

Davidson Middle School

"Learning for Life"

2019-2020

15800 Trenton Road
Southgate, Michigan 48195
Phone: (734) 246-4628
Fax: (734) 246-7280
Website: www.southgateschools.com

This Student Planner belongs to:

Name: _____

Grade Level: _____

2019-2020 DMS School Day

Monday through Friday
7:50 am - Classes Begin
2:42 pm - Students Dismissed

Late Start Wednesday's
9:24 am - Classes Begin
2:42 pm - Students Dismissed

Half-Days
7:50 am - Classes Begin
11:08 am - Students Dismissed

To check grades and attendance, log into:

<https://sisweb.resa.net/SouthgateSchools/ParentConnect/> or
<https://sisweb.resa.net/SouthgateSchools/StudentConnect/>

Davidson Middle School

2019-2020 Student Handbook

Davidson Middle School Mission/Vision Statement

The mission of the Southgate Community School District and Davidson Middle School is
"Learning for Life". The vision is Southgate Community Schools: The best
choice for students and parents".

DAVIDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS MATRIX

	Classrooms	P.E./Locker Room	Media Center/Computer Lab	Office	Hallways	Bathrooms	Outside/ Lunch Break	Cafeteria	After School and Sporting events	School Trips	Assembly	Anti-Bullying
BE RESPECTFUL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use kind words and actions/help others Use materials appropriately Be patient and wait your turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show good sportsmanship Clean up after yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use assigned equipment as directed Be patient and wait your turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be patient and wait your turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use assigned actions/help others Respect classes in session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean up after yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use kind words and actions/help others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be patient and wait your turn Use good manners Listen during announcements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show good sportsmanship Be aware of everyone's personal space and belongings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean up after yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter and exit quietly Demonstrate appropriate and timely applause Be attentive Keep all electronic devices out of sight and silenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STOP: Interrupt & model respect, rather than watch or join in
BE RESPONSIBLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be on time to class Complete assignments and homework (ON TIME) Use your time wisely Actively participate in class Keep classroom litter free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow established procedures Dress appropriately Use equipment efficiently Report damage and as instructed Report accidents, and injuries to a staff member Properly lock all personal property Keep all electronic devices out of sight And silenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow established procedures Handle equipment appropriately Report damage and inappropriate sites immediately Return materials on time to their proper place Leave gum, food, and drinks in locker Follow district's acceptable use policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be honest Follow established procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use assigned locker space properly Go directly to your destination Keep hallways litter-free Report damages, disruptions, or graffiti to a staff member Use during passing time Return to room promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flush toilet Report damages, graffiti to a staff member Keep all electronic devices out of sight Use during passing time Return to room promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow established procedures Report accidents, and injuries to a staff member Keep school grounds litter-free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come prepared for lunch (lunch, money, etc.) Clean up your own table/floor area Leave food and drink in the cafeteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep personal items with you Dress appropriately Arrive for ON TIME Transportation for arrival and departure Clean up after yourself Report damages, disruptions, or graffiti to an adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turn in permission slips Report accidents, and injuries to an adult Keep track of your belongings/leave n up after yourself Dress appropriately Remain with assigned leader Click in at appropriate times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow established procedures Follow seating instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WALK: Leave people who are being disrespected to join you & move away
BE SAFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sit correctly in assigned seat Store materials in designated area (backpacks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk at all times in locker room Use equipment as instructed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sit correctly on chairs Push in chairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sit or stand in designated area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk, at a safe pace on the side of the hallway and staircase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash hands with soap and water Use facilities appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay in designated area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow lunch line procedures Always walk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay in designated area Use bleachers appropriately Walk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow bus rules Stay with the group Stay in assigned areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk to and from seat Wait for permission to leave 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TALK: Report to an adult immediately
ALWAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow all staff directions Use appropriate language, volume, and tone Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself Respect others' privacy and property 											<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect school property In case of an emergency follow specific procedures Report problems to staff Do not open locked doors to outside (ask adult staff member) Value people and their property

The School District must balance the interests of students and the community in a safe and conducive educational environment with its duty to provide educational services to students who engage in misconduct and behaviors that interfere with the safety and the delivery of educational services. Board of Education Policy 2006 and this Student Code of Conduct are intended to strike that balance. However, these documents do not limit the School District's lawful authority.

Student participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege, not a right. Student athletes are subject to the Student Code of Conduct at all times, as well as the additional disciplinary rules that govern participants who represent the School District as members of an athletic team. These rules will be set forth in an Athletic and Extracurricular Code of Conduct accessible by clicking this link: <https://anderson.southgateschools.com/athletics/athletics/forms>.

An athletic responsibility acknowledgment form is required to be signed by the student and his/her parent and returned to the school before the student may participate.

Student Drivers Student drivers must be licensed and receive written permission from the School District in order to park their vehicle on School District property or use their vehicle during the school day. Student drivers must register with the school and park only in designated areas.

School Transportation A student who is transported by the School District or transported to a School District-related event must abide by the driver's direction and the Student Code of Conduct. Violators face the loss of transportation privileges, as well as possible disciplinary action. Examples of misconduct that may lead to temporary or permanent suspension of transportation privileges or other possible disciplinary action include, but are not limited to: insubordination, smoking, fighting, profane or foul language, and destruction of property.

The style and manner in which a student dresses while he/she attends school and school-related functions is largely the responsibility of the student and his/her parent. The District, however, maintains the right to impose reasonable restrictions on dress, where the style of dress or grooming is reasonably considered disruptive or the style of dress or grooming is reasonably considered detrimental to the School District's mission and/or the health, safety, or welfare of the student or other persons with whom he/she attends school.

The School District cooperates with local police authorities in the interest of the welfare of all citizens and the school community. Parents/guardians will be notified if police arrest or wish to question their student in school. The timing of parental notification will depend on the circumstances, taken as a whole.

From time to time, school property, such as lockers desks and technology devices, are assigned to a student. Students do not acquire a reasonable expectation of privacy in such property. The School District reserves the unrestricted right to search and seize property assigned to a student at any time, for any reason, with or without notice to the student. The privacy rights of students shall be respected regarding any items found during a search that are not illegal or otherwise against School District policy or these administrative procedures.

The School District makes parking available to students who are licensed drivers. This privilege is conditioned on the student's consent, in advance, to the search of their vehicles by School District personnel at any time, for any reason, with or without notice to the student.

School District personnel may, to the full extent permitted by law, search and seize students and their personal effects. Illegal items and items inappropriate in the educational environment may be confiscated by School District personnel and, when appropriate, delivered to police authorities or parents.

The Board of Education has adopted a policy on bullying and cyberbullying, Policy 2006. The Policy is intended to protect students from bullying, including cyberbullying, regardless of the subject matter or motivation for the behavior.

Complaint Procedure In order to implement the bullying policy, the School District has developed the following complaint procedure:

A student who believes that he/she has been the victim of bullying or cyberbullying must immediately report the incident(s) to the building principal. A student's parent or guardian must also report any such incident(s) on behalf of the student. Upon receipt of a report (complaint), the principal or his/her designee (the investigator) will conduct a prompt investigation. At the request or with the permission of the complainant, the investigator may first attempt to resolve the matter informally. Informal steps will not, however, cause a substantial delay in the investigation. The complainant may, at any time, request that the matter move to a formal investigation. Where the bullying activity is alleged to have been based on the protected classifications of race, color, sex, national origin, or disability, the incident(s) are instead investigated by the School District's designated Coordinator pursuant to Board of Education Policy 8008.

Step One: Formal Investigation. The investigator will interview the complainant and document the interview. Generally, the complainant will be asked:

- To reduce the complaint to writing by filling out the Bullying Incident Reporting Form;¹
- To provide the names and contact information, if known, of any persons who witnessed and may be able to substantiate the allegations of the complaint; and
- To produce any documents or other things supporting the complaint.

The complainant will be directed not to discuss the complaint with other students while the investigation is pending.

The investigator will interview the accused and document the interview. Generally, the accused will be asked:

- To reduce his/her response to writing; and
- To produce any documents or other things supporting his/her response.

¹ The Bullying Incident Reporting Form can be found here: <https://www.southgateschools.com/about-scsd/bullying-prevention-and-reporting>

The investigator should not disclose the identity of the complainant unless this is necessary to enable the accused student to respond to the allegations. The accused will be directed not to contact the complainant, if the complainant's identity is known or suspected, or retaliate or threaten to retaliate in any way against the complainant or any potential witnesses.

In the event of a significant discrepancy between the complainant and the accused, the investigator will interview other persons reasonably necessary to resolve the discrepancy.

Step Two: Decision

Complaint Found Valid. If the investigator concludes that the complaint is valid (i.e., bullying or cyberbullying in violation of School District policy has occurred), the following actions will be taken:

- The parent or guardian of both the complainant and the accused will be notified of the results of the investigation;
- The results of the investigation will be reported to the Superintendent;
- The Superintendent will consider whether restorative practices may be appropriate and, if so, invite the complainant and the accused to participate in a restorative practices team meeting;
- The Superintendent, or his/her designee, will consider whether disciplinary action may be appropriate and, if so, initiate disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct; and
- The Superintendent, or his/her designee, will determine whether relief to the complainant is feasible and available.

Complaint Found Not Valid. If the investigator concludes that the complaint is not valid (i.e., no bullying or cyberbullying in violation of School District Policy has occurred or can be substantiated), the following actions will be taken:

- The parent of both the complainant and the accused will be notified of the results of the investigation;
- The complainant and the accused will be reminded the School District prohibits retaliation or threats of retaliatory action;
- The results of the investigation will be reported to the Superintendent; and
- Any references to the complaint will be removed from the education records of the accused. The investigator will retain the investigative file for at least three years.

Annual Report. The Superintendent will provide Bullying Incident Reporting Forms to the Board as they are submitted by administration.

Introduction The School District's Student Code of Conduct balances the School District's obligation to maintain safety and a conducive educational environment with the School District's obligation to teach appropriate behavior to students who engage in misconduct and inappropriate behavior.

The Student Code of Conduct establishes the rules governing the most serious and obvious types of student misconduct. The prohibited acts listed in this Student Code of Conduct are not to be considered as an all-inclusive list or as a limitation upon the authority of school officials to deal appropriately with violations of a school building's individual rules and regulations, or other types of conduct which interfere with the good order of the school system, the proper functioning of the educational process, or the health and safety of students.

Attendance and Tardiness Policies The Student Code of Conduct does not include the School District's attendance and tardiness policies, the School District's requirements for credit and graduation, or the School District's authority to regulate the participation of students in extracurricular and athletic activities.

Range of Discipline Each prohibited act listed in the Student Code of Conduct references the discipline which may be imposed for a violation. The School District will also consider restorative practices as an addition or alternative to discipline. The discipline for violating some prohibited acts ranges from administrative intervention to expulsion; for other prohibited acts, the penalty ranges from suspension to expulsion; and for violation of the most serious prohibited acts, the penalty is expulsion. In cases where the stated penalty is not expulsion but is set forth in terms of a range, the actual penalty imposed will depend upon the nature and severity of the offense, the particular facts involved, the age of the student, the student's prior behavioral record, the persistent and/or chronic nature of the misconduct, the recommendation of school personnel, and all other circumstances deemed relevant.

A student violating any of the prohibited acts listed in this Student Code of Conduct will be disciplined in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Additionally, a student who engages in a prohibited act which violates law, may be referred to the appropriate police authority.

The prohibited acts and penalties listed below are applicable when a student:

- Engages in a prohibited act on school property;
- Engages in a prohibited act in a motor vehicle being used for a school-related purpose;
- Engages in a prohibited act at a school-related activity, function, or event;
- Engages in a prohibited act en route to or from school;
- Engages in a prohibited act involving another student who is en route to or from school;
- Engages in a prohibited act off school premises, which act is either prohibited by law or, in the judgment of the building administrator, is of such seriousness that the student's continued attendance in school would present a danger to the health and safety of students or employees and/or would substantially interfere with the proper functioning of the educational process; or
- Engages in a prohibited act when the student was not enrolled in the School District or was enrolled in another school district, if the act of misconduct would constitute a sufficient basis for suspension or expulsion had it occurred while the student was attending school in the School District.

Rebuttable Presumption Consistent with Michigan law, the School District adopts a rebuttable presumption students should not be disciplined by the imposition of long-term suspension (i.e., more than 10 school days) or expelled (i.e., more than 60 school days) unless the School District has determined, in its sole discretion, the presumption has been rebutted by considering each of the following seven factors:

- The student's age;
- The student's disciplinary history;
- Whether the student is disabled within the meaning of IDEA or ADA/Section 504;

- The seriousness of the student's misconduct or behavior;
- Whether the student's misconduct or behavior threatened the safety of any pupil or staff member;
- Whether restorative practices will be used to address the student's misconduct or behavior; and
- Whether less severe discipline would properly address the student's misconduct or behavior.

This rebuttable presumption does not apply to short-term suspensions (i.e., 10 school days or fewer) or to a student who possesses a firearm in a weapons free school zone. However, with respect to all out-of-school suspensions and expulsion (short-term or long-term), the School District administrator implementing the suspension shall consider and document consideration of the seven factors listed above on a form approved by the Superintendent.

Restorative Practices Consistent with Michigan law and in every case, the School District will consider restorative practices as an addition or alternative to suspension or expulsion. Restorative practices are practices that emphasize repairing the harm of the victim and the School District community of a student's misconduct or other behavior. Restorative practices may be considered and implemented by a restorative practices team. The restorative practices team may be constituted and act in the manner described in [Section 1310c\(2\) of the Revised School Code](#) or in a similar manner, depending on the circumstances as a whole in the sole discretion of the School District administrator assigned to handle the misconduct or behavior or the Board of Education (if the Board of Education is handling the misconduct or behavior).

Restorative practices should be the first consideration to remediate offenses such as interpersonal conflicts, bullying, verbal and physical conflicts, theft, damage to property, class disruption and harassment, bullying and cyberbullying.

Administrative Intervention Disciplinary action which does not result in a student being suspended from school including, but not limited to, restorative practices. Administrative intervention may include the removal of a student from a class period, in-school suspension, a reprimand, detention and/or work assignment before or after school, additional classroom assignments and revocation of the privilege of attending after school functions and activities, events, etc.

Snap Suspension If a student engages in conduct which unquestionably interferes with the education of him/herself or other students, or a teacher has good reason to believe a student has engaged in conduct which poses a clear and present danger to him/herself or other students, the teacher may suspend the student from a class, subject, or activity for one full school day.

Suspension Exclusion of a student from school for 60 school days or fewer or exclusion of a student from school which exclusion will terminate upon the fulfillment of a specific set of conditions.

Expulsion Exclusion of the student from the School District for 60 school days or more or permanent exclusion.

1. Alcohol, Marijuana, and Chemical Substances

Description. A student shall not manufacture, sell, handle, possess, use, deliver, transmit, or be under any degree of influence (legal intoxication not required) of any alcoholic beverages, marijuana, or other intoxicant of any kind. A student shall not inhale glue, aerosol paint, lighter fluid,

reproduction fluid, or other chemical substance for the purpose of becoming intoxicated or under the influence (legal intoxication not required).

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

Description. A student shall not burn or attempt to burn any tangible property or intentionally set a fire on school property or cause or attempt to cause an explosion on school property.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to expulsion.

This section is supplemental to, and does not limit or supersede, paragraphs 3, 12, 22, and 35.

3. Arson Prohibited by Law

Description. A student shall not commit an act of arson, prohibited by [MCL 750.71 through MCL 750.80](#).

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

This section is supplemental to, and does not limit or supersede, paragraphs 2, 12, 22, and 35.

4. Bullying and Hazing

Description. Students are prohibited from engaging in conduct, whether written, verbal, or physical, that unreasonably interferes with another's participation in or enjoyment at school or school-related activities, such as bullying or hazing. The Board of Education has adopted a policy on bullying as a part of Policy 2006. A corresponding administrative regulation 2006-AR has been developed to implement the policy.

"Hazing," for the purpose of this Student Code of Conduct, means initiating another student into any grade, school, or school-related activity by any means or methods that may cause physical or emotional pain, embarrassment, or discomfort.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

5. Coercion, Extortion, and Blackmail

Description. A student shall not commit or attempt to commit coercion, extortion, or blackmail. A student shall not engage in the act of securing or attempting to secure money or other items of value by the use of threats and/or violence, nor shall a student, by threats and/or violence, force another person to perform an unwilling act.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

6. Copyrighted Material

Description. A student shall not unlawfully duplicate, reproduce, retain, or use copyrighted material.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

. Criminal Acts

Description. A student shall not commit or participate in any conduct or act defined as a crime by federal or state law or local ordinance.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

8. Criminal Sexual Conduct

Description. A student shall not commit criminal sexual conduct, as defined by [MCL 750.520b-e](#) and [g](#).

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion, in accordance with [MCL 380.1311](#).

This section is supplemental to, and does not limit, paragraphs 9, 10, 14, 24, 25, and 34.

9. Discriminatory Harassment

Description. A student shall not engage in unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors or unwelcomed sexual touching. A student shall not engage in other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, or handicap or disability (e.g., sexual or racial comments, threats, or insults, etc.).

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

10. Disruption of School

Description. A student shall not, by any type of conduct (violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, etc.), cause the disruption or obstruction of any function of the school, nor shall he or she engage in any such conduct if such disruption or obstruction is reasonably likely to result. Neither shall a student urge other students to engage in such conduct for the purpose of causing such disruption or obstruction.

While the following acts are not intended to be exclusive, they illustrate the kinds of offenses encompassed within this rule. It should be understood that any conduct which causes disruption, is likely to result in disruption, or interferes with the educational process, is forbidden.

- Occupying any school building, school grounds, or a part thereof, without the permission of a school building staff member, which deprives others of its use;
- Blocking normal pedestrian or vehicle traffic, the entrances or exits of any school building or corridor or room, without the permission of the building principal;
- Preventing, attempting to prevent, or interfering with the convening or continued functioning of any class, activity, meeting, or assembly;
- Instigating or participating in a disturbance, or causing a disturbance, which interrupts the educational opportunities of others or threatens the general health, safety, and welfare of others on school property or at a school sponsored activity.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

11. Damage of Property or Theft/Possession

Description. A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause damage to school property or the property of another person, or steal, attempt to steal, or knowingly be in the unauthorized possession of school property or the property of another person.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

12. Dangerous Weapons

Description. A student shall not possess a dangerous weapon in a weapon free school zone.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

This section is supplemental to, and does not limit or supersede, paragraph 35.

13. Dress

Description. A student shall not dress or groom in a manner, which in the judgment of a building administrator, is unsafe to the student or others or disruptive to the educational process.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to expulsion.

14. Drugs, Narcotic Drugs, and Counterfeit Substances

Description. A student shall not manufacture, sell, possess, use, deliver, transfer, or be under the influence (legal intoxication not required) of any drug, narcotic drug, hallucinogen, stimulant, depressant, controlled substance, counterfeit substance, or a controlled substance analogue intended for human consumption.

A student shall not sell, deliver, or transfer, or attempt to sell, deliver, or transfer any prescription or non-prescription drug, medicine, vitamin, or chemical substance (e.g., pain relievers, stimulants, diet pills, pep pills, No-Doze pills, cough medicines, laxatives, stomach or digestive remedies, vaporizer cartridges, etc.), nor shall a student use or possess these substances for an improper purpose.

A student shall not sell or represent a legal substance as an illegal or controlled substance (e.g., selling NODOZ as "Speed" or "Crack") or sell, manufacture, possess, use, deliver, or transfer "designer" drugs.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

15. Electronic Communication Devices and Laser Pointers

Description. Districtwide, students are prohibited from using or possessing active (i.e., turned on) electronic communication devices in restrooms, locker rooms, offices, and other locations where students and staff have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Separately, all students are prohibited from possessing or using laser pointers on school premises and at school-related activities without the express permission of school administration.

- *High School.* Students are expected to use good judgment when using or possessing active electronic communication devices in hallways during passing

time, in the parking lot, cafeteria during lunch, and extra-curricular activities. Students may not use or possess active electronic communication devices without explicit staff permission in class or on buses.

- *Middle and Elementary School.* Students may not use or possess active electronic communication devices without staff permission.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

16. Failure to Comply with Directions of School Personnel

Description. A student shall not be insubordinate or fail to comply with instructions and directions of School District employees (including substitute and student teachers), volunteers, or persons acting as a chaperone or in a supervisory capacity.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

17. Failure to Cooperate

Description. A student shall not refuse to cooperate with School District administrators and/or teaching staff investigating a possible violation of this Student Code of Conduct, other codes of conduct, and/or building rules. No student shall make false statements or give false evidence to School District administrators and/or teaching staff. A student shall not refuse to testify or otherwise cooperate with School District personnel in any disciplinary proceeding.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

18. False Alarms

Description. A student shall not knowingly cause a false fire alarm, or make a false fire, bomb, or catastrophe report.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

19. False Allegations

Description. A student shall not libel or slander, or make false allegations against another student, School District employee (including substitute and student teachers), Board of Education members, or volunteers.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

20. Falsification of Records

Description. A student shall not use the name of another person or falsify times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on School District forms or records. A student shall not provide false, misleading, or inaccurate statements or information on School District forms or records.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

21. Fighting, Assault, and Battery on Another Person

Description. A student shall not physically assault, or cause, behave in such a way to cause, or threaten to cause physical injury to a school employee, (including substitute and student teachers), student, volunteer, chaperone, or other person (e.g., fighting).

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

22. Fireworks, Explosives, and Chemical Substances

Description. A student shall not possess, handle, or transmit any substance or prepared chemical that can explode, is capable of inflicting bodily injury, or is reasonably likely to cause physical discomfort to another person.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

23. Gang Insignia/Activity

Description. A student shall not wear or possess any clothing, jewelry, symbol, or other object that may reasonably be perceived by any student, teacher, or administrator as evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang. A student shall not commit any act, verbal or non-verbal (gesture, handshakes, etc.), that may reasonably be perceived by a teacher or administrator as evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang. A student shall not commit any act, verbal or non-verbal, in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to: a) soliciting others for membership in any gang or gang related activity, b) requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person, c) committing any other illegal act or violation of School District rules or policies, or d) inciting other students to act with physical violence on any person. The term "gang" means a group of two or more persons whose purpose or activities include the commission of illegal acts or violations of this Code of Conduct, School District rules or policies, or whose purpose or activities cause disruption or is likely to cause disruption to the educational process.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

24. Improper Communications

Description. A student shall not make threatening, annoying, nuisance, vulgar, and/or obscene communications, verbally, in writing, or by gestures, to School District employees (including substitutes and student teachers), Board of Education members, chaperones, volunteers, or visitors to the school building. The prohibition against such communications shall apply whether the communications are made in a school building or on school premises or outside of a school building or off school premises, and regardless of whether such communications are made during, before, or after school hours or during times when school is not in session.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

25. Indecency

Description. A student shall not engage in conduct that is contrary to commonly recognized standards of decency and behavior, which includes obscenity, indecent exposure, or the use of language in verbal or written form, or in pictures, or in caricatures or gestures, which are offensive to the general standards of propriety.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

26. Look-A-Like Weapons

Description. A student shall not possess, handle, or transmit any object or instrument that is a "look-a-like" weapon or instrument (e.g., starter pistol, rubber knife, toy gun, etc.).

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

27. Misconduct Prior to Enrollment

Description. An otherwise eligible resident may be suspended or expelled for an act of misconduct committed while the student was: (a) a resident of another district; (b) enrolled in another school; (c) outside of school hours; or (d) off school premises if the misconduct would have constituted a sufficient basis for suspension or expulsion had it occurred while the student was enrolled in the School District.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

28. Personal Protection Devices

Description. A student shall not possess, handle, or transmit a personal protection device (e.g. pepper gas, mace, stun gun, electric shock device, etc.) capable of inflicting bodily injury or causing physical discomfort to another person.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

29. Trespassing, Loitering

Description. A student shall not be on school property or in a school building except to participate in the educational process of the School District, nor shall a student loiter in building hallways, classrooms, bathrooms, etc.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

30. Scholastic Dishonesty

Description. A student shall not engage in academic cheating. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of unfair advantage on any form of academic work. A student shall not engage in plagiarism, which includes the copying of language, structures, ideas, and/or thoughts of another and represent it as the student's own original work.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

31. Smoking, Tobacco, and Vaping

A student shall not smoke, chew, or otherwise use tobacco. A student shall not, while on school property, have in his/her possession or under his/her control, tobacco in any form. This includes electronic cigarettes, vaporizers, or any other device that simulates smoking any type of product, regardless whether they are manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold under any product name or descriptor.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

32. Suspended Student on School Property or Attending School Activities

Description. A student, while suspended, shall not enter onto School District property. A student, while suspended, shall not participate in, or attend any school related activity, function, or event, held on or off school property.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

33. Violation of Acceptable Use Policy

Description. A student shall not violate or attempt to violate School District policies, administrative regulations, and directives concerning School District or personal computers, networks, and telephone systems. Violation of any of the rules and responsibilities may result in a loss of access privileges/technology privileges/computer usage and may result in other disciplinary or legal actions including restitution.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

34. Violations of Building's Rules and Regulations

Description. A student shall not commit or participate in any conduct or act prohibited by a school building's rules and regulations.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

35. Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

Description. A student shall not possess, handle or transmit a knife with a blade length of three (3) inches or less, blackjack, baton, martial arts device, paint ball or splat gun, or other object or instrument that can be considered a weapon or is capable of inflicting bodily injury.

Penalty. Administrative intervention to permanent expulsion.

Introduction These procedures govern the suspension, expulsion or permanent expulsion of a student from the School District's regular educational program.

If a student charged with violation of this Code of Conduct has been returned to the regular school program pending a decision by a School District administrator, the reinstatement does not limit or prejudice the School District's right to suspend or expel the student following a decision by a superior administrator or the Board of Education.

The initial judgment that a student has engaged in a prohibited act under this Student Code of Conduct shall be made by the building administrator.

Snap Suspensions

As a general rule, prior to any snap suspensions, the building administrator will:

- Inform the student of the misconduct or behavior for which discipline is being considered and, if the student denies the misconduct or behavior, an explanation of the evidence the teacher possesses;

- Provide the student an opportunity to explain his/her version of the facts;
- Consider each of the seven individual factors listed on page 6 of this Code of Conduct;
- Notify the student's parents/guardians of the decision to suspend;
- Notify the administrator and main office of the decision to suspend;
- Plan to schedule and notify all members of the follow-up meeting; and
- If the student is educated under an IEP, notify the case manager of the suspension.

Short-Term Suspension (i.e., 10 School Days or Fewer)

As a general rule, prior to any out-of-school suspension, the building administrator will:

- Inform the student of the misconduct or behavior for which discipline is being considered and, if the student denies the misconduct or behavior, an explanation of the evidence the administrator possesses;
- Notify the student's parents/guardians of the suspension (the day of the suspension);
- If the student is educated under an IEP, notify the case manager of the suspension;
- Provide the student an opportunity to explain his/her version of the facts; and
- Consider each of seven individual factors listed on pages 5-6 of this Student Code of Conduct.

If a student's presence in school poses an immediate danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process, the building administrator may immediately suspend the student, and as soon thereafter as reasonable, provide the student with his/her due process rights as set forth in subparagraph a, above.

If, after following this procedure, the administrator determines that the student has engaged in a prohibited act under the Student Code of Conduct, then he/she may impose a disciplinary penalty of a suspension not to exceed ten (10) school days.

The principal, or his/her designee, shall inform (in person or by phone) the student's parent of the suspension and of the reasons and conditions of the suspension. A School District "Student Suspension Notice" is to be completed, with copies going to the parent and the student's file. A building administrator's decision to impose a penalty of up to ten (10) school days is final and not subject to further review or appeal.

Long-Term Suspension (i.e., 11 School Days or More), Expulsion (60 School Days or More), and Permanent Expulsion

Step One. If the building administrator decides that a suspension for eleven (11) or more school days or expulsion is warranted, the student and the parent shall be notified in writing of:

- The charges against the student;
- The recommended disciplinary action;
- The fact that a hearing will be held before the Superintendent or his/her designee,² in the event of a suspension, or the Board of Education, in the event of an expulsion; and
- The time, place, location, and procedures to be followed at the hearing.

The written notice will also document the building administrator's consideration of the individual factors listed on pages 5-6 of this Code of Conduct and consideration of restorative practices.

If the building administrator decides that the student's presence in school would present a danger to the student, or to other students, school personnel or the educational process, then the student will be suspended pending the decision of the Board of Education or the Superintendent. If the building administrator determines that the student would not present a danger as described above, the student may be returned to school pending the decision of the Board of Education or the Superintendent. If the student is suspended pending a decision of the Board of Education or Superintendent, the hearing will commence within ten (10) school days following the initial suspension of the student. If the student is not suspended pending the decision of the Board of Education or the Superintendent, then the Board of Education or the Superintendent will schedule the hearing to be held within fifteen (15) school days following the completion of the building principal's investigation of the charges. The timelines for commencement of the hearing may be enlarged upon the request of the administrator, student, parent(s), or guardian.

Step Two. A hearing before the Board of Education or the Superintendent will be held for the purpose of determining the truth or falsity of the charges against the student and, if the charges are found to be true, the consideration of the individual factors listed on pages 5-6 of this Code of Conduct, the consideration of restorative practices, and the appropriate disciplinary measures to be imposed.

² All references to the Superintendent in this section are also references to his/her designee.

The student and/or his/her parent(s) or guardian may notify the School District that they waive their right to a hearing. In such cases, the principal's recommended disciplinary penalty will ordinarily be imposed, provided, however, that if the recommended penalty is expulsion or permanent expulsion, the Board of Education will nevertheless make the final decision.

The Board of Education or the Superintendent may amend the principal's charges upon motion of the building administrator, student, parent(s) or guardian, or amend the charges upon its or his/her own motion to conform to the evidence presented at the hearing. Additionally, the Board of Education or the Superintendent may impose a greater or lesser penalty than that imposed or recommended by the building administrator.

Step Three. The Board of Education or the Superintendent's decision shall be given orally to the student and parent(s) or guardian not later than five (5) school days after the close of the hearing. A written decision shall be mailed at that same time. These timelines, however, may be enlarged by the Superintendent or designee due to extenuating circumstances.

Step Four. A decision by the Board of Education to permanently expel a student may be appealed by filing a written notice with the Superintendent within five (5) school days of the decision. A decision by the Superintendent to suspend a student may be appealed by filing a written notice with the Board of Education within five (5) school days of the decision. All appeals will be held in open or closed session, as elected by the parent.

An appeal will not involve further testimony or new evidence. During the appeal hearing, the Board of Education will consider the results of the initial hearing and make a decision. The student, parent, or a legal representative will have an opportunity to address the Board of Education. The Board of Education may ask additional questions of the parent or the student and will render a written decision on the appeal within fifteen (15) school days.

This Student Code of Conduct is intended to be consistent with Michigan law the Policies of the Board of Education and Administrative Regulations promulgated by the Superintendent. If there are any inconsistencies, they should be resolved with the understanding Michigan law supersedes both the Policies of the Board of Education and Administrative Regulations and Board Policy supersedes Administrative Regulations.

OTHER STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The school community encourages student responsibility in terms of attendance, technology, and property. The expectations for these issues are defined below.

Attendance

The school district emphasizes the value of regular attendance in enabling students to benefit from the school's education programs. Michigan law places responsibility on each student to attend school on a daily basis, and on each parent or guardian to send their child to school on a daily basis. More important, however, is the effect of regular and punctual attendance on the student's scholastic achievement. Not only is each day's lesson important to the individual student, the student's participation in class contributes to the education of others. Frequent absences and tardiness, for any reason, are certain to adversely affect the student's schoolwork. Each student is expected to be in school every day except when illness, injury, or some providential condition beyond the student's control prevents attendance.

The USED links school attendance with academic success and links exclusionary discipline with lower school performance and higher rates of students' academic failure. Recognizing exclusionary discipline's negative impact, the school community will prioritize getting suspended or expelled students back into school and will not count a student's suspension days as unexcused absences or truant days, but rather as disciplinary absences.

Recognizing that grades should reflect learning rather than behavior, when suspension is used, students have the right to complete, turn in, and receive any credit earned on assignments and tests scheduled during their disciplinary absences.

Attendance Guidelines

The Davidson Middle School staff believes that regular school attendance is an asset to the learning process. Every effort should be made by students and parents/guardians to keep absences from school to an absolute minimum.

The attendance policy of Davidson Middle School is based on the laws of the State of Michigan, which requires "A parent, legal guardian, or other person having control and charge of a child age six to eighteen to send the child to school during the entire school year. The child's attendance shall be continuous and consecutive for the school year fixed by the school district in which the child is enrolled."

Parents/guardians of young people within the Southgate Community School District are required by law to oversee that their child attend school continuously and consecutively until they have reached the age of 18.

Tardiness

In order for class to begin on time and use the full period of instruction, all students are expected to be in their scheduled classes on time. A tardy is when the student is not present in the room when the class is scheduled to begin.

1. Students who arrive late to school should report to the main office to sign-in.
2. If a student is less than ten (10) minutes late, the student will be recorded as tardy (T).
3. If a student misses more than ten (10) minutes of the class, the student will be recorded as late (L). This will count as an absence.
4. If a student leaves class ten (10) minutes or more early, the student will be recorded as reverse tardy (X). This will count as an absence.
5. When ten (10) tardies are accumulated, the student will receive a lunch detention. A detention will occur for every tardy thereafter.
6. Students start with a clean tardy slate at the beginning of each semester, in regards to the items listed above.

Attendance

The following attendance procedures have been established:

1. Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled classes. Parents/guardians are encouraged to review their child's attendance through MISTAR.
2. Parents/guardians are required to call and report the absence of their child within 24 hours of the absence.
3. Exceptions to the attendance policy may be made for extenuating circumstances of a documented legal nature, medical nature (such as a serious or extended illness or injury) or other problem well beyond the student's control. Upon receipt of documentation, the exception will be considered. Medical documentation from the doctor in charge must be turned in within one week of the date(s) of the student's absence. This documentation must contain the legal reason or a diagnosis of the illness and the specific dates that the student could not be in school. Parents/guardians must contact an administrator when extenuating circumstances are present.
4. Absences not calculated in the absence procedure include:
 - A. Documented medical/legal nature, stated previously.
 - B. School related absences, listed below.
 - C. Funeral related absences, documentation required.
5. Personal business, medical and dental/orthodontic appointments, or family vacations should be planned during vacation periods and weekends so that the school program can proceed without unnecessary interruption. If parents/guardians choose to take their student out of scheduled school programs, they need to realize that these absences count and they are placing their child at an academic disadvantage.
6. An administrator, student, parent/guardian conference may be requested in cases of excessive student absences and/or tardiness.
7. Due to the provisions of the Michigan Compulsory Attendance Law, Davidson Middle School reports excessive absenteeism and tardiness to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.
8. In order to participate in any after-school activities (i.e., sports, dances, etc.), the student must be present at school for at least 3 hours of the day.

If at any time during the school day, a student finds it is necessary to leave the building, the student must obtain permission from office personnel and a parent/guardian. No student will be sent home without permission. If students leave the building for any reason without permission, they are considered truant.

For all absences considered excused, students are permitted to make up the work they have missed for full credit. They have the same number of days to make up the work as the number of days they were absent. Each student receiving an absence is responsible for contacting his or her teachers to find out what has been missed and for securing help in making up this work.

School Related Absences

School related absences are defined as field trips, athletic events and other approved school functions. The advisor(s) will be responsible for sending a list of students eligible, to the main office, requesting that the absence be school related.

After School Hours

Students are expected to leave the building and school property at the conclusion of the instructional day. Students are to leave the building in a timely fashion. No student should be in or around the building 15 minutes after dismissal unless they are attending a school function such as: tutoring, a club meeting, sports practice, etc.

Technology

The student will respect school district technology by adhering to the district's technology use policy.

An Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is a written agreement in the form of guidelines, terms and conditions of technology use, rules of online behavior, and access privileges. It is often included in a school district's Code of Student Conduct.

The Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan offers useful information and resources for integrating technology into learning at <http://www.remc.org/resources/>.

Property

The student will respect the school-district-provided lockers by adhering to the district's policy. The Model Policy on Searches of Pupils' Lockers and Locker Contents is included as Attachment

Student Expression

School district administrators and teachers may exercise control over or otherwise limit student expression that may be reasonably attributed to the school district by the general public, parents/guardians or students for any legitimate educational reason. Additionally, student expression that occurs on school premises, or has a connection with the school district or district related activities, may be controlled or otherwise limited in order to avoid material and substantial interference with school work, student discipline, the rights of others, or the proper functioning of the educational process.

Dress Code Policy

Responsibility for the dress and grooming of all students shall rest with the parent/guardian and student. There is a responsibility to encourage students to develop standards of dress and grooming that do not violate commonly accepted standards; therefore, appearance should be neat, clean, and inoffensive, as determined by the building administrator.

The school prohibits anything it deems to be disruptive, distracting, provocative, provoking, and/or intimidating that rises to the level, in the school's view, as having a detrimental effect on the safe and educational atmosphere in the school environment. While we cannot list or anticipate all of the latest trends and changes in a student's dress, grooming, piercings, hairstyles, or unnaturally colored hair, it is left to the discretion and judgment of the administration as to what is deemed disruptive to the educational process.

In order to maintain a healthy, safe, and orderly learning environment, the following guidelines shall be used as standards at school and all school-sponsored events.

1. Clothing and hair should be neat, clean, and groomed.
2. Safe/appropriate footwear must be worn at all times.
3. Wearing of outdoor garments, including hats/caps, hoods, bandanas, miscellaneous headwear, coats, and sunglasses is not permitted during school hours, including lunch. (Outdoor garments are allowed for recess.) These items should be placed in your locker upon entering the building. In the event that a classroom is cool, please be prepared with other layers of clothing to keep warm.
4. The wearing of inappropriate clothing is not acceptable. Examples include: ripped jeans/pants above the knees, sleepwear, clothing advertising alcoholic beverages, drugs and tobacco products and obscene or questionable printing/designs. Printing/designs on the rear of the lower garment are discouraged.
5. Halter and tank tops, mesh and see-through clothing, and that which exposes bare midriffs, open backs or allows undergarments to be visible are not permitted. Shirts, blouses or tops must cover the upper body appropriately at all times, including shoulders.
6. Appropriate length lower garments, such as shorts, skirts, etc. may be worn. "Appropriate length" to be determined by administration.

7. Excessively large or tight clothing is prohibited. Pants must be worn on the waist so as to cover undergarments, even if not visible under a long shirt. Revealing clothing is not permitted.
8. No inappropriate makeup, jewelry, accessories, or clothing, which is deemed disruptive or offensive to the school environment, is to be worn. This includes hairstyles and piercings that disrupt the educational process. Accessories or jewelry with the potential for harm may not be worn.

The school reserves the right, at any time, to amend the above ban list without prior warning to the student.

Dress Code Regulation

Students inappropriately dressed shall be referred to the office. The principal or assistant principal shall determine the appropriate action. In cases where a student is inappropriately dressed, the preferred action will be to notify the parent/guardian and request that a change of clothing be brought to the school. If the parent/guardian cannot bring the clothing to the school, the child may be sent home, with parent/guardian notification, for a change of clothing. Repeat offenses will result in progressive disciplinary action.