be destroyed unless it is first saved in a retrievable, digital format. This includes only records required to be kept by the applicable Retention Schedules and "student records" as defined by state and federal law, and this policy does not prohibit the district from following its record expungement procedures for all other records.

Students or their parents, guardians, teachers, counselors, or school administrators shall have access to the school's files or records maintained concerning themselves or their students. For purposes of this policy, "teachers" include paraeducators and volunteers who are providing educational services to a student on behalf of the School District. "School officials" include attorneys, members of law enforcement acting on behalf of the school district; representatives of insurance providers that provide coverage to the school district; and third-party website operators who have contracted with the school district or its agent to offer online programs for the benefit of students and the district. All disciplinary material shall be removed and destroyed upon the pupil's graduation or after the pupil's continuous absence from the school for a period of three years, and after authorization is given by the State Records Board pursuant to state law. Upon request, the school district will disclose education records without consent to officials of

another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

Outside agencies such as physicians, probation officers, psychologists, child guidance clinics, and other agencies concerned with child welfare who are working directly with a child may have access to information pertaining to that child with written parental consent or upon issuance of a valid court order.

The school district shall share student data, records, and information with school districts, educational service units, learning communities, and the State Department of Education to the fullest extent practicable unless otherwise prohibited by law. This includes sharing information with the Department of Education necessary to comply with the requirement of state law that all third-year high school students take a college entrance exam. Any redisclosure of information related to the administration of this exam shall be governed by the agreement between the Nebraska Department of Education and the third-party testing company.

Each year, the school district will notify parents and guardians of their rights under this policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____

5017 Routine Directory Information

The school district shall disclose the following as routine directory information pertaining to any past, present or future student who is, has been, or will be regularly enrolled in the district.

- Name and grade
- Name of parent and/or guardian
- Address
- Telephone number, including the student's cell phone number
- E-mail address
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- The image or likeness of students in pictures, videotape, film or other medium
- Major field of study
- Participation in activities and sports
- Degrees and awards received
- Social media usernames or handles
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Most recent previous school attended
- Certain class work which may be published onto the Internet
- Classroom assignment and/or home room teacher
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by the student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems, but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

Directory information does not include a student's social security number.

Upon request, the district will provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students unless a student's parents have notified the district in writing that they do not want this information disclosed without their prior written consent. Military recruiters will be granted the same access to a student in a high school grade as is provided to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

Within 30 days prior to or following the commencement of each school year and, for a new student who enrolls after the commencement of a school year, within 30 days following such enrollment, the district will notify parents and guardians each year of their rights under this policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Parents will be given to an opportunity to prevent the release of this directory information by filing a written objection with the district.

When a student reaches 18 years of age, the permission or consent required of and the rights accorded to the parents or guardians of such student under this policy shall only be required of and accorded to such student. Within 30 days prior to or following the commencement of each school year and, for a new student who enrolls after the commencement of a school year, within 30 days following such enrollment, each school district shall notify each student who is at least 18 years of age or who will reach 18 years of age during such school year of (1) the option to make a written request to the school district that routine directory information for such student not be released in response to a request made by a military recruiter without such student's written consent and (2) that any such request made previously by a parent or guardian for such student expires upon the student reaching 18 years of age.

Adopted on: 7/10/2017
Revised on: 7/9/2018
Reviewed on: _____

5022
**Investigations, Arrests, and Other Student Contact by Law
Enforcement and Health and Human Services**

The school district and its administrators and staff desire to maintain a positive working relationship with law enforcement officers and other representatives of governmental bodies in the discharge of their duties. However, this desire must be balanced against other equally important factors such as a student's legal rights, ensuring that a student's time spent in school is for education, and acknowledging that the school stands *in loco parentis* to the students.

"Law enforcement officer" means police officers, county sheriffs, state patrolmen, Health and Human Service workers, Child Protective Services workers, Office of Juvenile Services workers, probation officers, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, Federal Bureau of Investigations agents, or any other government investigatory workers.

"Parent" means the biological or adoptive mother or father, guardian, responsible relative, or any other person who has claimed legal or actual charge or control of the student pursuant to Nebraska law or Title 92 Nebraska Administrative Code Chapter 19.

Law enforcement officers are encouraged whenever possible to talk to a student away from the school before or after school hours so as to cause as little disruption as possible to the student's education.

Law enforcement officers may be called to the school at the request of school administration, or they may initiate contact with the school for their own purposes. Contact between the school and law enforcement officers on matters involving students shall be made through the office of the superintendent or building principal and the law enforcement officer. All reasonable attempts should be made to avoid embarrassing the student before his or her teachers and peers, and to avoid disrupting the student's and school's education program. Any questioning by law enforcement officers that is permitted should be conducted in a private room or area where confidentiality can be maintained. This should be an area removed from observation by or contact with other pupils and school personnel.

School staff shall promptly notify the superintendent when a student is questioned, arrested, or removed from school grounds by law enforcement officers.

School Related Criminal Activity

This section applies to alleged or suspected criminal activity that 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.

Law enforcement officers will be allowed to contact and question students at school regarding school related criminal activity as provided below.

The building principal must be notified before a student may be questioned in school or taken from a classroom by law enforcement. The building principal should request identification of the officers, their affiliation with the identified law enforcement agency, and whether their purpose is to interview, interrogate, or take custody of the student.

The building principal will make reasonable attempts to contact a student's parent for their consent and/or presence before the student is interviewed. In the event that a parent cannot be contacted after reasonable attempts, the student will be questioned only if the law enforcement officer identifies emergency circumstances requiring immediate questioning. A building principal or designee shall be present for such questioning solely to further school purposes or avoid duplication of the investigative process. The student will be brought to a private room and the contact will be made out of sight of others as much as practicable.

If the student is suspected of criminal activity, it is the responsibility of the law enforcement officer to advise a student of his or her rights against self-incrimination.

The building principal shall document steps taken to notify parents, summarize the law enforcement activities, identify the actions taken by the District on behalf of the student, and any further contacts with law enforcement officer.

Non-School Related Criminal Activity

Law enforcement officials may not question students at school unless parental consent is obtained or the law enforcement authorities have a warrant or court order.

Taking a Student into Custody

Law enforcement officers seeking custody of a student must contact the superintendent or building principal. The principal will request the arresting law enforcement officer to provide a copy of the arrest warrant, written parental consent, court order, or other document giving authority to take the student into legal custody. If there is no document presented, the principal should obtain the officer's name, badge number identifying the law enforcement agency, date, time, the reason for the arrest, and the place to which the student is reportedly being taken. Whenever practicable, the arrest or release of the student should be conducted in a location and in a manner that minimizes observation by others.

When a law enforcement officer removes a student from the school, the building principal will take immediate steps to notify the parent about the student's removal and 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.

Child Abuse and Neglect

When law enforcement officers seek to investigate reports of alleged child neglect or abuse regarding a student, the building principal shall obtain a proper identification from the authorities or officials. If a student interview is conducted on school grounds, the building principal or designee and such other school personnel as appropriate shall observe the interview.

If the law enforcement officer decides to remove the student from school, school officials shall provide the law enforcement authorities with the address and telephone number of the student's parent or guardian. The principal or other school official shall, as a condition of releasing the student to the law enforcement officer, require the officer to sign a statement certifying that the child is being removed from school premises because he or she is believed to be the victim of child abuse and that the officer understands and will comply with the legal requirements of NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-294.

Student Records

Student records will be shared with law enforcement officers only as allowed by state and federal law.

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5035 Student Discipline

Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior, other than those specifically provided in this policy and the Student Discipline Act, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but need not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, 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. Disciplinary consequences may also include in-school suspension, Saturday School, and any other consequence authorized by law. District administrators may develop building-specific protocols for the imposition of student discipline.

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

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

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

Short-Term Suspension

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

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

The following process applies to short-term suspension:

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

Emergency Exclusion

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

Weapons and/or Firearms

Students may be disciplined for the possession of weapons and/or firearms pursuant to the board's separate policy on weapons and firearms or state law.

Long-Term Suspension

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

Expulsion

1. **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.
2. **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year. The review will be conducted by the hearing officer who conducted the initial expulsion hearing, or a hearing officer appointed by the Superintendent in the event no hearing was previously held or the initial hearing officer is no longer available or willing to serve, after the hearing officer has given notice of the review to the student and the student's parent or guardian. This review shall be limited to newly discovered evidence or evidence of changes in the student's circumstances occurring since the original hearing. This review may lead to a recommendation by the hearing officer that the student be readmitted for the upcoming school year. If the school board or board of education or a committee of such board took the final action to expel the student, the student may be readmitted only by action of the board. Otherwise the student may be readmitted by action of the Superintendent.
3. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion:** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., "stayed") for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect, and as a condition of such suspended action, the student may be assigned to a school, class, or program/plan and to such other consequences which the school district deems appropriate.
4. **Alternative School or Pre-expulsion Procedures.** The school shall either provide an alternative school, class or educational program for

expelled students or shall follow the pre-expulsion procedures outlined in NEB. REV. STAT. 79-266.

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

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

1. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes;
2. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property;
3. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, or to any student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;
4. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student;
5. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon (*see also board policy on weapons and firearms*);
6. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in section 28-401, a substance represented to be a controlled substance, or alcoholic liquor as defined in section 53-103.02 or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor (*note: the term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant*);
7. Public indecency as defined in section 28-806, except that this prohibition shall apply only to students at least twelve years of age but less than nineteen years of age;
8. Engaging in bullying as defined in section 79-2,137 and in these policies;

9. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person, including sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults which occur off school grounds not at a school function, activity, or event. For purposes of this subdivision, sexual assault means sexual assault in the first degree as defined in section 28-319, sexual assault in the second degree as defined in section 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree as defined in section 28-320.01, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree as defined in section 28-319.01, as such sections now provide or may hereafter from time to time be amended;
10. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the State of Nebraska which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes; or
11. A repeated violation of any of the following rules if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes:
 - a. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion;
 - b. Dressing or grooming in a manner which violates the school district's dress code and/or is dangerous to the student's health and safety, a danger to the health and safety of others, or which is disruptive, distracting or indecent to the extent that it interferes with the learning and educational process;
 - c. Violating school bus rules as set by the school district or district staff;
 - d. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing tobacco, drug paraphernalia, an electronic nicotine delivery system, or a tobacco imitation substance or packaging, regardless of form, including cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and any other form of tobacco, tobacco derivative product or imitation, or electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, etc.;
 - e. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing any drug paraphernalia or imitation of a controlled substance regardless of whether the actual substance possessed is a controlled substance by Nebraska law;
 - f. Possession of pornography;
 - g. Sexting or the possession of sexting images (a combination of sex and texting - the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically);

- h. Engaging in hazing, defined as any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Hazing activities are generally considered to be: physically abusive, hazardous, and/or sexually violating and include but are not limited to the following: personal servitude; sleep deprivation and restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; branding; physical beatings; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault;
- i. Bullying which shall include cyber-bullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post or text message images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to send e-mail to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums, and posting false statements as fact intended to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending threatening and harassing text, instant messages or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target;
- j. Violation of the district's computer acceptable computer use policy are subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion;
- k. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a simulated or "look-a-like" weapon;
- l. Using any object to simulate possession of a weapon; and
- m. Any other violation of a rule or regulation established by a school district staff member pursuant to authority delegated by the board.

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

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

1. On the date of the decision to discipline, the Principal shall file with the Superintendent a written charge and a summary of the evidence supporting such charge.
2. The Principal shall serve the student and the student's parents or guardian with a written notice by registered or certified mail or personal service within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long-term suspension or expulsion. The notice shall include the following:
 - a. The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student;
 - b. The penalty, if any, which the principal has recommended in the charge and any other penalty to which the student may be subject;
 - c. A statement that, before long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment for disciplinary purposes can be invoked, the student has a right to a hearing, upon request, on the specified charges;
 - d. A description of the hearing procedures provided by the act, along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing;
 - e. A statement that the principal, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's parent, or the student's representative or guardian has the right (i) to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct and (ii) to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony; and
 - f. A form on which the student, the student's parent, or the student's guardian may request a hearing, to be signed by such parties and delivered to the principal or superintendent in person or by registered or certified mail.
3. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent,

the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if 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.

4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, student's parents, guardian or representative from discussing and settling the matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing stage.
5. If a hearing is requested within five days after receipt of the notice, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below.
6. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after receipt, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below, except that the time constraints set forth may differ as provided by law and this policy. The student shall be entitled to a hearing but the consequence imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.
7. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.

In the event a hearing is requested, the hearing, hearing procedures, the student's rights and any appeals or judicial review permitted by law shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Nebraska Student Discipline Act (NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-254 to 79-294). The school district will provide parents with copies of the relevant statutes upon request.

Reporting Requirement to Law Enforcement

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

1. The violation includes possession of a firearm;
2. The violation results in child abuse;

3. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that the administration believes cannot be adequately addressed solely by discipline from the school district;
4. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that endangers the health and welfare of staff or students;
5. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that interferes with school purposes;
6. The report is required or requested by law enforcement or the county attorney.

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5063 Audio and Video Recording

Students and their parents or guardians should assume that any class in which students are enrolled may be recorded by the school district or other students for legitimate educational purposes. Recordings permitted pursuant to this policy may only be used by students for personal academic purposes and may not be republished without additional, written consent from a school administrator. For purposes of this policy "recording" includes still photographs, video, audio, and other similar data captured in any medium.

Recordings Made by The District. The district may use cameras or other devices for purposes of making security, safety, or other recordings without a specific purpose or for a specific purpose when such recordings are deemed necessary or appropriate by the administration. The district will not maintain the recordings unless the recording is purposefully copied and saved, and the recordings will only be available for review for a limited time based on the district's then-current recording capacity. The district administrators estimate that this is approximately 14 days but may change at any time.

Classroom Recordings by Staff. Staff members may make audio and video recordings of classroom instruction and school activities upon authorization of the superintendent or supervising administrator.

Prohibited Recordings by Students. Unless otherwise authorized by this policy or law, students are prohibited from making audio or video recordings during the school day on school grounds; when being transported to and from school activities or programs in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, unless the recording is made in a manner permitted by the school for members of the public. In such an instance, the students remain subject to the district's appropriate use and student discipline policies.

For example, this policy does not prohibit students from making recordings of an athletic event for their personal use similar to a parent or other patron, subject to other applicable board policy. However, this policy generally prohibits students from using smart-speakers or other devices which actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings, including Google Home, Amazon Alexa, Apple HomePod, and AngelSense devices.

Permitted Classroom Recordings by Students. Students may make audio or video recordings of classroom lectures or discussions:

- (1) For their convenience after providing notice to the classroom teacher and receiving the teacher's permission;
- (2) For the benefit of another student who is absent after providing notice to the classroom teacher and receiving the teacher's permission;
- (3) If recording is necessary to accommodate the student's disability and is required by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

Staff may revoke permission to record if the recording distracts from or disrupts the classroom environment, unless the recording is necessary to accommodate a student's disability.

Permitted Non-classroom Recordings. Students may make audio or video recordings otherwise prohibited by this policy outside the classroom only with the permission of a teacher or school administrator, provided that such recordings otherwise comply with any applicable state and federal laws and district policy. In no event shall photographs or video recordings be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy.

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Special Education Procedures

The following procedures describe the steps that the school district will generally follow in implementing certain portions of the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act and Rules 51 and 52 of the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE). If any procedure described herein conflicts with or is inconsistent with state or federal laws or regulations, the law or regulation will control. Nothing in the following procedures creates any enforceable right, educational entitlement or procedural protection that is separate from or in addition to the rights provided by state and federal law and regulation.

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) (Rule 51 § 004.01; 34 § CFR 300.101)

Except as otherwise provided by law, the school district will ensure that all children with verified disabilities, from birth through the school year in which the child reaches age twenty-one, including children who have been suspended or expelled from school, have available to them a FAPE, which includes special education and related services to meet their unique needs and the availability of FAPE for resident children in detention facilities, correctional facilities, jails, and prisons.

The school district will ensure that FAPE is available to any individual child with a disability who needs special education and related services, even though the child has not failed or been retained in a course or grade and is advancing from grade to grade.

Full Education Opportunity Goal and Program Options (Rule 51 § 004.11A; 34 CFR § 300.109)

The school district provides full educational opportunities to all children with disabilities aged birth to 21. The school district does this, in part, by:

- Offering and providing a free appropriate public education (FAPE), including special education and related services, and complying with all state and federal special education laws and regulations;
- Making available to children with disabilities a variety of educational programs and services that are available to nondisabled children including, but not necessarily limited to, art, music, industrial arts, consumer and homemaking education, and vocational education
- Working collaboratively with parents, teachers, guidance counselors, other school staff members, community agencies, educational service units, and other school districts to review

and/or offer appropriate course offerings and other educational opportunities;

- Providing supplementary aids, services, and other effective supports determined appropriate and necessary by the child's IEP Team, to ensure that students have an equal opportunity to participate in academic, nonacademic, and extracurricular services and activities;
- Collecting and examining data; and
- Staff development activities

The timetable for accomplishing this goal is immediate and ongoing. The school district accomplishes this goal by taking the above steps on a regular, scheduled, and ongoing basis as well as on an unplanned basis when the need arises for each individual student.

Child Find Process (Rule 51 § 006.01A and Rule 52 § 006.01; 34 CFR § 300.111)

To identify, locate and evaluate children residing within the geographic boundaries of the school district who may qualify for special education (including homeless children and wards of the State), the school district will take the following practical steps:

- a) announce in mailings sent to families with school-aged children at least annually that the school district will identify and verify children at no charge for possible disabilities;
- b) include information about the identification and verification of children for possible disabilities at no charge in mailings sent to patrons, homeless shelters, and Health and Human Service offices located in the school district at least annually; and
- c) accept referrals for evaluation directly from parents, school personnel, and other state and regional agencies.

Student Assistance Teams (Rule 51 § 006.01B). The school district will use student assistance teams to develop individualized programs of support for students who may be experiencing difficulties in school. The school district will generally work to assist a student through the SAT process prior to evaluating the student for possible verification under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or Rule 51 of the Nebraska Department of Education.

The SAT will be an ad hoc group created around a student, and will generally include building staff with expertise in the specific content area(s) identified as problematic for the student. The SAT may also

involve other interested or relevant staff and may, but is not required to, include the student's parent.

The team will review the strengths and interests that are unique to the student and determine the academic or social challenges the student is facing at school. The team will then develop ideas and strategies that may help the student be more successful in school.

If the SAT determines that appropriate general education interventions have been attempted without success, it will consider evaluating the student for eligibility under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or referring the student to the multidisciplinary team for evaluation pursuant to Rule 51.

Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (Rule 51, § 006.03 and Rule 52 § 006.09). The school district will appoint a Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MDT) which will be responsible for making all verification decisions pursuant to the qualification criteria in Rule 51 of the Nebraska Department of Education. The MDT will analyze, assess, and document the needs of each student, and the MDT's compiled information will be used on the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Plan (IEP) if the MDT determines that the student qualifies for special education.

The MDT will not base a student's verification upon 1) lack of appropriate instruction in reading as contemplated in Section 614(a)(5)(A) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004, 2) lack of instruction in math, or 3) limited English proficiency.

If a nonpublic school student qualifies for the school district's special education program, an administrator or other designated representative of the student's nonpublic school shall be appointed as a member of the student's MDT.

Referral Procedures for Infants and Toddlers (Rule 52 § 006.01-006.03). The school district will make a referral for a child under the age of three to the agency responsible for providing services coordination in the Planning Region as soon as possible but in no case later than seven (7) days after becoming aware of the infant's or toddler's potential eligibility for early intervention services. A child under the age of three who is the subject of a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect; or is identified as directly affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure must be referred to the Early

Intervention Program (the agency responsible for providing services coordination in the Planning Region).

Except as otherwise allowed by law or regulation (see Rule 52 § 006.02B), the school district must complete the screening; complete the initial evaluation and assessments; and participate in the initial individualized family service plan (IFSP) within 45 calendar days from the date of referral.

IEP Meetings (Rule 51 § 007.09A–C, G-H)

Each student's IEP team will meet initially to develop the student's IEP within 30 calendar days of the determination that the student qualifies for special education. Thereafter, each IEP team will meet at least once annually to determine whether the annual goals of the student's IEP are being achieved. The student's IEP team will also ensure that the student's IEP is in effect at the beginning of each school year. The school district will encourage the consolidation of reevaluation meetings with other IEP Team meetings to the extent possible. The school district and parents may agree to meeting participation by video conference, conference call, or other electronic or alternative means.

Pre-Meeting Procedures. Staff members may engage in activities such as researching placements and service options, preparing draft IEP documents, writing reports, creating charts, and comparing student makeup of various program settings prior to and in preparation for IEP team meetings. Actual IEP and placement decisions, however, will not be made until concerns and input of parents and other members of the IEP team are received and considered at an IEP meeting. Although staff members may consider possible service and placement options and form opinions about them outside of an IEP meeting, no final decision will be made before full consideration of all data and input from all team members at an IEP team meeting. The school district has no policy of refusing to consider or use any particular service, program, or placement option.

Individualized Education Program (Rule 51 § 007; 34 CFR § 324)

At the beginning of each school year, the school district will have in effect, for each child with a disability within its jurisdiction, an IEP, as defined in 34 CFR § 300.320 that meets the requirements of 34 CFR § 300.323. The IEP shall be developed, reviewed, and revised for each child with a disability as follows.

Development of the IEP

General. In developing each child's IEP, the IEP Team will consider:

- (i) The strengths of the child;
- (ii) The concerns of the parents for enhancing the education of their child;
- (iii) The results of the initial or most recent evaluation of the child; and
- (iv) The academic, developmental, and functional needs of the child.

Consideration of special factors. The IEP Team will:

- (i) In the case of a child whose behavior impedes the child's learning or that of others, consider the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports, and other strategies, to address that behavior;
- (ii) In the case of a child with limited English proficiency, consider the language needs of the child as those needs relate to the child's IEP;
- (iii) In the case of a child who is blind or visually impaired, provide for instruction in Braille and the use of Braille unless the IEP Team determines, after an evaluation of the child's reading and writing skills, needs, and appropriate reading and writing media (including an evaluation of the child's future needs for instruction in Braille or the use of Braille), that instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is not appropriate for the child;
- (iv) Consider the communication needs of the child, and in the case of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, consider the child's language and communication needs, opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode, academic level, and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language and communication mode; and
- (v) Consider whether the child needs assistive technology devices and services.

Requirement with respect to regular education teacher. A regular education teacher of a child with a disability, as a member of the IEP Team, must, to the extent appropriate, participate in the development of the IEP of the child, including the determination of:

- (i) Appropriate positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies for the child; and

(ii)Supplementary aids and services, program modifications, and support for school personnel consistent with law.

Agreement.

(i) In making changes to a child's IEP after the annual IEP Team meeting for a school year, the parent of a child with a disability and the school may agree not to convene an IEP Team meeting for the purposes of making those changes, and instead may develop a written document to amend or modify the child's current IEP.

(ii) If such changes are made to the child's IEP, the school must ensure that the child's IEP Team is informed of those changes.

Consolidation of IEP Team meetings. To the extent possible, the school must encourage the consolidation of reevaluation meetings for the child and other IEP Team meetings for the child.

Amendments. Changes to the IEP may be made either by the entire IEP Team at an IEP Team meeting, or by *Agreement* as provided above, by amending the IEP rather than by redrafting the entire IEP. Review and revision of IEPs

General. The school will ensure that the IEP Team:

(i)Reviews the child's IEP periodically, but not less than annually, to determine whether the annual goals for the child are being achieved; and

(ii) Revises the IEP, as appropriate, to address -

(A) Any lack of expected progress toward the annual goals described in 34 CFR § 300.320(a)(2), and in the general education curriculum, if appropriate;

(B) The results of any reevaluation conducted under 34 CFR § 300.303;

(C) Information about the child provided to, or by, the parents, as described under 34 CFR § 300.305(a)(2);

(D) The child's anticipated needs; or

(E) Other matters.

Consideration of special factors. In conducting a review of the child's IEP, the IEP Team must consider the special factors described above.

Requirement with respect to regular education teacher. A regular education teacher of the child, as a member of the IEP Team, must, consistent with the requirement above, participate in the review and revision of the IEP of the child.

Failure to meet transition objectives

Participating agency failure. If a participating agency, other than the school, fails to provide the transition services described in the IEP in accordance with 34 § 300.320(b), the school will reconvene the IEP Team to identify alternative strategies to meet the transition objectives for the child set out in the IEP.

Children with disabilities in adult prisons

Requirements that do not apply. The following requirements do not apply to children with disabilities who are convicted as adults under State law and incarcerated in adult prisons:

(i) The requirements contained in section 612(a)(16) of the Act and 34 CFR § 300.320(a)(6) (relating to participation of children with disabilities in general assessments).

(ii) The requirements in 34 CFR § 300.320(b) (relating to transition planning and transition services) do not apply with respect to the children whose eligibility under Part B of the Act will end, because of their age, before they will be eligible to be released from prison based on consideration of their sentence and eligibility for early release.

Modifications of IEP or placement.

(i) Subject to law, the IEP Team of a child with a disability who is convicted as an adult under State law and incarcerated in an adult prison may modify the child's IEP or placement if the State has demonstrated a bona fide security or compelling penological interest that cannot otherwise be accommodated.

(ii) The requirements of 34 CFR §§ 300.320 (relating to IEPs), and 300.114 (relating to LRE), do not apply with respect to the modifications described in paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section.

Contracted Programs (Rule 51 § 013.02).

The school district shall be responsible for the development and maintenance of the IEP and the participation in all IEP meetings and shall assure that IEP meetings are arranged with the contracted program and the parents. Such arrangements may include meetings with the contracted program, the school district, and the parent. Meetings may occur within the district, at the contracted program site, or another site if more appropriate.

IEP Distribution to Parents (Rule 51 § 007.09D, F).

A copy of the IEP will be provided to the parent at no cost. If the IEP is amended, the parent will be provided with a revised copy of the IEP with the amendments incorporated upon request.

Distribution of IEP information to staff (Rule 51 § 007.02C, § 007.02D, and § 007.09E1).

The case manager for each student with an IEP will provide the staff assigned to work with that student with information about the student's disabling conditions, the modifications and accommodations called for in the student's IEP. The case manager will also inform relevant staff of any subsequent changes made to the student's IEP. This information may be provided by: giving staff members a copy of the student's IEP; giving staff members a copy of the accommodations page of the student's IEP; or using any other method reasonably calculated to communicate relevant information to the responsible staff member(s).

Least Restrictive Environment (Rule 51 § 008.01A; 34 CFR 314)

The school district will assure that, whenever possible, all students with disabilities are educated in the same manner and in the same environment as students without disabilities by using supplementary aids and services. A student with a disability or disabilities will be removed from the regular educational environment and given special services and classes *only* when the nature of the disability does not allow for the satisfactory education of the student in regular classes.

Procedural Safeguard Notice (Rule 51 § 009.06A-D; 34 CFR 504)

A copy of the procedural safeguards will be given by the school district one time per school year. A copy shall also be given to the parent upon: a) initial referral or parental request for evaluation, b) upon request by a parent, c) upon receipt by the school district of the first occurrence of the filing of a complaint under section 009.11 of Rule 51, d) the first occurrence of filing a special education due process case under Rule 55, and e) in accordance with the discipline procedures in section 016 of Rule 51. The notice shall include a full explanation of all procedural safeguards in compliance with section 009.06B of Rule 51. The notice shall be written in English and provided in the native language of the parent as required by sections 009.05C-D of Rule 51.

Evaluation Procedures (Rule 51 § 006.02; 34 CFR.304)

Notice. The school will provide notice to the parents of a child with a disability that describes any evaluation procedures the school proposes to conduct.

Conduct of evaluation. In conducting the evaluation, the school will:

(1) Use a variety of assessment tools and strategies to gather relevant functional, developmental, and academic information about the child, including information provided by the parent, that may assist in determining:

(i) Whether the child is a child with a disability; and

(ii) The content of the child's IEP, including information related to enabling the child to be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum (or for a preschool child, to participate in appropriate activities);

(2) Not use any single measure or assessment as the sole criterion for determining whether a child is a child with a disability and for determining an appropriate educational program for the child; and

(3) Use technically sound instruments that may assess the relative contribution of cognitive and behavioral factors, in addition to physical or developmental factors.

Other evaluation procedures. The school will ensure that:

(1) Assessments and other evaluation materials used to assess a child:

(i) Are selected and administered so as not to be discriminatory on a racial or cultural basis;

(ii) Are provided and administered in the child's native language or other mode of communication and in the form most likely to yield accurate information on what the child knows and can do academically, developmentally, and functionally, unless it is clearly not feasible to so provide or administer;

(iii) Are used for the purposes for which the assessments or measures are valid and reliable;

(iv) Are administered by trained and knowledgeable personnel; and

(v) Are administered in accordance with any instructions provided by the producer of the assessments.

(2) Assessments and other evaluation materials include those tailored to assess specific areas of educational need and not merely those that are designed to provide a single general intelligence quotient.

(3) Assessments are selected and administered so as best to ensure that if an assessment is administered to a child with impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills, the assessment results accurately reflect the child's aptitude or achievement level or whatever other factors the test purports to measure, rather than reflecting the child's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills (unless those skills are the factors that the test purports to measure).

(4) The child is assessed in all areas related to the suspected disability, including, if appropriate, health, vision, hearing, social and emotional status, general intelligence, academic performance, communicative status, and motor abilities;

(5) Assessments of children with disabilities who transfer from one public school to another public school in the same school year are coordinated with those children's prior and subsequent schools, as necessary and as expeditiously as possible, consistent with law, to ensure prompt completion of full evaluations.

(6) In evaluating each child with a disability under 34 CFR §§ 300.304 through 300.306, the evaluation is sufficiently comprehensive to identify all of the child's special education and related services needs, whether or not commonly linked to the disability category in which the child has been classified.

(7) Assessment tools and strategies that provide relevant information that directly assists persons in determining the educational needs of the child are provided.

(8) Evaluations shall also comply with any additional requirements found in Rule 51, including but not limited to those found in section 006.02.

Review of Existing Evaluation Data (Rule 51, § 006.06). For initial evaluations and reevaluations, the IEP team and other qualified professionals will review all existing educational assessments as well as parental, classroom and other relevant observations in determining whether:

- a) the student is a student with a disability or continues to be a student with a disability qualifying for special education;
- b) a student with a disability needs or continues to need special education services; and
- c) a student with a disability needs additional or modified special education to meet the goals of the student's IEP or the general goals of the school district's curriculum.

Independent Education Evaluation (Rule 51 § 006.07). When a student's parent requests an independent education evaluation, the student's case manager or the district's special education director will respond in writing without unnecessary delay that (1) the school district will initiate a hearing under 92 NAC 55 to show that its evaluation is appropriate OR (2) an independent educational evaluation will be provided at public expense. The written response will (1) include a copy of the board's policy on IEEs and (2) if appropriate, identify at least one qualified individual who meets the policy's criteria within the geographic area.

Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information (Rule 51 § 009.03; 34 CFR § 300.123, 34 CFR § 300.610-.626)

Notice to parents. The school must give notice that is adequate to fully inform [parents](#) about the requirements of protecting the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained under Part B of the Act, including:

- (1) A description of the extent that the notice is given in the native languages of the various population groups in the [district](#);
- (2) A description of the children on whom [personally identifiable](#) information is maintained, the types of information sought, the methods the [district](#) intends to use in gathering the information (including the sources from whom information is gathered), and the uses to be made of the information;
- (3) A summary of the policies and procedures that the school will follow regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention, and [destruction](#) of [personally identifiable](#) information; and
- (4) A description of all of the rights of [parents](#) and children regarding this information, including the rights under FERPA and implementing regulations in [34 CFR part 99](#).

Before any major identification, location, or [evaluation](#) activity, the notice must be published or announced in newspapers or other media, or both, with circulation adequate to notify [parents](#) throughout the [district](#) of the activity.

Access rights. The school will permit parents to inspect and review any education records relating to their children that are collected, maintained, or used by the school. The school will comply with a request without unnecessary delay and before any meeting regarding an IEP, or any hearing pursuant to law, or resolution session pursuant

to law, and in no case more than 45 days after the request has been made.

The right to inspect and review education records under this section includes:

- (1) The right to a response from the school to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the records;
- (2) The right to request that the school provide copies of the records containing the information if failure to provide those copies would effectively prevent the parent from exercising the right to inspect and review the records; and
- (3) The right to have a representative of the parent inspect and review the records.

The school may presume that the parent has authority to inspect and review records relating to his or her child unless the school has been advised that the parent does not have the authority under applicable State law governing such matters as guardianship, separation, and divorce.

Record of access. The school must keep a record of parties obtaining access to education records collected, maintained, or used under Part B of the Act (except access by parents and authorized employees of the school), including the name of the party, the date access was given, and the purpose for which the party is authorized to use the records.

Records on more than one child. If any education record includes information on more than one child, the parents of those children have the right to inspect and review only the information relating to their child or to be informed of that specific information.

List of types and locations of information. Each participating school must provide parents on request a list of the types and locations of education records collected, maintained, or used by the school.

Fees. The school may charge a fee for copies of records that are made for parents under this part if the fee does not effectively prevent the parents from exercising their right to inspect and review those records. The school may not charge a fee to search for or to retrieve records.

Amendment of records at parent's request. A parent who believes that information in the education records collected, maintained, or used under

this part is inaccurate or misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of the child may request the school to amend the information.

The school must decide whether to amend the information in accordance with the request within a reasonable period of time of receipt of the request.

If the school decides to refuse to amend the information in accordance with the request, it must inform the parent of the refusal and advise the parent of the right to a hearing as provided below.

Opportunity for a hearing. The school must, on request, provide an opportunity for a hearing to challenge information in education records to ensure that it is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the child.

Result of hearing. If, as a result of the hearing, the school decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the child, it must amend the information accordingly and so inform the parent in writing.

If, as a result of the hearing, the school decides that the information is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the child, it must inform the parent of the parent's right to place in the records the school maintains on the child a statement commenting on the information or setting forth any reasons for disagreeing with the decision of the school.

Any explanation placed in the records of the child under this section must:

- (1) Be maintained by the school as part of the records of the child as long as the record or contested portion is maintained by the school; and
- (2) If the records of the child or the contested portion is disclosed by the school to any party, the explanation must also be disclosed to the party.

Hearing procedures. A hearing held under this section must be conducted according to the procedures in 34 CFR § 99.22.

Consent. Parental consent must be obtained before personally identifiable information is disclosed to parties, other than officials of

participating agencies described below, unless the information is contained in education records, and the disclosure is authorized without parental consent under 34 CFR part 99.

(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this section, parental consent is not required before personally identifiable information is released to officials of participating agencies for purposes of meeting a requirement of this part.

(2) Parental consent, or the consent of an eligible child who has reached the age of majority under State law, must be obtained before personally identifiable information is released to officials of participating agencies providing or paying for transition services in accordance with § 300.321(b)(3).

(3) If a child is enrolled, or is going to enroll in a private school that is not located in the school district of the parent's residence, parental consent must be obtained before any personally identifiable information about the child is released between officials in the school district where the private school is located and officials in the school district of the parent's residence.

Safeguards. The school will protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction stages. One official at the school district must assume responsibility for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information. All persons collecting or using personally identifiable information must receive training or instruction regarding the school's policies and procedures under 34 § 300.123 and 34 CFR part 99. Each school must maintain, for public inspection, a current listing of the names and positions of those employees within the school who may have access to personally identifiable information.

Destruction of information. The school must inform parents when personally identifiable information collected, maintained, or used under this policy is no longer needed to provide educational services to the child. The information must be destroyed at the request of the parents. However, a permanent record of a student's name, address, and phone number, his or her grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade

level completed, and year completed may be maintained without time limitation.

Children's rights. The school has policies and procedures regarding the extent to which children are afforded rights of privacy similar to those afforded to parents, taking into consideration the age of the child and type or severity of disability. Under the regulations for FERPA in 34 CFR 99.5(a), the rights of parents regarding education records are transferred to the student at age 18. If the rights accorded to parents under Part B of the Act are transferred to a student who reaches the age of majority, consistent with § 300.520, the rights regarding educational records in §§ 300.613 through 300.624 must also be transferred to the student. However, the public school must provide any notice required under section 615 of the Act to the student and the parents.

Enforcement. The school district will follow any policies and procedures the State has in effect, including sanctions that the State uses, to ensure that its policies and procedures consistent with §§ 300.611 through 300.625 are followed and that the requirements of the Act and the stated procedures are met.

Early Intervention Transition (Rule 51 § 005.03, Rule 52 § 008; 34 CFR § 300.124)

The school district shall ensure that students participating in early intervention services experience a smooth and effective transition to preschool programs and/or services provided under Part B of IDEA by following the procedures described in 92 NAC 52-008.

Children Placed In or Referred To a Nonpublic School or Facility by the School District or Approved Cooperative As a Means of Providing Special Education and Related Services (Rule 51 § 015.01; 34 CFR § 300.129)

A special education student may be placed in a nonpublic school or facility, if the student's IEP team develops an IEP for the child in accordance with Section 007 that places the student in the nonpublic school or facility. If a student's IEP team determines that the student will be placed in a nonpublic school or facility, the school district will ensure that the student is provided special education and related services in

conformance with the provisions of Rule 51 at no cost to the student or parents. The school district will be responsible for initiating and conducting IEP meetings after the student has been placed in the nonpublic school or facility and will insure that both the parents and representatives from the nonpublic school or facility are involved in any decision about the child's IEP and agree to any proposed changes in the IEP before those changes are implemented.

Children Placed In a Nonpublic School by Parents As a Means of Obtaining Special Education and Related Services; FAPE is At Issue
(Rule 51 § 015.02; 34 CFR § 300.129)

The school district will not pay for the cost of education, including special education and related services, of a child with a disability at a nonpublic school or facility if the school made FAPE available to the child and the parents elected to place the child in a nonpublic school or facility as a means of obtaining special education and related services. However, the school district will include that child in the population whose needs are addressed consistent with Rule 51. Disagreements between a parent and the school district regarding the availability of a program appropriate for the child, and the question of financial reimbursement, are subject to the due process procedures of Rule 55 of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Working with Nonpublic Schools within the Boundaries of the District
(Rule 51 § 015.03B and § 015.03D1a; 34 CFR § 300.129)

The school district will provide written information to each non-public school within its geographic boundaries that the public school will identify and verify children for possible disabilities at no charge. This communication will also inform the non-public school officials, staff and parents about the availability of equitable services for students with disabilities who attend non-public schools that are not within the geographic boundaries of the district.

A student who attends a nonpublic school may participate in the school district's special education program to receive FAPE provided that (1) the student has been verified pursuant to Rule 51 and (2) the student is a resident of the school district as defined by NEB REV. STAT. § 79-215. The student's IEP team will determine the physical location where the student will receive services and will consider whether it is necessary for the student to be transported to the service location. A non-resident student who attends a nonpublic school within the geographic boundaries of the

district may receive equitable services if the student has been verified pursuant to Rule 51.

Disagreement between parents and the school district over whether or not the school district has a program available to serve the needs of a special education student, including claims for tuition reimbursement by parents, are subject to the appeal procedures established in Rule 55.

Personnel Standards (Rule 51 § 010; 34 CFR § 300.156)

The school district shall ensure that all personnel are appropriately and adequately trained and prepared to provide special education and related services to children with disabilities as required by law including but not limited to Section 2122 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Rule 51, and IDEA. The school district shall ensure that its recruits, hires, trains, and retains such personnel by doing the following:

- 1) Advertising for only qualified candidates.
- 2) Verifying that all personnel hold the required certificate, license, registration, or other credentials and training during the interview process or prior to employment.
- 3) Verifying that all personnel maintain the required certificate, license, registration, or other credentials and training during employment.
- 4) Providing continuing education opportunities and training programs.
- 5) Evaluating personnel performance for compliance with federal and state law and regulations and school district standards and policies.

District-Wide Assessments (Rule 51 § 004.05B, § 004.05C, and § 004.05D; 34 CFR § 300.160)

Each student who has been verified under Rule 51 will participate in district-wide assessments in a manner that is appropriate for the student. Each student's IEP team will determine how the student will participate in district-wide assessments. The method of assessment will be recorded on the student's IEP. Alternate assessments will be administered at the same time that state and district-wide assessments are administered to the student's grade level peers. The school district shall report assessment results to parents, the public, and the Department with the same frequency and in the same detail as they report on the assessment of nondisabled children and/or as required by Rule 51.

Suspension and Expulsion Reporting (Rule 51 § 004.06E; 34 CFR § 300.170)

The school district shall report the incidences, duration, and count of removals, suspensions, and expulsions, and other disciplinary information of children receiving special education services required by 92 NAC 004.06E to the State electronically through the NDE website by June 30th of each year. The report will be disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, LEP status, and disability category. If disciplinary discrepancies are occurring in the rate of long-term suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities, the school district shall review its policies, procedures, and practices related to the development and implementation of IEPs, the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports, and procedural safeguards to ensure that they comply with IDEA.

Access to Instructional Materials (Rule 51 § 004.15; 34 CFR § 300.172)

The school district may contract with the National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC) when purchasing print instructional materials and/or assures the Nebraska Department of Education that it will provide such materials to children with blindness or other children with print disabilities at the same time as other children.

Overidentification and Disproportionality (34 CFR § 300.173)

The school district shall take affirmative steps to prevent the inappropriate overidentification or disproportionate representation by race and ethnicity of children as children with disabilities, including children with disabilities with a particular impairment described in 34 C.F.R. §300.8. These steps shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- Providing staff with technical assistance, professional development, and other educational opportunities;
- Collecting, examining, and reporting data;
- Monitoring, assessing, and providing continuous improvement activities;
- Reviewing school district policies, procedures, and practices.

The school district shall collect and examine data to determine if significant disproportionality based on race and ethnicity is occurring with respect to:

- The identification of children with disabilities, including the identification of children as children with disabilities in accordance with a particular impairment described in 34 C.F.R. §300.8;
- The placement in particular educational settings of these children; and
- The incidence, duration, and type of disciplinary actions, including suspensions and expulsions.

The school district will review and analyze the data and any other applicable indicators or information that is needed to adequately measure overidentification and disproportionate representation. In the event that the available information demonstrates inappropriate overidentification or disproportionate representation by race and ethnicity of children as children with disabilities, the school district shall correct the matter as soon as practicable, but in no case later than any time period required by law.

Prohibition on Mandatory Medication (34 CFR § 300.174)

State and school district personnel shall not require parents to obtain a prescription for substances identified under schedules I, II, III, IV, or V in section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) for a child as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation under sections 300.300 through 300.311, or receiving services authorized under IDEA.

Transportation (Rule 51 § 014; 34 CFR § 300.34(c)(16))

The school district shall provide transportation or transportation services to special education students who qualify for it under law as provided in NEB. REV. STAT. 79-1129, Rule 51, and IDEA. This may include paying mileage reimbursement to parents, transporting children with school district vehicles, contracting with a transportation company, or using any other method that is proper and necessary to transport students. Transportation eligibility will be determined by the student’s IEP Team. The plan for transportation for the student shall be part of the IEP if required by law.

Written Notice of Change (Rule 51 § 009.05A-D)

The school district will provide the parents of a student with a disability with prior written notice within a reasonable time before the school district either proposes or refuses to make a change to the student’s identification, evaluation, or educational placement, or the provision of a

free appropriate public education. The written notice will comply with sections 009.05B-D of Rule 51 of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Informed Parental Consent (Rule 51 § 009.08)

The school district will obtain informed parental consent before: a) conducting an initial evaluation to determine if a child qualifies as a child with a disability, b) conducting a reevaluation, c) initial placement of a child with disabilities in a program providing special education and related services or early intervention services, d) accessing a child's or parent's public benefits or insurance for the first time (and after providing notification to the child's parents consistent with 92 NAC 51-009.90A2); and e) accessing a child's or parent's private insurance proceeds (each time).

Parent Refusal to Consent Under Rule 52 (Rule 52 § 009.02K3)

If a parent refuses to provide consent under Rule 52, the school district may:

- Hold a meeting with the parent(s) to explain how the parent's failure to consent affects the ability of their child to receive early intervention services;
- Provide the parents with written information regarding early intervention services;
- Provide referrals to other agencies, if appropriate; and
- Take other actions or make such other efforts as the school district deems appropriate.

Nothing in these procedures shall override a parent's right to refuse to consent under section 009.03A of Rule 52.

Appointment of Surrogate For Student (Rule 51 § 009.10B)

The school district shall ensure that the rights of students with disabilities are protected by informing the members of the student's IEP team whenever (1) a parent cannot be identified, (2) a parent(s), legal guardian or individual acting *in loco parentis* for the student cannot be located, (3) the child is an unaccompanied homeless youth, or (4) the child is a ward of the State or court. The team will then hold a meeting to discuss and consider whether the school district must appoint a surrogate to participate on the IEP team and fulfill the role of the student's parent. Surrogate parents shall only be appointed when required or allowed by Rule 51 or IDEA. If the district identifies students who may be in need of a surrogate parent, the district will:

1. Attempt to identify and locate the parent;
2. Investigate the legal status of those student(s); and
3. If after a reasonable effort, the parents cannot be located, the school district shall ensure that the rights of students with disabilities are protected by appointing a surrogate.
4. Surrogates will be provided sufficient training to assure they are knowledgeable as to the legal rights and educational needs of the student they are to represent. Training will be conducted as needed.
5. Surrogates will be appointed by the director of special education following documentation that no conflict of interest exists and completion of appropriate training or assurance that the surrogate is knowledgeable in order to represent the student.
6. Surrogates will be monitored on a regular basis to ensure effective performance. Should a surrogate be unable or unwilling to discharge his or her duties, a new surrogate will be appointed by the director.
7. The surrogate parent shall continue to represent the student until one of the following occurs:
 - a. The student is determined to no longer be eligible for, or in need of, special education or related services except when termination from such programs is being contested;
 - b. The parent, who was previously unknown, or whose whereabouts were previously unknown or a guardian or person acting as the student's parents becomes known; and/or,
 - c. It is determined that the appointed surrogate parent no longer adequately represents the student.
 - d. The surrogate parent's term has expired.

Approved: July 8, 2019

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

July 8, 2019

1. Start planning now to attend the National School Boards Association Conference in Chicago on April 4th through the 6th. Registration and housing opens October 17th, so I would like to have an idea soon after that.
2. The NASB Area Membership Meeting will be held on September 4th in York. Registration began at 4:30 p.m. and the opening session started at 5:00 p.m. There were two training sessions at 6:00 and 6:45 p.m. The dinner and program will started at 7:25 p.m. Please let me know if you will be unable to attend.
3. Colin, Ken, Kris, and I will be attending Administrator Days in Kearney on July 31st, August 1st, and 2nd.
4. Just a reminder that we changed the August Board Meeting to Tuesday, August 13th due to Back to School Night – August 12th....Help with serving food again?
5. We received a reVISION grant from NDE. This grant is to help us look at our Career and Technical Education courses and work with our local community to help determine if we are teaching what we need to teach or what changes need to be made. Very exciting!
6. Possible bus barn help and possible custodial help. I will discuss more during the meeting.
7. I will be gone Tuesday, July 9th through possibly Monday, July 15th to move John to Phoenix. Any help would be appreciated, but the pay is not good.