

Dragon
SPRINGMYER

Dragons

Elementary School

Dragons



Springmyer Students are:
Respectful
Responsible and Safe

Springmyer School

STUDENT HANDBOOK



MASCOT “SPARKY”

GENERAL INFORMATION

School Hours

Students are not to arrive before 8:00 a.m. as there is no adult supervision available unless enrolled in the before-school program through Right At School.

Morning Kindergarten	8:20 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.
Afternoon Kindergarten	12:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Please arrive after 12:10)
Grades 1 - 5	8:25 a.m. warning bell 8:30 a.m. tardy bell 3:00 p.m. dismissal

Important Numbers

Office	513-574-1205
Absences and Tardiness	513-347-2970
Transportation Office	513-574-2161

Website: <http://ohlsd.us/springmyer/>

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Springmyer-Elementary-School/413425355366146>

OUR VISION

Springmyer Elementary, in partnership with our families and community, will be recognized for maximizing students’ potential by providing high quality instruction, encouraging respect for self and others, and fostering social and global competency for an ever-changing world.

OUR CORE BELIEFS

High Expectations

- We believe all learners can achieve at high levels and demonstrate quality learning outcomes.

High Quality Instruction

- We believe all learners are unique individuals who deserve meaningful, rigorous learning opportunities.

Ownership

- We believe that learning is a lifelong commitment that is only filled to its potential when learners become responsible for the learning themselves; in doing so, they become independent and self-reliant individuals.

Respect

- We believe that all individuals have inherent worth and value. As a result, we strive to create an environment of mutual respect among students, parents, staff, and community members.

Service

- We believe that giving back to our community makes us stronger as individuals and a school community.

THE SPRINGMYER PLEDGE

As a Springmyer student, I pledge
... To allow myself and others to learn
... To respect and be polite to everyone
... To be responsible for my actions
... To follow school rules
... To keep my school clean and safe
And I pledge to do my best and never give up.
WE ARE RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE AND SAFE!

Five Ways to Stay Connected with Springmyer!



Springmyer Elementary School's Website

Visit us at ohlsd.us/springmyer for links to our student handbook, school calendar, staff email addresses, lunch menus, PTA meeting notes, and more!



One Call Now phone calls, e-mail and text messages

We use One Call Now to update families on many important events, including weather-related delays and closures. All families in our information system automatically receive updates. Your account will be linked to whichever phone number is listed as “primary” in our system. If you would like to add additional phone numbers and e-mail addresses, please visit our website at ohlsd.us/springmyer, click on the “One Call Now” icon, and click “Sign Up” to make changes to your account.



Our weekly Sparks newsletter

The Sparks is emailed home each Friday, posted to our school website, and available in hard copy format in the front office. If you do not receive this weekly email or would like to add additional addresses, please email Cyndi Anderson at anderson_c2@ohlsd.org to be added to our list.



The OHLSD App

The District’s free app includes school updates, calendar events, and more. You can opt to receive updates from just Springmyer, or from multiple schools. It is available through the Google Play Store and Apple App Store by searching for “Oak Hills Local Schools”



Springmyer Elementary School’s Facebook page

We regularly post photos, reminders, and more. Search for “Springmyer Elementary School” and “Like Us” to receive regular updates in your Facebook feed!



Need to inform us of an absence or early dismissal?

When it is necessary for your child to be absent from school, please call the absence line at 513-347-2970 by 9:00 am on the day of the absence. If your child must be excused early, s/he must bring a note from a parent/guardian stating the time to be excused and the name of the person picking him/her up. While we know that last minute changes are sometimes unavoidable, we appreciate your efforts to inform us ahead of time.

Please call the office at 574-1205 if you need help getting started with any of these!

Area Daycare Providers The following daycare providers may transport students to and from school. Please contact provider to see requirements.

ABC Childcare	353-5437	Davis Development	505-1357
All About Kids	574-4800	Joy Daycare	574-2333
Alphabet Junction	389-0176	Ms. Wendy's	607-8444
Arches	574-2252	Oak Hills United Methodist	574-1641

Latchkey Program - Right At School: For information and to register:
rightatschool.com 855-287-2466

Background Verification Check

All of our parents and community members are required to undergo a background verification check prior to volunteering at Springmyer. These will need to be completed each school year. Forms are available in the office and our website

Bus Assignments

Oak Hills' buses will transport students within the Springmyer attendance area who reside more than two miles from the school. Students must ride the assigned bus unless permission is granted by the school or Transportation Department. **Students who are not eligible for Oak Hills transportation are not permitted to ride an Oak Hills bus.** Occasionally, there are valid reasons when a student needs to depart from a school bus at other than his/her normal stop or ride a different Oak Hills bus. Whenever this is to be done, it is **mandatory** that a request be written by the parent and **countersigned** by the office. Requests of this nature are only accepted from assigned Oak Hills bus riders.

Conferences

Annual parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for each child. These conferences are usually held in October and November.

Dismissal Procedure

A. Carpool

Because of the lack of sidewalks near our school we ask that drivers use extreme caution when approaching the school and especially when entering the pickup area. Automobile traffic should avoid the front school entrance. The designated pickup areas is on the side playground. Please fill in all empty parking spaces before parking in front of the door. This keeps traffic moving during dismissal. Designated areas for pickup will be made. Students will remain in the gym until called to carpool.

Parking in the Parking Lot

If you choose to park in the parking lots, please use extreme caution as cars may be arriving and leaving while students are being dismissed.

The following are general carpool rules:

1. Running, pushing, horseplay, etc. are not permitted.
2. Children MAY NOT play on the playground while waiting for their ride. You may choose to let them play after your arrival and under your supervision.
3. No bouncing balls or play while waiting.
4. Children may not return to the building until the last carpool time is over. This includes taking bookbags, etc. to the car and returning for an after-school activity. This involves too much running back and forth in the parking lot.
5. Carpool time ends at 3:15. Any children remaining will be sitting on the bench outside the office. You will need to come into the building and pick them up.

Parents

1. Pull all of the way up to the top of the carpool area to load as many cars as possible.
2. Please leave your pets in the car.
3. If your child is not outside when you arrive, you will be asked to either pull forward or park.
4. Please be patient. We are looking out for the safety of every child.
5. Please avoid parking next to the yellow post area where children are standing.
6. Drive slowly in the parking lot and while on school grounds at all times.
7. If you choose to park, you must walk students across lot.

B. Bus

Dismissal for bus riders will be determined by school bells. Students will be called to board buses as buses arrive. All students are required to ride the same bus each day unless a note from a parent or guardian is presented and signed by the principal.

C. Walkers

Walkers will be dismissed through the south doors. They are to use extreme caution on their journey home. A cross walk guard is provided for the safety of the students. Students should listen to and respect the cross walk guard in order to insure safety.

NOTE: If the mode of transportation is to change for your child, it is essential that your child's teacher and the office are notified of such change.

Early Dismissal

Any child who leaves school during school hours with his/her parent or other adult named by the parent, should have a written note from the parent stating the reason for the early dismissal and the time the child will be picked up. If being dismissed early, the child should present his/her teacher with a note upon entering the classroom in the morning. The homeroom teacher will initial early dismissal notes and send them to the office. The child will be called from class when the parent or designated person reports to the office to pick up the child. **NO TEACHER IS TO RELEASE A CHILD TO ANY ADULT WITHOUT DIRECT NOTIFICATION FROM THE OFFICE OR THE HEALTH ROOM. A SIGN-OUT PROCEDURE WILL BE USED TO RELEASE THE CHILD.**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION (EMA)

Every parent is expected to complete an EMA annually for each student. Failure to do so will result in your child being excluded from field trips and other activities. If an updated EMA is not on file, the school cannot allow medical treatment for your child in an emergency situation. Go to ohlsd.us/ema to complete your student's EMA form for each school year. If you had an account last year, you will use the same account, sign in and confirm/update the required information..

Emergency School Closings and Delays

In the event that inclement weather or mechanical breakdown may necessitate the closing or delay of schools, PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL. Announcements will be made under OAK HILLS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT on the public access TV channel and local television and radio stations. You may also call the Oak Hills TEC line at 347-2970. To sign up for alert system from the School District, Download the Oak Hills District App available on the App Store or Google play.

Fees

The total school fee for grades K - 5 is \$85.00. (Cost is subject to change)
An \$18.00 fee will be charged for checks returned for non-sufficient funds.

Homework

The amount of homework assigned will gradually be increased from grade to grade. In Kindergarten there may be occasional brief homework, such as finding pictures or words relating to topics presented in class. In grade one there may be a few minutes of homework assigned several times a week, increasing gradually to a maximum of 60 minutes daily in grade 5.

Homework Assignment Books

Each student in Grade 1 through 5 will receive a Student Assignment Book for the purpose of recording homework assignments and communication between parents and the teacher. We ask that you review this book with your child each evening and sign where indicated until the last day school is in session. This tool will help students to be organized and be a means to keep you informed. If a student loses his/her book, a charge of \$5.00 must be paid for a new book.

Kindergarten A.M. Class Time and Dismissal

When bringing children to school, do not drop them off before 8:00 a.m. The morning class begins at 8:20 a.m. **Children arriving by car should be dropped off at the North, playground doors only. They should not be dropped off at the front of the building in the semi-circle driveway. This entrance is reserved for busses at all beginning and dismissal times.** The morning class concludes at 11:05 a.m. Children should be picked up at that time at the North exit only. The North playground parking lot gate will be closed when you arrive. You must use

the South entrance. Pull around to the back of the building and park near the ball fields. The children will be dismissed at the North door.

P.M. Class Time and Dismissal

The afternoon class begins at 12:15 p.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Five minutes before school begins is early enough for your child to arrive. Supervision is not provided prior to 12:10 p.m. **Children arriving by car should be dropped off at the semi-circle driveway in the front of the building.** Students will enter through the front door. Children going home by car are dismissed at the North (Playground side) exit only. Please caution your car riders continually concerning the need for safety in the carpool area.

Before/After School Program

Right At School: For information and to register: rightatschool.com 855-287-2466

Library

The Springmyer Library is open daily from 8:00 am to 3:00 p.m. Students in all grade levels (K-5) will visit weekly as a class for 30 minutes. Checkout limits are as follows: Grades K and 1 – 1 book per week, Grade 2 – 1 book per week, 2 starting in January, Grades 3-5 – 3 books per week. Books may be returned during scheduled class time or before school, 8:00 – 8:30 am. Students may check out books before school without their class if they have no other books out. Books may be renewed twice after the initial checkout for a total of three weeks per book. Books with a NEW sticker on the spine may not be renewed. Reference books may also be renewed twice for a total of three days. Proper behavior is expected in the library, as in the classroom. School rules are enforced and checks may be given for inappropriate behavior. LATE FINES: A late fine of 5 cents per day 10 cents per day for overnight books) will be charged to all students. Fines will be assessed only for days schools is in session. There is no charge for absence, weekends, holidays, or snow days. LOST/DAMAGED BOOKS: Students are responsible for replacement of lost or damaged books. Once a lost or damaged book is paid for, payment will not be refunded. If a damaged book can be repaired, a fee will be charged based on the extent of damage. Having a book that is more than four weeks overdue, or a fine that is more than four weeks late, will result in loss of library privileges. The student will not be allowed to use the library computers or read from a library book or magazine during class time. The student may not check out new books until all books are returned and/or fines paid.

Lunch

Our lunchroom serves “Grab-and-Go” breakfast (8:00-8:30) and hot lunches daily. Students are offered two hot lunch deals. The meal deal is a set menu for \$2.85. (subject to change) or A la carte is a variety of hot/cold foods priced individually per item. The milk price is \$0.35. (subject to change). Students may pack their lunch.

Packers, please be sure to pack all utensils and napkins needed.

Students and parents in lunchroom may not bring soda pop or fast food to lunch.

Oak Hills Local School District has implemented the Meals Plus point-of-sale system for food service. Oak Hills is excited to partner with SPS EZpay to provide parents an online system to add to your child's lunch account, as well as pay instructional fees. You may use your credit or debit card for the transaction in the convenience of your own home. You can access the online payment website by going to the district website at www.ohlsd.org, then click on SPS EZpay logo to be transferred over to the payment site. Complete the registration page and add your child's name and ID number. You can check your child's account balances. If you elect to do so, you can even receive a "Low Lunch Balance" email. Payments made online will be credited by the end of the next business day. Effective for the 2019-2020 school year, parents will be assessed a 3.99% convenience fee when loading funds on their student's account using EZ Pay (the online system for fee payments). A convenience fee will be assessed for items such as loading lunch balances to a student's account, student instructional fees, participation fees, and all other fees on EZ Pay. The convenience fee is assessed by many other districts in Southwest Ohio and our District will no longer absorb this fee due to budget constraints.

Parents not electing to use the EZ Pay system may continue to pay fees through cash or check at their student's school building. The District is continually researching online payment systems to ensure parents have efficient options for payment.

PARENT VISITS TO CAFETERIA

- **We are working very hard to tighten procedures in the cafeteria. Because of this we would like to remind/inform parents of some rules for the Cafeteria.**
- **No outside food should be brought to the cafeteria for students (i.e., food from restaurants).**
- **If parents are providing a Birthday Treat they can do so by bringing the treat to the homeroom teacher in the morning. Treats should not be taken to the cafeteria by the parent.**
- **All birthday treats should be pre-packaged and should clearly display the ingredients. This is necessary so that we can attend to issues related to student allergies.**
- **Parents are allowed to visit students and have lunch with them but these visits should be limited to special occasions and should be no more than 1-2 times per school year.**

Party - The only holiday party at Springmyer is before Winter Break. It will be held approximately 1 hour before student dismissal time (1:45 p.m.) on a date to be announced. PTA, in conjunction with room mothers, will provide refreshments and treats for the students. The classroom teacher working with room mothers should coordinate games and entertainment for the students. All parties should be held in a safe and orderly environment. Special occasion parties must be cleared with the principal. **Due to space issues only room parents will be allowed to attend the class parties.**

Report Cards

Report cards are available online through **Progress Book/Parent Access** - If you had an account last year, you will use the same account, and sign in. If you have forgotten your login and/or password, please contact the school office. If you did not have an account last year, Progress Book/Parent Access allows YOU to create your own username and password. It is extremely important that you create this account in order to access your student's progress and report cards throughout the school year.

The process to create an account requires the use of a registration key.

To access Progress Book/Parent Access, follow these steps: 1. Go to the Oak Hills portal <http://ohlsd.us> 2. Click on the parent portal 3. Select the Progress Book link. You can find instructions to help you create your account located on the Parent Portal by selecting the Create Progress Book Accounts icon.

Grades and comments must be accurate, objective and honest indications of a student's progress.

School Insurance

Flyers are available in the school office at the beginning of the school year to apply for accident insurance. Parents are urged to purchase this plan if they do not have adequate coverage from another source.

School Visitation Procedure

All visitors are to report to the front of the school and be buzzed in. Visitors must come to the office to register and receive a visitor badge. All volunteers and visitors must complete a background check. Someone from the office will then direct you or show you through the building. ***This procedure prevents interruption of classes, misunderstandings, and is also a security measure.***

Smoke-Free Schools

Smoking is banned on all Oak Hills Schools property at all times.

VALUABLES AT SCHOOL

School personnel try to prevent losses, but we cannot be responsible for students' personal property. Items such as cell phones, cameras, radios, toys, electronic games, and large amounts of money should not be brought to school. Items not needed for class should be left home.

VOLUNTEERS

The OHLSD Board of Education encourages and supports a volunteer program so as to utilize talents existing in the community which can have a significant impact on providing expanded learning experience for students. Volunteers may provide additional support in the classroom, promote community-school cooperation in facilitating the learning process and provide individuals who have expertise in various areas to be used as resource personnel.

Volunteers:

1. Serve in schools upon the request or approval of the building administrator;
2. Function under the direction and supervision of school personnel;
3. Respect the confidential nature of relationships with students and school personnel and;
4. Are required to have a criminal record check if they work directly with students.
5. Will had driver's license scanned when entering the building.

Recruitment and selection of volunteers is done at the local building level. Interested individuals should contact the building principal or his/her designee. The interests and abilities of the volunteer will be considered when making assignments.

OHLSD Student Handbook Information

District Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers

The Board designates the following individuals to serve as "Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers" for the District. They are hereinafter referred to as the "Compliance Officers".

Director of Human Resources
513-574-3200
6325 Rapid Run Road
Cincinnati, OH 45233

Director of Student Services
513-574-3200
6325 Rapid Run Road
Cincinnati, OH 45233

District Title IX Coordinators

The Board of the Oak Hills Local School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education program or activity, and is required by Title IX and its implementing regulations not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment. The District's Title IX Coordinator(s) is/are:

Director of Human Resources
6325 Rapid Run Road
Cincinnati, OH 45233
(513) 574-3200
e-mail address located at ohlsd.us

Director of Student Services
6325 Rapid Run Road
Cincinnati, OH 45233
(513) 574-3200
e-mail address located at ohlsd.us

DIRECTORY INFORMATION - Annual Public Notice

Each year the Superintendent shall provide public notice to students and their parents of the District's intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information." The Board designates as student "directory information": a student's name; address; telephone number; date and place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially-recognized activities and sports; height and weight, if a member of an athletic team; dates of attendance; date of graduation; or awards received.

The Board designates school-assigned e-mail accounts as "directory information" for the limited purpose of facilitating students' registration for access to various online educational services, including mobile applications/apps that will be utilized by the student for educational purposes.

School-assigned e-mail accounts shall not be released as directory information beyond this/these limited purpose(s) and to any person or entity but the specific online educational service provider and internal users of the District's Education Technology.

Directory information shall not be provided to any organization for profit-making purposes.

Parents and eligible students may refuse to allow the Board to disclose any or all of such "directory information" upon written notification to the Board within thirty (30) days after receipt of the Superintendent's annual public notice.

In accordance with Federal and State law, the Board shall release the names, addresses, and telephone listings of secondary students to a recruiting officer for any branch of the United States Armed Forces or an institution of higher education who requests such information. A secondary school student or parent of the student may request in writing that the student's name, address, and telephone listing not be released without prior consent of the parent(s)/eligible student. The recruiting officer is to sign a form indicating that "any information received by the recruiting officer shall be used solely for the purpose of informing students about military service and shall not be released to any person other than individuals within the recruiting services of the Armed Forces." The Superintendent is authorized to charge mailing fees for providing this information to a recruiting officer.

Whenever consent of the parent(s)/eligible student is required for the inspection and/or release of a student's health or education records or for the release of "directory information," either parent may provide such consent unless agreed to otherwise in writing by both parents or specifically stated by court order. If the student is under the guardianship of an institution, the Superintendent shall appoint a person who has no conflicting interest to provide such written consent.

The Board may disclose "directory information," on former students without student or parental consent, unless the parent or eligible student previously submitted a request that such information not be disclosed without their prior written consent.

The Board shall not permit the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information (or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose).

MEMORANDUM TO PARENTS REGARDING SCHOOL BOARD POLICY ON DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS

In accordance with Federal Law, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs by students on school grounds, in school or school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event. Drugs include any alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, dangerous controlled substance as defined by State statute, or substance that could be considered a "look-a-like" controlled substance. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for all students. Any student who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbooks, up to and including expulsion from school. When required by State law, the District will also notify law enforcement officials. The District is concerned about any student who is a victim of alcohol or drug abuse and will facilitate the process by which s/he receives help through programs and services available in the community. Students and their parents should contact the school principal or counseling office whenever such help is needed

NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS ON BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS

Dear Parent: The District is subject to Federal and State regulations to restrict the spread of hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immune deficiency virus (HIV) in the workplace. These regulations are designed to protect employees of the District who are, or could be, exposed to blood or other contaminated bodily fluids while performing their job duties. Because of the very serious consequences of contracting HBV or HIV, the District is committed to taking the necessary precautions to protect both students and staff from its spread in the school environment. Part of the mandated procedures includes a requirement that the District request the person who was bleeding to consent to be tested for HBV and HIV. The law does not require parents or guardians to grant permission for the examination of their child's blood, but it does require the District to request that consent. Although we expect that incidents of exposure will be few, we want to notify parents of these requirements ahead of time. That way if the situation does develop you will understand the reason for our request and will have had an opportunity to consider it in advance. These are serious diseases, and we sincerely hope that through proper precautions and cooperation we can prevent them from spreading. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school nurse.

Code of Conduct

Student Discipline, po5600

The Board of Education acknowledges that conduct is closely related to learning - an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment and the effectiveness of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

The Board believes that the best discipline is self-imposed and that students should learn to assume responsibility for their own behavior and the consequences of their actions. The Board has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students.

The Board shall require each student of this District to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code adopted by the Board and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. Such rules shall require that students:

- A. conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior;
- B. respect the person and property of others;
- C. preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged;
- D. respect the rights of others;

- E. obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

The Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code designates sanctions for the infractions of rules, excluding corporal punishment, which shall:

- A. relate in kind and degree to the infraction;
- B. help the student learn to take responsibility for his/her actions;
- C. be directed, where possible, to reduce the effects of any harm which may have been caused by the student's misconduct.

Students may be prohibited by authorized school personnel from participating in all or part of co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activities without further notice, hearing or appeal rights. A student who has been disorderly on a school bus may be suspended from transportation services consistent with Board policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

The Superintendent shall publish to all students and their parents the rules of this District regarding student conduct and the sanctions which may be imposed for breach of those rules.

The Superintendent shall inform the Board periodically of the methods of discipline imposed by this District and the incidence of student misconduct in such degree of specificity as shall be required by the Board.

The Superintendent, principals, and other administrators shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and, where required by law, to the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.

Due Process Rights, po5611

The Board of Education recognizes that students have limited constitutional rights, when it comes to their education. Accordingly, the Board establishes the following procedures which District Administrators shall use when dealing with students:

A. Student subject to suspension:

When a student is being considered for an out-of-school suspension by the Superintendent, principal, or other administrator:

1. The student will be informed in writing of the potential suspension and the reasons for the proposed action.
2. The student will be provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and to explain his/her actions.
3. An attempt will be made to notify parents or guardians by telephone if a suspension is issued.
4. Within one (1) school day of the suspension the Superintendent, principal, or other administrator will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the student. The notice will include the reasons for the suspension and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent within three (3) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend. If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.
5. Notice of this suspension will also be sent to the:
 - a. Superintendent;
 - b. student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record).
6. If a student leaves school property without permission immediately upon violation (or suspected violation) of a provision of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code or prior to an administrator conducting an informal hearing as specified above, and the student fails to return to school on the following school day, the principal, assistant principal, Superintendent, or any other administrator, may send the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) notice of the suspension, and offer to provide the student and/or his/her parents an informal hearing upon request to discuss the

reasons for the suspension and to allow the student to challenge the reasons and to explain his/her actions, any time prior to the end of the suspension period.

Appeal of Suspension to the Board or its designee

The student who is eighteen (18) or older or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee. They may be represented in all such appeal proceedings.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent, or guardian, if held before the Board.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be provided in regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer or the Superintendent within three (3) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend.

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

Appeal to the Court

Under Ohio law, appeal of the Board's or its designee's decision may be made to the Court of Common Pleas.

B. Students subject to expulsion:

When a student is being considered for expulsion by the Superintendent:

1. The Superintendent will give the student and parent, guardian, or custodian written notice of the intended expulsion, including reasons for the intended expulsion.
2. The student and parent or representative have the opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or designee to challenge the proposed action or to otherwise explain the student's actions. The written notice will state the time and place to appear, which must not be earlier than three (3) school days nor later than five (5) school days after the notice is given, unless the Superintendent grants an extension upon request of the student or parent.
3. Within one (1) school day of the expulsion, the Superintendent will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the student and Treasurer of the Board. The notice will include the reasons for the expulsion and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the expulsion to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the notice of expulsion. If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.

Appeal of Expulsion to the Board

A student who is eighteen (18) or older or a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the expulsion by the Superintendent to the Board or its designee. They may be represented in all such appeal proceedings and will be granted a hearing before the Board or its designee.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent, or guardian, if it is held before the Board.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be in accordance with regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the Superintendent's decision to expel with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent.

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

Appeal to the Court

Under State law, the decision of the Board or its designee may be further appealed to the Court of Common Pleas.

C. Students subject to emergency removal:

Students whose conduct warrants emergency removal shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.03 - Emergency Removal.

D. Students subject to permanent exclusion:

Students whose conduct is that for which permanent exclusion is warranted shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.01 - Permanent Exclusion of Nondisabled Students.

E. Students subject to suspension from bus riding/transportation privileges:

Students whose conduct warrants suspension from bus riding and/or transportation services shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.04 - Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges.

In determining whether disciplinary action set forth in this policy is to be implemented, District Administrators shall use a preponderance of evidence standard. Further, any individual charged with making a disciplinary determination under this policy shall retain all documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315 - Information Management (i.e. "Litigation Hold")) created and/or received as part of an investigation.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) retained may include public records and records exempt from disclosure under Federal (e.g., FERPA, ADA) and/or State law (e.g., R.C. 3319.321) – e.g., student records and confidential medical records.

The documents, ESI, and electronic media (as defined in Policy 8315) shall be retained in accordance with Policy 8310, Policy 8315, Policy 8320, and Policy 8330 for not less than three (3) years, but longer if required by the District's records retention schedule.

In addition, this statement of due process rights is to be placed in all student handbooks in a manner that will facilitate understanding by students and their parents.

These procedures shall not apply to in-school disciplinary alternatives including in-school suspensions. An in-school suspension is one served entirely in a supervised learning environment within a school setting. Nor shall these disciplinary alternative procedures apply to students who are prohibited by authorized school personnel from all or part of their participation in co-curricular, interscholastic, and/or noninterscholastic extracurricular activities.

The types of conduct prohibited by this Code of Regulations are as follows:

Rule #1: Damage or destruction of school property, property of school employees, or property of other students, on or off of school premises.

Rule #2: Damage or destruction of private property on school premises or in areas controlled by the school.

Rule #3: Assault on a school employee, student or other person.

Rule #4: Harassment of school personnel or other students during school and/or non-school hours. Sexual harassment, bullying and/or any other type of acts of harassment of school personnel or students is prohibited. Any staff or student experiencing these acts should immediately report the behavior to an administrator.

Rule #5: Fighting.

Rule #6: Hazing (to persecute or harass or humiliate another student and/or employee).

Rule #7: Chronic misbehavior which disrupts or interferes with any school activity.

Rule #8: Disregard any reasonable directions or commands by school authorities including school administrators and teachers.

Rule #9: Abuse of another. No student shall in spoken or written form use or direct to, or about a school employee, or student, words, phrases, or actions which are considered to be slanderous, degrading or threatening in nature, and/or words or phrases which are obscene or profane as defined by the majority of our society. Name calling and negative, uncomplimentary and offensive remarks related to physical handicaps or defects, mental handicaps, race, religion, nationality, appearance or other reason are prohibited.

Rule #10: Disrespect to a teacher or other school authority.

Rule #11: Refusing to take detention or other properly administered discipline.

Rule #12: Skipping detention.

Rule #13: Falsifying of information given to school authorities in the legitimate pursuit of their jobs.

Rule #14: Forgery of school or school related documents.

Rule #15: Cheating or plagiarizing.

Rule #16: Gambling.

Rule #17: Extortion of a student or school personnel.

Rule #18: Theft or possession of stolen goods.

Rule #19: Arson or other improper use of fire.

Rule #20: Possession of matches or lighters or other similar devices.

Rule #21: Possession or use of dangerous weapons or ordnance or objects which look like weapons or ordnance, including but not limited to, guns, firearms, ammunition, knives, grenades, sling shots, bows, arrows, machetes, brass knuckles, chains, studs, etc.; or possession or use of objects which may render physical harm to another if improperly used, including, but not limited to, axes, hatchets, hammers, saws, ice picks, screwdrivers, knives, etc.

Rule #22: Buying, selling, transferring, using or possessing any substance containing tobacco, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, a pipe, clove cigarette, chewing tobacco, snuff, and dip, or using tobacco in any other form.

Rule #23: Buying, selling, transferring, using, possessing or being under the influence of any controlled substance (drugs, narcotics, marijuana, betel nuts etc.) or inhalants, or buying, selling, using, possessing or being under the influence of any counterfeit controlled substance (any substance that is made to look like a controlled substance, or is represented to be a controlled substance, or that is believed to be a controlled substance).

Rule #24: Buying, selling, transferring, using, possessing or being under the influence of any drug, medication, inhalant or other controlled substance which can be taken internally where the students involved cannot show a legitimate health or other reason for the use of such substances.

Rule #25: Buying, selling, transferring, using, or possessing any drug or alcoholic paraphernalia to include instruments, objects, papers, pipes, containers, etc.

Rule #26: A student that carries a cell phone or any other electronic device must follow reasonable directions or commands by school authorities including school administrators and teachers. The student is responsible to secure any electronic device in the manner prescribed by the building administration. Misuse of an electronic communication device during the school day may result in confiscation of that device by a staff member or administrator. Students may not take photographs, record or videotape on school grounds without the permission of teachers or administrators. Students may not post photos, videotapes, writing or memes on school grounds, while using school internet or using school devices.

Rule #27: Buying, selling, transferring, using, possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind.

Rule #28: Cursing.

Rule #29: Use of indecent or obscene language in oral or written form.

Rule #30: Publication of obscene, pornographic or libelous material.

Rule #31: Placing signs and slogans on school property without the permission of the proper school authority.

Rule #32: Distribution on school premises of pamphlets, leaflets, buttons, insignia, etc., without the permission of the proper school authority.

Rule #33: Demonstrations by individuals or groups causing disruption to the school program.

Rule #34: Truancy.

Rule #35: Tardiness.

Rule #36: Leaving school during school hours without permission of the proper school authority.

Rule #37: Upon initial arrival, leaving school property without permission.

Rule #38: Presence in areas during school hours or outside school hours where a student has no legitimate business without permission of the proper school authority.

Rule #39: Failure to abide by reasonable dress and appearance codes set forth in student handbooks or established by administration or the Board of Education. This includes the prohibition of all clothing, jewelry, signs, etc. which at the discretion of the administration is reasonably related to, or represents gang or gang-like activity.

Rule #40: Improper or suggestive dress.

Rule #41: Indecent exposure.

Rule #42: Engaging in sexual acts, displaying excessive affection or other inappropriate behavior with a person of the same or opposite sex.

Rule #43: Turning in false fire, tornado, bomb, disaster or other alarms, or any other activity that induces panic defined as: a. Initiating or circulating a report or warning of an alleged or impending fire, explosion, crime or other catastrophe, knowing that such a report or warning is false b. Threatening to commit an "offense of violence" or c. Committing any offense with reckless disregard of the likelihood that its commission will cause serious public inconvenience or alarm.

Rule #44: Presence on school property with a communicable disease.

Rule #45: Failure to abide by rules and regulations set forth by administration for student parking.

Rule #46: Disobedience of driving regulations while on school premises.

Rule #47: Convey, attempt to convey or knowingly possess a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance onto any property owned or controlled by or to any activity held under the auspices of the Board of Education.

Rule #48: Sell, offer to sell, or possess a controlled substance on school premises or at a school related function (trafficking in drugs).

Rule #49: Carrying a concealed weapon.

Rule #50: Aggravated murder.

Rule #51: Murder.

Rule #52: Voluntary manslaughter.

Rule #53: Involuntary manslaughter.

Rule #54: Felonious assault.

Rule #55: Aggravated assault.

Rule #56: Rape.

Rule #57: Gross sexual imposition.

Rule #58: Felonious sexual penetration.

Rule #59: Any disruption or interference with school activities.

Rule #60: Willfully aiding another person to violate school violations.

Rule #61: Commission by a pupil of any crime in violation of the Ohio Criminal Code, Ohio Traffic Code or the Ohio Juvenile Code.

Rule #62: Any other activity by a pupil which the pupil knows or should know will disrupt the academic process or a curricular or extracurricular activity.

Rule #63: Failing to report the actions or plans of another person to a teacher or administrator where these actions or plans of another person, if carried out, could result in harm to another person or persons or damage property, when the student has information about such actions or plans.

Rule #64: Violation of any board rule, regulation or policy.

HAZING AND BULLYING

Student Hazing, po 5516

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with and disruptive to the educational process, and prohibited at any time in school facilities, on school property, and/or off school property if the misconduct is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school property. No administrator, faculty member, or other Board of Education employee shall encourage, permit, authorize, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No student shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing.

Hazing is defined as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, team, or organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Administrators, faculty members, and other employees of the Board shall be alerted to possible situations, circumstances, or events that might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, the students involved shall be informed by the discoverer of the prohibitions contained in this policy and shall be ordered to end all hazing activities or planned activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent. Students, administrators, faculty members, and other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be held personally liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with law.

The Superintendent shall distribute this policy to all students and Board employees, and shall incorporate it into building, staff, and student handbooks. It shall also be the subject of discussion at employee staff meetings or in-service programs.

Administrators, staff members and volunteers shall not intentionally remain ignorant of hazing or potential hazing activities.

Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior, po5517.01

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while en route to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

- A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or
- B. violence within a dating relationship.

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistant (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Building Principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the Building Principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The Building Principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

If, during an investigation of a reported act of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying/cyberbullying, the Principal or appropriate administrator believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile learning environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the Principal will report the act of bullying and/or harassment to one of the Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers so that it may be investigated in accordance with the procedures set forth in Policy 5517 - Anti-Harassment.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

The District shall implement intervention strategies (AG 5517.01) to protect a victim or other person from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying and from retaliation following such a report.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the custodial parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such a student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

Complaints

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the Building Director for review, investigation, and action.

Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may make informal or anonymous complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator, or

other school personnel. Such complaints shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. A school staff member or administrator who receives an informal or anonymous complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the information provided. This written report shall be promptly forwarded by the school staff member and/or administrator to the Building Director for review, investigation, and appropriate action.

Individuals who make informal complaints as provided above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. Anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action shall be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

When an individual making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

Privacy/Confidentiality

The School District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

Reporting Requirement

At least semi-annually, the Superintendent shall provide to the President of the Board a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on the District website (if one exists). The list shall be limited to the number of verified acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, whether in the classroom, on school property, to and from school, or at school-sponsored events.

Allegations of criminal misconduct and suspected child abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or to Child Protective Services in accordance with statute. District personnel shall cooperate with investigations by such agencies.

Immunity

A School District employee, student, or volunteer shall be individually immune from liability in a civil action for damages arising from reporting an incident in accordance with this policy and R.C. 3313.666 if that person reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying promptly, in good faith, and in compliance with the procedures specified in this policy. Such immunity from liability shall not apply to an employee, student, or volunteer determined to have made an intentionally false report about harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be **annually** circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. At least once each school year a written statement describing the policy and consequences for violations of the policy shall be sent to each student's custodial parent or guardian.

The statement may be delivered electronically.

The policy and an explanation of the seriousness of bullying by electronic means shall be made available to students in the District and to their custodial parents or guardians.

State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedures.

Education and Training

In support of this policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of aggressive behavior, including bullying and violence within a dating relationship. The Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate training to all members of the School District community related to the implementation of this policy and its accompanying administrative guidelines. All training regarding the Board's policy and administrative guidelines about aggressive behavior and bullying in general, will be age and content appropriate.

Annually, the District shall provide all students enrolled in the District with age-appropriate instruction regarding the Board's policy, including a written or verbal discussion of the consequences for violations of the policy to the extent that State or Federal funds are appropriated for this purpose.

Students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) shall receive age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education, including instruction in recognizing dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships. Parents, who submit a written request to the Building Director to examine the dating violence prevention instruction materials used in the school, will be afforded an opportunity to review the materials within a reasonable period of time.

The District shall provide training, workshops, and/or courses on this policy for school employees and volunteers who have direct contact with students, to the extent that State or Federal funds are appropriated for these purposes. Time spent by school staff in these training programs shall apply toward mandated continuing education requirements.

In accordance with Board Policy 8462, the Superintendent shall include a review of this policy on bullying and other forms of harassment in the required training in the prevention of child abuse, violence, and substance abuse and the promotion of positive youth development.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy. Guidelines shall include reporting and investigative procedures, as needed. The complaint procedure established by the Superintendent shall be followed.

Gun-Free Schools

Weapons, po5772

The Board prohibits students, staff, and visitors from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon in any setting that is under the control and supervision of the Board for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the Board including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the Board, a school-sponsored event, or in a Board-owned vehicle.

The term "weapon" means any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, guns of any type, including air and gas-powered guns, (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, and explosives.

Any student who has reason to believe that a person has or will violate this guideline shall report such information to the school Principal or the supervisor of the activity immediately. The report should include as much detail as possible concerning the person(s) involved, the weapon, the location of the person(s), and how this information was obtained.

The Superintendent will refer any student who violates this guideline to the student's parents or guardians and to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system. The student may also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

No student is to confront the person possessing the weapon, but a staff member has the option of confronting the person if the staff member believes the risk of injury to self or others is minimal or if immediate action is necessary to prevent injury to any person.

A Principal or activity supervisor receiving a report of weapons possession shall have the option of conducting a search for the weapon in accordance with AG 5771, Search and Seizure, or contacting the School Resource Officer for assistance.

Any interaction with the person should have as its primary objective the safety and welfare of the people in the area rather than obtaining the possession of the weapon.

Use of Tobacco on School Premises

Use of Tobacco on School Premises, po7434

The Board of Education is committed to providing students, staff, and visitors with a tobacco and smoke-free environment. The negative health effects of tobacco use for both users and nonusers, particularly in connection with second-hand smoke, are well established. Further, providing a non-smoking and tobacco-free environment is consistent with the responsibilities of teachers and staff to be positive role models for our students.

For purposes of this policy, "use of tobacco" means to chew or maintain any substance containing tobacco, including smokeless tobacco, in the mouth to derive the effects of tobacco, as well as all uses of tobacco, including cigars, cigarettes, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, any other matter or substances that contain tobacco, in addition to papers used to roll cigarettes and/or the smoking of electronic, "vapor," or other substitute forms of cigarettes, clove cigarettes and any other lighted smoking devices for burning tobacco or any other substance.

The term "tobacco" includes any product that contains tobacco, is derived from tobacco, contains nicotine, or e-cigarettes and other electronic smoking devices (including but not limited to "JUULs"), but does not include any cessation product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use as a medical treatment to reduce or eliminate nicotine or tobacco dependence.

In order to protect students and staff who choose not to use tobacco from an environment noxious to them, and because the Board does not condone smoking and/or the use of tobacco, the Board prohibits the use of tobacco or tobacco substitute products at all times (twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week) within any enclosed facility owned or leased or contracted for by the Board, and in the areas directly or indirectly under the control of the Board immediately adjacent to locations of ingress or egress to such facilities. This prohibition extends to any Board-owned and/or operated vehicles used to transport students and to all other Board-owned and/or operated vehicles. Such prohibition also applies to school grounds, athletic facilities, and any school-related event on or off Board premises.

The Superintendent shall require the posting of signs as required by R.C. 3794.06 and as specified by the Ohio Department of Health.

Advertising/Promotion

In accordance with Policy 9700.01, tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in all school-sponsored publications, and at all school-sponsored events.

Tobacco promotional items that promote the use of tobacco products, including clothing, bags, lighters, and other personal articles are not permitted on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at school-sponsored events.

Violations of this policy may result in removal from school property or the school activity in accordance with Policy 9150 – School Visitors.

Drug Prevention

Drug Prevention, po5530

The Board of Education recognizes that the misuse of drugs is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the whole school community.

As the educational institution of this community, the schools should strive to prevent drug abuse and help drug abusers by educational, rather than punitive, means.

For purposes of this policy, "drugs" shall mean:

- A. all dangerous controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by Ohio statute;
- B. all chemicals which release toxic vapors;
- C. all alcoholic beverages;
- D. any prescription or patent drug, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy;
- E. anabolic steroids;
- F. any substance containing betel nut (areca nut);
- G. any substance that is a "look-alike" to any of the above.

The Board prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of any drug or any drug-related paraphernalia as the term is defined by law, or the misuse of a product containing a substance that can provide an intoxicating or mood-altering effect on school grounds, on school vehicles, or at any school-sponsored event.

It further establishes a drug-free zone within 1000 feet of any facility used by the District for educational purposes.

The Superintendent shall prepare guidelines for the identification, amelioration, and regulation of drug use in the schools. Such guidelines shall:

- A. emphasize the prevention of drug use;
- B. provide for a comprehensive, age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol education and prevention program which:
 - 1. addresses the legal, social, psychological, and health consequences of drug and alcohol use;
 - 2. provides information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use illicit drugs and alcohol;
 - 3. assists students to develop skills to make responsible decisions about substance abuse and other important health issues;
 - 4. promotes positive emotional health, self-esteem, and respect for one's body;
 - 5. meets the minimal objectives as stated in the essential performance objectives for health education as established by the State Department of Education
- C. include a statement to students that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful;
- D. provide standards of conduct that are applicable to all students and which clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as a part of any school activity;
- E. include a clear statement that disciplinary sanctions, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate the school standards of conduct and a description of those sanctions;
The sanctions may include, together with punitive action, voluntary referral to appropriate persons or agencies for screening and assessment. Such referral may only be made to qualified and properly licensed individuals or programs.
- F. provide information about any drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and reentry programs available to students and provide procedures to direct students and their parents to the appropriate programs;
- G. require that all parents and students be given a copy of the standards of conduct regarding the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students;
- H. require the notification to parents and students that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory;

- I. provide a biennial review of the School District's program to determine its effectiveness and implement changes as needed and to ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced;
- J. establish means for dealing with students suspected of drug use or suspected of possessing or distributing drugs in school and ensure that the District's policy and administrative guidelines on Search and Seizure Policy 5771 and AG 5771, Suspension and Expulsion Policy 5610 and AG 5610, and Permanent Exclusion Policy 5610.01 and AG 5610.01 are complied with fully.

The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines necessary to implement this policy. Such guidelines shall ensure that the proper notice regarding the use of anabolic steroids is posted in each of the District's locker rooms used by students in grades 7-12.

DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY

Care of School Property, po5513

The Board of Education believes that the schools should help students learn to respect property and develop feelings of pride in community institutions.

The Board charges each student with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to his/her use.

Students who cause damage to school property shall be subject to disciplinary measures, and their parents shall be financially liable for such damage to the extent of the law, except that students eighteen (18) years of age or older shall also be liable for damage they cause.

The Board authorizes the imposition of fines for the loss, damage or destruction of school equipment, apparatus, musical instruments, library material, textbooks, and for damage to school buildings and reserves the right, to the extent permitted by law, to withhold a report card or credits from any student whose payment of such fine is in arrears.

The Board may report to the appropriate juvenile authorities any student whose damage of school property has been serious or chronic in nature.

A reward may be offered by the Board for the apprehension of any person who vandalizes school property.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

Conduct on School Buses

The need for strict adherence to school bus discipline is critical. The potential safety related problems that could arise are indefinable. The driver needs to have discipline in order to devote his/her full attention to the hazards of the road. Children causing a disturbance are actually putting themselves, the other children and the driver in a very jeopardous position.

STUDENT REGULATIONS ON BUSES

Bus Regulations

When riding a school bus, students shall:

1. be expected to walk a reasonable distance to the bus stop.

2. arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes before scheduled pick up time; the drivers will not wait for students to walk from their homes to the bus.
3. behave at the school bus stop in an orderly fashion, not threatening life, limb or property of any individual.
4. load in an orderly manner, go directly to assigned seats. Students must remain seated, keeping the aisle and exits clear.
5. respect the driver and be aware that he/she is in charge at all times and should be obeyed promptly.
6. be courteous, no profane language or gestures will be tolerated.
7. keep noise on the bus to a minimum. Classroom behavior is expected.
8. not be in violation of safety procedures, i.e. proper seating, proper loading and unloading procedures, proper street crossing procedures, no fighting, pushing, shoving, or tripping.
9. be aware that Ohio State Law prohibits eating, drinking, chewing gum or the use of tobacco products on the bus.
10. not be destructive to the interior /exterior of the bus and should take an active role in litter control inside the bus.
11. not throw or pass objects on, out of, or into the bus.
12. not put objects or body parts outside of bus windows.
13. carry on the bus only objects that can be held in their laps. Animals (except service animals) of any kind are not permitted. Large objects and school projects may need to be transported by parents.
14. ride only their regularly assigned route. Students will board and disembark only at their designated stops.
15. have written permission from their parent or guardian and signed by the principal of their school, if they wish to leave at a stop other than their normal stop.
16. go directly to their bus upon dismissal from school and go directly home when they leave the bus.
17. use the emergency door only in an emergency situation, or as directed by the driver.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE RULES WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION.
STUDENTS MAY LOSE BUS RIDING PRIVILEGES. RIDING A BUS IS A PRIVILEGE AND NOT A RIGHT.

Dress Code

Dress and Grooming, po5511

The Board of Education recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices interfere with the educational program of the schools. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish a reasonable dress code in order to promote a safe and healthy school setting and enhance the educational environment. The dress code shall be incorporated into the Student Code of Conduct or Discipline Code.

Accordingly, the Superintendent shall establish such grooming guidelines as are necessary to promote discipline, maintain order, secure the safety of students, and provide a healthy environment conducive to academic purposes. Such guidelines shall prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

- A. present a hazard to the health or safety of the student himself/herself or to others in the school;
- B. materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
- C. cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
- D. prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Such guidelines shall establish the dress requirements for members of the athletic teams, bands, and other school groups when representing the District at a public event.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy which:

- A. designate the principal as the arbiter of student dress and grooming in his/her building;
 - B. instruct staff members to demonstrate by example and precept wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.
-

Expectations for dress and grooming:

1. Shorts - Appropriate shorts may be worn. Appropriateness is based upon length and decent fit. Appropriate length is mid-thigh. This also applies to skirts.
2. Tops should be respectable and non-revealing. Tops should cover the students shoulders and down to their pants. Bare midriffs, cropped tops, see-through tops, are not acceptable, nor are shirts with no sides. Clothing with drug, weapons, alcohol-related slogans, symbols, suggestive slogans, violent or obscene messages, or other designs or messages that are disruptive to the environment are not permitted.
3. Jeans and other apparel - Clothing with rips, tears or holes may be judged inappropriate for school dress. All pants must be worn at the appropriate waist level.
4. Footwear - Appropriate footwear must be worn. Safety may preclude some items (e.g., open shoes in the labs).
5. No head coverings or sunglasses except for religious or medical purposes are to be worn in the school building.
6. Overcoats or out-of-doors coats are not to be worn in the building or during class time unless specifically authorized by the principal.
7. Accessories and Jewelry: Heavy chains, studded bracelets, and dog collars are not permitted. Excessive piercings or jewelry that is disruptive to learning will be deemed inappropriate.
8. Tattoos - Any tattoo that would be a disruption to the educational system including drug, tobacco, weapons, and alcohol related references, obscene or double-meaning tattoos, and modesty based on community standards must be covered in school and at all school activities.
9. Hair color: The color and/or style of hair must be such that it does not cause disruption to the educational program or extra-curricular activity.

Sponsors and teachers of elective classes or activities may require standards that are more strict regarding dress and appearance for participation in their programs or activities.

At special times, such as spirit week and homecoming, dress which is different from the standards may be approved. Students involved in student council, class activities and performance or support groups that wish to promote such special days, must obtain approval from the principal in advance (minimum 48 hours) so that a general announcement can be made.

Ultimately dress code violations are based upon Administrative judgement.

Attendance

Attendance, ag5200 (based on po5200)

The Board of Education requires all students enrolled in the schools of this District to attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the State. The District's educational program is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. The regular contact of students with one another in the classroom and their participation in a well-planned instructional activity under the tutelage of a competent teacher are vital to this purpose.

Excusable Reasons for Absence

The District accepts only the following as reasonable excuses for time missed at school. Each absence shall be explained in writing and signed by the student's parent/guardian or communicated electronically (for example, email to school's attendance officer or voice message on the school's attendance line). The excuse shall be submitted to the Principal and filed as part of the student's school record.

A written or electronically communicated excuse for absence from school may be approved for one (1) or more of the following reasons or conditions:

- A. Personal Illness
The Principal may require a doctor's confirmation if s/he deems it advisable.
- B. Appointment with a Health Care Provider
- C. Illness in the Family Necessitating the Presence of the Child
The Principal may require a doctor's confirmation and an explanation as to why the child's absence was necessary.
- D. Quarantine of the Home
This is limited to the length of the quarantine as fixed by the proper health officials.
- E. Death in the Family
This is limited to a period of three (3) days unless a reasonable cause may be shown for a longer absence.
- F. Necessary Work at Home Due to Absence or Incapacity of Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
Any absence arising because of this condition shall only apply to a child over fourteen (14) years of age and shall not extend for a period longer than five (5) days and can be renewed for five (5) additional days. At no time, shall such an excuse permit a student to be absent from school for a period of more than ten (10) consecutive days.
At the discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee, a student may be excused for a longer period of time than ten (10) days if a child's parent or guardian has recently died or become totally or partially incapacitated and there is no older brother or sister living in the home who is out of school. In such cases, the Superintendent or his/her designee may request a certificate of a physician attesting to the physical condition of the parent or guardian.
- G. Observation or Celebration of a Bona Fide Religious Holiday
Any student shall be excused for the purpose of observing or celebrating a bona fide religious holiday consistent with his/her creed or belief.
- H. Absence During the School Day for Professional Appointments

Parents are to be encouraged to schedule medical, dental, legal, and other necessary appointments other than during the school day. Since this is not always possible, when a student is to be absent for part of the day:

1. the student shall have a statement to that effect from his/her parents;
 2. the student shall bring a signed statement from the doctor, dentist, lawyer, counselor, etc. to the effect that s/he reported promptly for the appointment;
 3. the student shall report back to school immediately after his/her appointment if school is still in session.
- I. Emergency or Other Set of Circumstances
The Superintendent shall determine whether the reason for the absence constitutes good and sufficient cause.
 - J. Medically Necessary Leave
A pregnant student will be considered on an excused absence for so long a period as is deemed medically necessary by the student's physician. Written confirmation by the physician may be required.
 - K. Service as Precinct Officer at a Primary, Special or General Election
Students selected as precinct officials through the program set forth in Policy 5725 shall be excused from school on the day of an election at which the student serves as a precinct official.

Absences that do not accumulate against this guideline include:

- A. field trips;
- B. college visits.

Student Vacations During the School Year

Students are permitted to go on vacation during the school year without penalty (except the week ending each semester). The purpose of this administrative guideline is to accommodate parents who must take their vacations during the school year and the desire to enjoy that time as a family.

Whenever a proposed absence-for-vacation is requested, parents must discuss it with the Principal. The length of absence should be made clear, and those involved should have an opportunity to express their views on the potential effects of the absence.

The District will only approve a student's absence for a vacation when s/he will be in the company of his/her own parent or other family relatives but not other students' parents, unless there are extenuating circumstances deemed appropriate by the Principal. The time missed will be counted as an authorized, unexcused absence, but shall not be a factor in determining grades unless make-up work is not completed. These authorized unexcused absences are still subject to truancy regulations.

If a student is absent for any other type of vacation, the vacation is considered unauthorized and the student's absence from school will be recorded as an unexcused absence and subject to truancy regulations.

For an authorized or unauthorized vacation absence, the student may be given approximate assignments and materials and pages to be completed.

Recording Attendance

The attendance officer shall file a complaint in the juvenile court against a student on the sixty-first (61st) day after the implementation of an absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies, provided that all of the following apply:

Attendance shall be taken at the beginning of every block/period in buildings with block/period-based scheduling. Absences from a class block/period shall be accounted for to the nearest full hour.

Attendance shall be taken at the commencement of the school day in buildings with non-period-based schedules. Attendance for students arriving late or leaving early must be tracked and recorded to the nearest full hour.

Contacting the Parent/Guardian of an Absent Student

Within 120 minutes after the beginning of each school day, the attendance officer or designee for each school building shall make at least one (1) attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of any student who is recorded as absent without legitimate excuse by notification sent through the school's automated student information system.

The attendance officer or designee shall not attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student if the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student initiates a telephone call or other communication notifying the school or building administration of the student's excused or unexcused absence within 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day.

Excessive Absences

When a student of compulsory school age is absent from school with combined non medical excused absences and unexcused absences in excess of thirty-eight (38) or more hours in one (1) school month, or sixty-five (65) or more hours in a school year, that student is considered "excessively absent" from school. The District or school shall notify the child's parent or guardian of the child's absences, in writing, within seven (7) school days after the date of the absence that triggered the notice requirement. At the same time written notice is given, any appropriate intervention action listed herein may be taken.

A "medical excuse" that will not count toward excessive absence hours includes: (1) personal illness; (2) illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child; (3) quarantine of the home; (4) health care provider appointments (doctor, dentist, mental health provider, etc.); (5) medically-necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751; (6) death in the family; or (7) other set of circumstances the Superintendent deems on a case-by-case basis to be a good and sufficient cause for medical absence from school.

A medical excuse for personal illness will be accepted in the form of doctor's note within five (5) school days of the absence or parent call-in on the day of the absence due to illness or doctor's visit. A student may have up to ten (10) medically excused absences without a doctor's note, but with a phone call from a parent/guardian. For the 2020-2021 school year, medical excuse absences will be accepted through this process for students participating both in-person and remotely. This policy will be extended beyond ten (10) days if the student or someone in the student's family is in quarantine due to recognized pandemic/epidemic (e.g., COVID-19) or experiencing symptoms of the pandemic/epidemic.

Habitual Truancy

A student will be considered habitually truant if the student is of compulsory school age and absent without a legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, for forty-two (42) or more hours in one (1) school month, or for seventy-two (72) or more hours in one (1) school year.

Legitimate excuses for the absence of a student who is otherwise habitually truant include but are not limited to:

- A. the student was enrolled in another school district;
- B. the student was excused from attendance in accordance with R.C. 3321.04; or
- C. the student has received an age and schooling certificate.

Absence Intervention Team

To the extent required by law as determined on an annual basis, within ten (10) days of a student becoming habitually truant, the Principal shall assign the student to an absence intervention team.

Within fourteen (14) school days after the assignment of a student to an absence intervention team, the team shall develop an intervention plan for that student in an effort to reduce or eliminate further absences.

Each intervention plan shall vary based on the individual needs of the student, but the plan shall state that the attendance officer shall file a complaint not later than sixty-one (61) days after the date the plan was implemented, if the child has refused to participate in, or failed to make satisfactory progress on, the intervention plan. Within seven (7) school days after the development of the plan, reasonable efforts shall be made to provide the student's parent/guardian/custodian with written notice of the plan.

Each absence intervention team may vary based on the needs of each individual student but shall include a representative from the child's building, another representative from the child's building who knows the child, and the child's parent or parent's designee, or the child's guardian, custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian. The team also may include a school psychologist, counselor, social worker, or representative of a public or nonprofit agency designed to assist students and their families in reducing absences.

The members of the absence intervention team shall be selected within seven (7) school days of the student meeting the habitually truant threshold. Within the same period of seven (7) school days, the Principal shall make at least three (3) meaningful, good faith attempts to secure the participation of the student's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian on that team. A good faith attempt to secure the participation of the parent shall include, but not be limited to, diligent efforts to reach the parent by telephone, email, or regular mail. If the student's parent responds to any of those attempts, but is unable to participate for any reason, the Principal shall inform the parent of the parent's right to appear by designee. If seven (7) school days elapse and the student's parent, guardian, custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian fails to respond to the attempts to secure participation, the attendance officer shall investigate whether the failure to respond triggers mandatory abuse or neglect reporting to the public children services agency. At the same time, the absence intervention team shall continue to develop an intervention plan for the child notwithstanding the absence of the child's parent, guardian, custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian.

Intervention Strategies

In order to address the attendance practices of a student who is habitually truant, the intervention team may, as part of an intervention plan, take any of the following intervention actions:

- A. provide counseling to the student
- B. request or require the student's parent to attend a parental involvement program
- C. request or require a parent to attend a truancy prevention mediation program
- D. notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of the student's absences
- E. take appropriate legal action
- F. assignment to an alternative school

Any student who, due to a specifically identifiable physical or mental impairment, exceeds or may exceed the District's limit on excused absence may be referred to the Director of Student Services for evaluation to determine eligibility either under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or other appropriate accommodation.

Reporting Requirements

The attendance officer shall file a complaint in the juvenile court against a student on the 61st day after the implementation of an absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies, provided that all of the following apply:

- A. The student is habitually truant.
- B. The school district or school has made meaningful attempts to re-engage the student through the absence intervention plan, other intervention strategies, and any offered alternatives to adjudication, if applicable.
- C. The student has refused to participate in or failed to make satisfactory progress on the plan, as determined by the absence intervention team, or any offered intervention strategies or alternative to adjudication.

If the student, at any time during the implementation phase of the absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies, is absent without legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours or forty-two (42) or more hours in one (1) school month, the attendance officer shall file a complaint in juvenile court against that student, unless the absence intervention team has determined that the student has made substantial progress on the absence intervention plan.

In the event that the sixty-first (61st) day after the implementation of the absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies falls on a day during the summer months, the absence intervention team may extend the implementation of the plan and delay the filing of the complaint for an additional thirty (30) days from the first day of instruction of the next school year.

Whenever any student of compulsory school age has sixty (60) consecutive hours in a single month or a total of ninety (90) hours of unexcused absence from school during the school year, s/he will be considered "habitually absent" under R.C. 3321.13(B)(2). The Superintendent shall notify the student and his/her parents, guardian, or custodian, in writing, that the Superintendent will notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, if appropriate, and the Judge of the Juvenile Court of the child's unexcused absences and "habitually absent" status unless the student or his/her parents wish to challenge the record. They are to be notified that the absence information has been provided to the Superintendent, that as a result of that information the child's temporary driver instruction permit or driver's license will be suspended or the opportunity to obtain such a permit or license will be denied, and that they may appear in the Principal's office to challenge such information at a scheduled date and time which shall be no earlier than three (3) days or later than five (5) days after the date of the notification. The Principal may grant an extension, if requested by the child or the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

Notification will be sent within two (2) weeks after the Superintendent receives the information or the conclusion of the hearing if the determination that the student did not have a legitimate excuse for the absences is upheld. The student's name, address, birthdate, school, district, and attendance record shall be sent to the Juvenile Judge in writing and to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, if appropriate in the manner designated by the Registrar.

The District shall report to the Ohio Department of Education, as soon as practicable, and in a format and manner determined by the department, any of the following occurrences:

- A. when a notice that a student has been absent with or without legitimate excuse for thirty-eight (38) or more hours in one (1) school month, or sixty-five (65) or more hours in a school year is submitted to a parent, guardian, or custodian;
- B. when a child of compulsory school age has been absent without legitimate excuse from the public school the child is supposed to attend for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, forty-two (42) or more hours in one (1) school month, or seventy-two (72) or more hours in a school year;
- C. when a child of compulsory school age who has been adjudicated an unruly child for being a habitual truant violates the court order regarding that adjudication;
- D. when an absence intervention plan has been implemented for a child under this policy.

Encouraging Attendance

Promoting and fostering desired student attendance habits requires a commitment from the administration, faculty, and parents. No single individual or group can - in and of itself - successfully accomplish this task.

A professional staff member's responsibility must include, but not be limited to:

- A. providing meaningful learning experiences every day;
Therefore, a student who is absent from any given class period would be missing a significant component of the course.
- B. speaking frequently of the importance of students being in class, on time, ready to participate;
- C. keeping accurate attendance records tracked to the nearest full hour (excused vs. unexcused);
- D. requiring an admit slip from a student when s/he returns from an absence and invoking a consequence if s/he does not have one;
- E. incorporating defined, daily participation as part of the teaching/learning process and each grading period (See AG 2220);
- F. requiring students to make up missed quizzes, tests, and other pertinent assignments before or after the regular school day and not permitting students to use instructional time to do make-up work.

Students Leaving School During School Day

- A. No staff member shall permit or cause any student to leave the school prior to the regular hour of dismissal except with the knowledge and approval of the Principal and with the knowledge and approval of the student's parents. (see Form 5230 F1)
- B. No student will be released to any government agency without proper warrant or written parental permission except in the event of an emergency as determined by the Principal.

Make-Up Opportunities

A student may make-up units of study with a properly licensed teacher if prior approval has been granted by the Principal.

- A. Students will be given the opportunity for making up work missed due to approved absences. The length of time for completion of make-up work shall be commensurate with the length of the absence.
- B. Students will be given the opportunity to make-up work missed due to suspension. The make-up work must be completed and presented to the teacher upon his/her return to school. Tests missed during the period of suspension may be made up by the students by contacting the teacher on the day of his/her return to school. The teacher, at his/her convenience, may administer the test or assign alternate written work in lieu of the test missed.
- C. A student wishing to do make-up work should contact his/her teacher to obtain assignments.

Tardiness

- A. Students not in homeroom or in class when the late bell rings are considered tardy, and attendance shall be tracked and recorded to the nearest full hour.
- B. All students who are tardy to school must report to the Principal's office to sign in.
- C. When a teacher detains a student after class, s/he shall issue a late pass for the student's next class.
- D. Teachers are to refer cases of chronic tardiness to the Principal.

Tracking Remote Attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year

Consistent with the Remote Learning Plan submitted to the Ohio Department of Education, the District will provide a variety of instruction models, including both teacher-led remote learning and self-directed remote learning. While attendance will be monitored and collected at the student level, the tracking of attendance does not necessitate knowing what every student is doing at every moment with regard to the student's educational experience. Regardless of the way attendance is tracked, the District will convert to and report attendance in hour increments (i.e., while attendance may not be taken hourly in the remote learning setting, the attendance information collected will be reported in hourly increments for each student.

Student attendance in teacher-led remote learning (synchronous web-based instruction) shall be tracked in the same manner as hourly, in-person instruction. Teachers shall determine hourly attendance by evidence of student login and logoff data. Teachers are encouraged to verify meaningful attendance in a method selected by the teacher, such as an ungraded quiz at the close of a lesson, a survey or poll questions (unrelated to the lesson and unpredictable) at the end of the lesson, or asking students questions at random throughout a session.

In addition to the reasons listed at the beginning of this guideline, absences from teacher-led remote learning (synchronous web-based instruction) may be considered excused under the following circumstances, with notice from a parent/guardian:

- A. temporary internet outage for individual students or households
- B. temporary technical difficulties for individual students or households, such as password resets or software upgrades occurring during a teacher-led learning lessons;
- C. computer/device malfunction;
- D. malfunction of a District-owned device for which the District is providing technical assistance, repair, or replacement.

Attendance in self-directed remote learning (asynchronous) shall be tracked by evidence of participation, which may include, but is not limited to:

- A. daily logins to learning management systems;
- B. daily interactions with the teacher to acknowledge attendance, which may include, but are not limited to, messages, emails, telephone calls, video chats or other formats that enable teachers to engage with students; and
- C. assignment completion.
The teacher will determine the number of hours a typical student would take to complete an assignment and report those hours of attendance when the assignment is completed. A teacher may adjust the number of hours of attendance based on the length of time the student actually spent on the assignment, as reported by the student, parent, or other person with knowledge.

If there is no evidence a student participated or engaged in any way in a remote learning activity, the student will be marked with an absence for the hours allotted for that remote learning activity.

Remote learning shall not be used to make up absences from in-school learning.

The District's efforts to foster student attendance in a remote learning setting will be guided by the following principles:

- A. It is critical to build and maintain strong relationships that can endure time and distance. To this end, the District will strive to (a) maintain updated contact information for students and parents, (b) engage in outreach opportunities to learn more about the student and/or family's digital access (including internet connectivity, and technology devices), and (c) establish meaningful communication that connects students, families, educators and, in some cases, other caring adults from the community.
- B. The District will balance its focus on consistent student attendance, including exposure and engagement in learning, with a priority on the health and safety of students, families, and educators.
- C. The District will seek to maintain frequent contact with students and families, connect students to appropriate resources, encourage student participation, and offer enriching, interesting and engaging learning opportunities.
- D. The District will use data to drive its decisions that are aimed at understanding successes and opportunities, supporting diverse learning styles, identifying solutions, and driving continuous improvement.
- E. The District will leverage community partnerships to strengthen its efforts to support student's attendance, exposure, and engagement in learning, and student's overall mental health and well-being.
- F. The District will employ a multi-tiered system of support to remove barriers that prevent students from participating and engaging in learning, mitigate negative learning experiences, address lack of engagement and misconceptions, and provide needed social-emotional support.

Staff responsible for recording student's attendance in the District's student information system shall be afforded flexibility in situations where students have varied schedules throughout the week. Such flexibility is particularly important in circumstances where a family's schedule necessitates a student complete a majority of his/her remote work during the evening or over the weekend. Ultimately, staff are authorized to attribute attendance hours to specific days in the school's calendar for information system purposes and to determine which days will show any remote education-related absence. For example, in situations where the District is facing assignment completion into attendance and a student shows no participation in a remote education activity that should have taken three (3) hours for all students, the three (3) hours of absence do not have to be split across the five (5) days the student had to complete the assignment. To ease record keeping and data entry, the staff may record all three (3) hours of absence on one (1) of the remote learning days provided for the assignment.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES IN THE SCHOOLS

We in the Oak Hills Local School District are pleased to be able to offer our students, staff and guests access to computer technology, including access to the Internet, certain online services, and the Oak Hills information technology network. We are dedicated to access and support of appropriate technology which unlocks our potential and connects us locally and globally. We envision a learning environment where technology is a part of us, not apart from us.

We believe that the tremendous value of technology and the information technology network as an educational resource far outweighs the potential risks. We will leverage existing and emerging technology as a means to learn and thrive in the 21st Century and prepare our students for success toward their goals in the competitive global, electronic age. We feel that access to the tools and resources of a world-wide network and understanding when and how these tools are appropriately and effectively used are imperative in each student's education. However, if parents feel they do not want their child to have Internet access, then they will be responsible for informing their child's teachers, in writing, before the end of the second week of school.

The school's information technology resources, including email and Internet access, are provided for educational purposes. If you have any doubt about whether a contemplated activity is acceptable, consult with your immediate teacher, supervisor, or director to help decide if a use is appropriate. Adherence to the following policy is necessary for continued access to the school's technological resources:

Users must respect and protect the privacy of others by:

1. Using only assigned accounts.
2. Only viewing, using, or copying passwords, data, or networks to which they are authorized.
3. Refraining from distributing private information about others or themselves.

Users must respect and protect the integrity, availability, and security of all electronic resources by:

1. Observing all district Internet filters and posted network security practices.
2. Reporting security risks or violations to a teacher or network administrator.
3. Not destroying or damaging data, networks, or other resources that do not belong to them, without clear permission of the owner.
4. Conserving, protecting, and sharing these resources with other users.
5. Notifying a staff member or administrator of computer or network malfunctions through the creation of a service request.

Users must respect and protect the intellectual property of others by.

1. Following copyright laws (not making illegal copies of music, games, or movies).
2. Citing sources when using others' work (not plagiarizing).

Users must respect and practice the principles of community by:

1. Communicating only in ways that are kind and respectful.
2. Reporting threatening or discomfoting materials to a teacher or administrator.
3. Not intentionally accessing, transmitting, copying, or creating material that violates the school's code of conduct (such as messages/content that are pornographic, threatening, rude, discriminatory, or meant to harass).
4. Not intentionally accessing, transmitting, copying, or creating material that is illegal (such as obscenity, stolen materials, or illegal copies of copyrighted works).
5. Not using the resources to further other acts that are criminal or violate the school's code of conduct.
6. Avoiding spam, chain letters, or other mass unsolicited mailings.
7. Refraining from buying, selling, advertising, or otherwise conducting business, unless approved as a school project.

Users may, if in accord with the policy above:

1. Design and post web pages and other material from school resources.
2. Communicate electronically via tools such as email, chat, text, or videoconferencing (students require a teacher's permission).
3. Install or download software, if also in conformity with laws and licenses, (students must be under the supervision of a teacher).
4. Use the resources for any educational purpose.

Consequences for Violation.

Violations of these rules may result in disciplinary action, including the loss of a user's privileges to use the school's information technology resources. Further discipline maybe imposed in accordance with the Board's Code of Conduct up to and including suspension or expulsion depending on the degree and severity of the violation.

Supervision and Monitoring.

The use of District owned information technology resources is not private. School and network administrators and their authorized employees monitor the use of information technology resources to help ensure that uses are secure and in conformity with this policy. Administrators reserve the right to examine, use, and disclose any data found on the school's information networks in order to further the health, safety, discipline, or security of any student or other person, or to protect property. They may also use this information in disciplinary actions, and will furnish evidence of crime to law enforcement.

The district reserves the right to determine which uses constitute acceptable use and to limit access to such uses. The district also reserves the right to limit the time of access and priorities among competing acceptable uses.

Disclaimer of Liability

The district shall not be responsible for any material encountered on a computer network, including the Internet, which may be deemed objectionable to a user (or his/her parents, if a minor); for any inaccurate information disseminated over the network; for any hostile or injurious actions of third parties encountered through a computer network; for any charges incurred by the user of a computer or computer network without prior permission; or for any damage or loss incurred by a user or any subsequent party by the use of files or

software obtained over a computer network. Due to the nature of electronic communications and Ohio public records law, it is also impossible for the district to guarantee confidentiality of e-mail sent and received over any computer network.

The district shall not warrant the functions of the system to meet any specific requirements the user may have, or that it would be error-free or uninterrupted; nor shall the district be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages, including damage to personal devices, lost data, information or time sustained in connection with the use, operation or inability to use the system.

I ACKNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTAND MY OBLIGATIONS:

Credit

Portions of this AUP are modeled after an example provided by the [US Department of Justice Computer Crime & Intellectual Property Section](#).