

# 2023-2024 Student Handbook

Welcome to Gaylord Community Schools. Great things are happening in our District and we encourage our families to stay involved in their student's education and activities. Please take a moment to review our Student Code of Conduct which is included with this handbook.

This handbook is intended for use by students, parents, and staff as a guide to the rules, procedures, and general information about the District. The use of the word "parent" in this handbook means a student's natural or adoptive parent or legal guardian. Students and their parents are responsible for familiarizing themselves with this handbook, and parents should use the handbook as a resource to assist their children with following its rules and procedures.

Students must comply with all school policies, regulations, rules, and expectations. The use of the word "Policy" in this handbook includes bylaws or policies adopted by the Board of Education. Although the information in this handbook is comprehensive, it is not intended to address every situation that may arise during a school day or school year. This handbook does not create a contract between the District and parents, students, or staff. The administration is responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook to ensure the implementation of the school's educational program and well-being of all students. If a situation arises that is not specifically addressed by this handbook, the administration may respond based on applicable law and policy.

The rules and information provided in this handbook may be supplemented or amended by the administration at any time, consistent with applicable law and policy.

James Cracraft, Superintendent

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# **Gaylord Community Schools Mission Statement**

Our mission is to provide a quality education that inspires each and every student to achieve their potential and become productive citizens.

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#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### **District Website**

https://www.gaylordschools.com/

### **Board Policies**

Board Policies are available at: <a href="https://www.gaylordschools.com/school-board">https://www.gaylordschools.com/school-board</a>

## Addresses

Gaylord High School Gaylord Middle School Gaylord Intermediate School

90 Livingston Blvd. 600 E. Fifth Street 240 E. Fourth Street Gaylord, MI 49735 Gaylord, MI 49735 Gaylord, MI 49735

North Ohio Elementary South Maple Elementary

912 N. Ohio Avenue 650 E. Fifth Street Gaylord, MI 49735 Gaylord, MI 49735

**Contact Information** 

Main Office: 989-705-3009

Fax: 989-732-6029

Administration

Superintendent: Mr. James Cracraft

Director of Curriculum and Special Education: Mr. Dennis Keck

Director of Transportation: Ms. Keri Geiger

Director of Human Resources: Ms. Melissa Reinelt Director of Business and Operations: Mr. Joe Hart

Director of Technology: Mr. Todd Oostmeyer

Director of Maintenance and Security: Mr. David Parsell

Director of Food Services: Michelle Kimmel

High School Principal: Mr. Chris Hodges

High School Assistant Principal: Mr. Shawn Sargent

High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director: Mr Christian Wilson

Middle School Principal: Mr. Joe Somerville

Middle School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director: Mr. David Smith

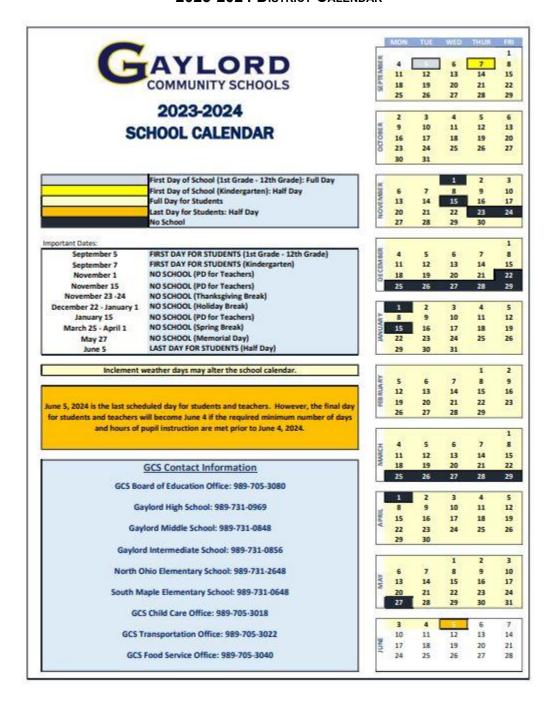
Gaylord Intermediate School Principal: Sean Byram

Gaylord Intermediate School Assistant Principal: Alan Dawe

North Ohio Elementary School Principal: Ms. Mandy Bolen

South Maple Elementary School Principal: Ms. Diane Parker

#### 2023-2024 DISTRICT CALENDAR



## 2023-2024 DAILY SCHEDULE

SCHOOL START TIMES				
BUILDING	START TIME	END TIME		
GHS	8:09 a.m.	2:42 p.m.		
GMS	7:45 a.m.	2:26 p.m.		
GIS	7:44 a.m.	2:30 p.m.		
NOE	8:00 a.m.	2:40 p.m.		
SME	7:40 a.m.	2:20 p.m.		

School staff will supervise students on school grounds a minimum of 20 minutes before the school day begins and 15 minutes after the school day ends. **Unless students are participating in a school activity, school staff will not provide supervision before or after these times.** 

**GMS Bell Schedule** 

**GHS Bell Schedule** 

## **EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES**

In the event of an emergency school closure, such as a bad weather day or when school is unexpectedly closed early, the District will notify students, parents, and the general public about the closure in the following manner:

District messaging system: Send-It

Radio

Facebook

News: 7&4, 9&10

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#### NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, or sexual orientation), disability, age, height, weight, marital or family status, veteran status, ancestry, genetic information, military status, or any other legally protected category (collectively, "Protected Classes"), in its programs and activities, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups as required by law.

The District prohibits unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment and retaliation. The District will investigate all allegations of unlawful discrimination and will take appropriate action, including discipline, against any person who, following an investigation, is determined to have engaged in unlawful discrimination.

"Unlawful harassment" is verbal, written, or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward a person because of the person's membership in a Protected Class that has the purpose or effect of: (1) creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment; or (2) unreasonably interfering with the person's ability to benefit from the District's educational programs or activities.

- Race, color, and national origin harassment can take many forms, including, but not limited to, slurs, taunts, stereotypes, or name-calling, as well as racially motivated physical threats, attacks, or other hateful conduct. Harassment based on ethnicity, ancestry, or perceived ancestral, ethnic, or religious characteristics is considered race, color, and national origin harassment.
- **Disability harassment** can take many forms, including, but not limited to, slurs, taunts, stereotypes, or name-calling, as well as disability-motivated physical threats, attacks, or other hateful conduct.
- **Sex-based harassment** can take many forms. For the definition of sex-based harassment, including sexual harassment under Title IX, see Article IV Section 12 of Gaylord Community Schools School Board Policy]. The District's Title IX Policy is attached to this handbook as Appendix A.

Any student who witnesses an act of unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment or retaliation, is encouraged to report it to District personnel. No student will be retaliated against based on any report of suspected discrimination. A student may also anonymously report an incident of unlawful discrimination. The District will investigate anonymous reports pursuant to its investigation procedures described by Policy. Minor students do not need parent permission to file complaints or participate in the formal complaint resolution process described by Policy.

If you or someone you know has been subjected to **sex-based discrimination**, **harassment**, **or retaliation**, you may file a report with any District employee. Formal Complaints of sexual harassment must be filed with the Title IX Coordinator:

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Melissa Reinelt, Human Resources Director 615 S Elm Avenue Gaylord, MI 49735 989-705-3080 reineltm@gaylord.k12.mi.us

If you or someone you know has been subjected to **disability-based discrimination**, **harassment**, **or retaliation**, you may file a complaint with:

Dennis Keck, Director of Curriculum and Special Education 615 S Elm Avenue Gaylord, MI 49735 989-705-3080 keckd@gaylord.k12.mi.us

If you or someone you know has been subjected to **any other type of unlawful discrimination**, **harassment**, **or retaliation**, including unlawful conduct based on race, color, or national origin, you may file a complaint with:

Melissa Reinelt, Human Resources Director 615 S Elm Avenue Gaylord, MI 49735 989-705-3080 reineltm@gaylord.k12.mi.us

A report of unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment or retaliation, may be made orally or in writing.

A student found to have engaged in unlawful discrimination, including unlawful harassment or retaliation, may be subject to discipline, including suspension or expulsion, consistent with Article IV Section 8 of Gaylord Community School's policy.

## SECTION I: DISTRICT-WIDE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### **Attendance**

Students are expected to attend school every day school is in session. Students are to arrive before the first class and stay until the scheduled end of their school day. If a student is unable to attend school, the student or parent must report that absence to the appropriate school office of record.

If a student arrives late, the student must sign in at the office. A student may only leave school early if the student's parent notifies the office. Students must sign out and leave through the office.

The following absences will be considered excused if they are confirmed by communication to the school from the student's parent within 24 hours of the absence:

- a personal injury
- illness
- family emergency
- funerals
- medical/dental or legal appointments
- pre-arranged family trips

Tardies will be treated in the same manner as absences.

## Tardy/Early Pick Up by grade level

- K-6: Students arriving 15 minutes after start time will be considered tardy and must be walked into the building to be signed in. Students picked up after 1:00pm will be marked with a half day PM absence.
- 7-8: Students are expected to be on time in an assigned area. Tardiness to class without "excuse." First and second offense: Warning. Third and each additional offense: Corrective at lunch or detention after school.
- 9-12: Tardy is being late to class less than 5 minutes (10 minutes during first hour). Arriving after 5 minutes or more (10+ first hour) will be recorded as an absence. Excused tardies are judged by the same criteria as absences (see excused/unexcused absence sections). GHS will not excuse tardiness or absences for personal reasons.

A student who violates attendance expectations may be subject to discipline and any other applicable consequences.

#### Absences due to illness

The school will contact parents if a student becomes ill at school and may ask that the parent pick up the student. A student who is absent due to illness has one (1) day for each day of absence to complete missed assignments.

#### Planned absences

Parents who know in advance that a student will be absent must contact the school at the earliest possible date. Students who will be absent for reasons that can be

anticipated, such as routine medical appointments and school activities, must complete any work required by the teacher before the absence unless alternative arrangements are approved by the teacher in advance. Parents should make every attempt to schedule medical and other appointments outside of school hours.

## Students are expected to:

- Complete all class work in advance for any absence that can be anticipated or make alternative arrangements with their teacher in advance of the absence.
- Sign out of school at the office if leaving school during the school day.
- Make up all work that is assigned by teachers for the instructional time that has been missed. Students in grades 7-12 are responsible for taking the initiative to arrange for make-up work, tests, and assignments.
- K-3: Parents desiring a list of make-up work should call their child's school. Work
  may be picked-up the following school day. Work is not put together unless a
  child will be missing 3 or more days.

#### School attendance communication

When a child has missed 10 days of school or more may result in the following:

- 1- When a child has missed **10** days of school, excused or unexcused, a letter may be sent to the parents.
- 2- When a child has missed **15** days of school another letter may be sent home as well as potential referral to mediation.
- 3- When a child has missed **20** days of school without a valid reason(s) a referral can be made to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office for legal action against the parent(s) due to the infraction of the Michigan School Code.

## **Books and Supplies**

The District will provide free instruction to all students and will not charge a fee for materials necessary to complete required or elective courses. Students and parents may purchase additional supplies at their own expense. The District may charge a reasonable and refundable deposit to cover damage to textbooks and supplies. A teacher may provide a list of suggested materials that students and parents may purchase. Purchasing materials is voluntary and not required for curricular activities.

Students must take care of books and other supplies provided by the District. The District may assess fees to repair or replace District property that is lost, damaged, stolen, returned in a different condition, or not returned on time.

#### **Bulletin Boards**

Space may be provided within school buildings or on school electronic media for students and student organizations to post notices about student groups. School clubs may post information on bulletin boards with administrator approval.

## Bullying

All types of student-on-student bullying, including cyberbullying, without regard to subject matter or motivation, are prohibited. The District's Anti-Bullying Policy is attached to this handbook as Appendix B.

#### **Cell Phone Use**

Any inappropriate use of the device may lead to disciplinary action. Possession of a cellular telephone or other electronic communication device (ECD) by a student is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise engages in misuse of this privilege. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action against the student. The student who possesses a cellular phone or ECD shall assume responsibility for its care. At no time shall the District be responsible for preventing theft, loss or damage to cell phones or ECD brought onto its property.

K-6 cell phone use: Phones or other electronic communication devices should not be out during the school day. The expectation is that electronic devices are to be turned off and stay in the student's backpack or locker until the end of the school day.

7-12 cell phone use: Students may possess a cell phone, but may not use it during instructional time without the express permission of the teacher.

## Cheating, Plagiarism, and Academic Dishonesty

Students may not cheat, plagiarize, or otherwise participate in academic dishonesty in any form. Unless specifically authorized by a teacher, prohibited behavior may include, but is not limited to:

- Obtaining, attempting to obtain, or aiding another person in obtaining credit for work by any dishonest or deceptive means.
- Copying another person's work or answers.
- Discussing with other students the answers or questions on a test or assignment before the test or assignment has been submitted for a grade.
- Taking or receiving copies of a test.
- Using or displaying notes, "cheat sheets," or other sources of unauthorized information.
- Using the ideas or work of another person as if they were your own without giving proper credit to the source.
- Using artificial intelligence to assist or complete an assignment or test.
- Submitting work or any portion of work completed by another person.

A student who cheats, plagiarizes, or otherwise participates in any academic dishonesty may receive no credit on that assignment or class and will be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion.

## **Children's Protective Services Investigations**

The District will cooperate with Children's Protective Services (CPS) during an investigation of suspected child abuse or neglect. Cooperation may include allowing CPS access to a student without parent consent if CPS determines access is necessary to complete the investigation or prevent abuse or neglect. As a matter of law, the identity of an individual who makes a report of suspected child abuse or neglect is confidential and will not be disclosed.

#### **Classroom Behavior**

Teachers may establish classroom conduct rules that students must follow.

## **Closed Campus**

The school campus is a closed campus. All students must remain on campus during school hours. Students who leave campus without authorization are subject to disciplinary action.

### **Communicable Diseases**

The District, in conjunction with local health department officials, may exclude students who:

- Are suspected of having a communicable disease until a physician or local health department official determines the student is no longer a risk; or
- Lack of documentation of immunity or are otherwise considered susceptible to a communicable disease until the local health department officials determine the risk of spreading the disease has passed.

Communicable diseases include, but are not limited to, diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, COVID-19, and other conditions indicated by the local and state health departments. Any removal will only be for the contagious period or as directed by the local health department.

## **Damage to School Property**

Students who damage school property either intentionally or unintentionally may be subject to discipline and required to pay to replace or restore the property.

## **Dress and Grooming**

In general, clothing should be clean and appropriate for the climate and the situation. Student dress, hair style, make up, cleanliness, or personal appearance that is a threat to the safety, health, or welfare of others; violates any statute, or the Dress Code; or substantially disrupts the educational environment or that school officials reasonably forecast will substantially disrupt the educational environment, is grounds for remedial or disciplinary action.

The final decision in any situation involving inappropriate attire rests with building administrators.

Students who are dressed inappropriately will be asked to change clothing immediately. If necessary, parents will be called to bring appropriate clothing, students can use extra clothing provided by the District, or the student may be sent home to change. Repeated dress code violations may result in more severe consequences.

#### **Dress Code**

Students are encouraged to wear clothing and shoes that are appropriate for the activity in which they are participating. Tops must have straps or sleeves and must cover the student's entire torso from armpit to armpit. Pants, shorts, and skirts must have an inseam at least 4 inches in length. Clothing may not display material that:

- Is materially and substantially disruptive or that school officials can reasonably forecast will create a substantial disruption;
- Is obscene, sexually explicit, indecent, or lewd;
- Promotes the use of or advertises illegal substances, including but not limited to substances illegal for minors;
- Incites violence;
- Contains "fighting words";
- Constitutes a true threat of violence;
- Demonstrates hate group association/affiliation or uses hate speech targeting groups based on their membership in a protected class;

Students who represent the District at an official or school-sponsored function or public event (e.g., athletic teams, bands, choirs, and other groups) may be required to follow specific dress requirements as a condition of participation or attendance.

## **Driving and Parking Personal Vehicles**

Student driving and parking on District property is a privilege, not a right, that may be revoked at any time. Students who drive to school must obey the following rules:

- 1. Students may not move their vehicles, sit in, or be around their vehicles during the school day without permission from administration.
- 2. Students may not drive carelessly or with excessive speed on school grounds.
- 3. By driving to school and parking on school grounds, students and parents consent to having that vehicle searched when school officials have reasonable suspicion that a search will reveal a violation of school rules, Board Policy, or law.

## **Emergency Contact Information**

Parents must provide emergency information for each student enrolled in the District. The information should include the family physician's name, contact information for parents or a responsible adult, and any necessary emergency instructions. Parents must promptly inform the school if this contact information changes.

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#### Fees

The District will not charge students a fee to participate in curricular activities. The District may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular and non curricular activities to cover the District's reasonable costs. The District may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing required for participation in extracurricular and non curricular activities or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of District-owned equipment or clothing. The activity's coach or sponsor will provide students with information about the fees charged and the equipment or clothing required.

### **Food Services**

Breakfast and lunch will be served every day. Additional milk may be purchased separately for a fee.

Lunch Charges: Excessive amounts of overdue lunch charges will be managed by the food service director. Communication and payment options will be made available directly to the parent/guardian of the student. If resolution cannot be made, the superintendent may authorize the food service director to provide an alternative nutritional lunch for that student until resolved.

Bad Debt: Bad debt incurred through the inability to collect lunch payment from students will be managed by the food service director. Communication and payment options will be made available directly to the parent/guardian of the student. If resolution cannot be made, the superintendent may resolve debt using alternative district resources.

## Field Trips

Classes occasionally take field trips off school property for educational enrichment. Each student must submit a completed permission form signed by the student's parent before being allowed to attend a field trip.

A student's failure to comply with Board Policy, the Student Code of Conduct, or any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations while on a field trip may result in disciplinary action and removal or exclusion from the trip or future field trips.

Students who have not met academic or behavioral expectations may not be allowed to attend field trips.

## First Aid, Illness, or Injury at School

Students who feel ill or are hurt while at school should seek immediate assistance from their classroom teacher or the nearest staff member.

When the building principal or designee determines that a student is too ill or injured to remain at school, school staff will contact the student's parent or other designated responsible adult to pick up the student from school. If the student requires immediate medical attention, the District will first attempt to contact a parent or other designated responsible adult when reasonably possible. If contact cannot be made, the building

principal or designee will take any reasonable action necessary on the student's behalf, consistent with state law.

Students showing symptoms of a communicable disease may be sent home. The District may require a statement from a licensed physician or local health official before allowing the student to return to school.

Toilet Training: A student must be completely toilet trained (capable of handling their own lavatory needs) unless otherwise specified by the student's Individualized Education Plan or Section 504 Plan. The student's parent/guardian has the responsibility to ensure that successful toilet training has been completed prior to the first day of kindergarten. Administration will work with families to determine the best course of action if the student is not toilet trained, which could include a schedule of support or recommendation for temporary excusal from school during training.

### **Head Lice**

Whenever a student is found to be infested with head lice, she/he is to be sent home for treatment and not readmitted until the parent completes Form 8450A F1.

The necessary treatment is contained in Form 8450A F2 which is to be sent to the parent along with the cover letter (Form 8450A F3).

The other students in the infested student's classroom and the student's sibling(s) should be examined for evidence of either the lice or lice eggs (nits). The examinations should be done by each student's parents, the school nurse, the classroom teacher, and/or the school secretary.

#### **Homeless Children and Youth**

The District will provide a free public education to homeless children and youth who are in the District and will afford them the educational rights and legal protections provided by federal and state law. Homeless children and youth will not be stigmatized or segregated based on their homeless status and will have the same access to services offered to students who are not homeless.

A student or parent in a homeless situation who requires assistance should contact the District's homeless liaison:

Ms. Karla Hawkins 240 E. Fourth Street 989-731-0856 Ext. 1561 hawkinsk@gaylord.k12.mi.us

For detailed information about Homeless Children and Youth, please contact the District's homeless liaison.

#### **Immunizations**

For a student entering the District for the first time or entering 7th grade, a parent must provide the building principal or designee with a certificate stating that the student has received at least 1 dose of an immunizing agent against each disease specified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) or other responsible agency or documentation of an applicable approved exemption.

The student's parent must provide the certificate or documentation at the time of registration, or no later than the first day of school. A parent of a student who has not received all doses of any required immunizing agent must provide the District an updated immunization certificate demonstrating that the immunizations have been completed as required by the MDHHS. The updated certificate must be provided within 4 months of the student entering the District for the first time or upon entering 7th grade. The District will not permit a student to attend school unless the parent provides evidence of immunizations or exemptions consistent with Board Policy and state law.

#### Law Enforcement Interviews

Law enforcement officers may be called to the school at the request of school administration. Students may be questioned by law enforcement consistent with Board Policy. Students may be questioned by school officials at any time, without parent notice or consent, consistent with the District's obligation to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment.

## **Limited English Proficiency**

Limited proficiency in the English language should not be a barrier to a student's equal participation in the District's instructional or extracurricular programs. Those students identified as having limited English proficiency will be provided additional support and instruction to assist them in gaining English proficiency and in accessing the educational and extra-curricular programs offered by the District.

#### **Locker Use**

Pursuant to Policy Article IV. Students, Section 15 (see Appendix H), lockers are District property and may be made available for student use. Lockers are assigned to students on a temporary basis, and District administration may revoke a student's locker assignment at any time. The District retains ownership of lockers notwithstanding student use.

Students have no expectation of privacy in their lockers. The building principal or designee may inspect lockers without any particularized suspicion or reasonable cause and without advance notice. Upon the request of the building principal or designee, law enforcement may assist with searching lockers.

During a locker search, student privacy rights will be respected for any items that are not illegal or violate Board Policy or building rules.

#### **Locker Rules**

Students must keep all personal belongings, including coats and backpacks, in their lockers during the school day.

Students may not change lockers.

#### Lost and Found

All lost and found items are to be taken to the appropriate area. Students may claim lost articles there. Unclaimed items may be donated to a local charity or otherwise disposed of at the conclusion of each semester.

## **Media Center**

Students must check out materials from the media specialist or designee on duty. Each borrower is responsible for all materials checked out in the borrower's name. A fine may be charged for overdue materials. Each student is responsible for any fine that accumulates on materials charged to the student. If materials are lost and not returned by the end of the semester, the student must pay for the replacement cost. Students must also pay for any damage they cause to materials.

#### Medication

Whenever possible, parents should arrange student medication schedules to eliminate the need for administration of medication at school. When a student requires prescription or over-the-counter medication at school, the following procedures apply:

- The student's parent must annually submit a written request and consent form as required by the District.
- A building principal or designee must request that the parent supply medications in the exact dosage required.
- The building principal or designee will notify the student's parent of any observed adverse reaction to medication.
- All medications must be in the original container.

For additional information and requirements, see Board Policy

## Asthma Inhalers and Epinephrine Auto-Injectors/Inhalers

A student may possess and use an asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector or inhaler with written approval from the student's healthcare provider and consistent with Policy. A minor student must also have written permission from the student's parent. The required documentation must be submitted to the building principal or designee. If a student is authorized to self-possess or self-administer an asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector or inhaler, the building principal or designee will notify the student's teachers and other staff as appropriate.

Additionally, the school must maintain a written emergency care plan drafted by a physician in collaboration with the student's parent. The emergency care plan will contain specific instructions related to the student's needs. The physician and parent

should update the emergency care plan as necessary to address any changes in the student's medical circumstances.

#### **Parties**

Classes may have seasonal or curriculum-related parties during the year at the discretion of the teacher. Students must follow all expectations and rules established by the teacher or other relevant staff during the party. Invitations for private parties and non-school-sponsored events may not be distributed in the classroom. For the safety of all students, and to protect classroom instructional time, birthday treats will not be allowed at school.

## Playground/Recess Rules

Students must follow these rules during recess or while using the playground:

Students are allowed to play in designated areas only. Playground rules and procedures will be taught and reinforced throughout the school year. Inappropriate language and unsafe play will not be tolerated. Visitors to the playground are not allowed.

Students who violate these rules may be disciplined.

Staff will supervise students when the students use the playground or recess area during the school day or as part of a school activity. At all other times and circumstances, the District does not provide supervision of its playgrounds, equipment, or surrounding areas.

\*The building administrator reserves the right to modify or add to the list of playground regulations as he/she sees fit in order to maintain an environment safe for all students.

## **Protection of Pupil Rights**

The District respects the rights of parents and their children and has adopted a Protection of Pupil Rights policy as required by law. The policy is available on the District's website or upon request from the District's administrative office. Parents may opt their child out of participation in activities identified by the Protection of Pupil Rights policy by submitting a written request to the Superintendent. Parents may have access to any survey or other material described in the Protection of Pupil Rights policy by submitting a written request to the Superintendent. A copy of the District's annual notice to parents regarding the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment is attached as Appendix C.

## **Public Display of Affection**

Students may not engage in public display of affection that are disruptive to the school environment or distracting to others.

## **Rights of Custodial and Non-Custodial Parents**

Unless a parent has provided the building principal or designee with a court order that provides otherwise, District personnel will treat each parent, regardless of custody or visitation rights, the same as to accessing student records, meeting and conferring with

District personnel, visiting a child at school, and transporting a child to or from school. District personnel are not responsible for enforcing visitation or parenting time orders.

Parents, regardless of custodial status, will be provided information about conference times so both parents may attend a single conference. The District is not required to schedule separate conferences if both parents have been previously informed of scheduled conference times.

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

### Search and Seizure

To maintain order and discipline in school and protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student or the student's personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, athletic bag) as permitted by law and may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search. As noted in "Locker Use," student lockers and desks are school property and remain at all times under the District's control. Student lockers and desks are subject to search at any time for any reason and without notice or consent.

School officials may use canines, metal detectors, wands, or other tools to conduct searches.

A student's failure to permit a search and seizure may be grounds for disciplinary action. A student's person and personal effects may be searched whenever a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student possesses illegal or unauthorized materials. If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, these items may be turned over to law enforcement.

#### Student Education Records

The District may collect, retain, use, and disclose student education records consistent with state and federal law. See Board Policy for an overview of the District's collection, retention, use, and disclosure of student records.

Parents may inspect and review their minor child's education records, regardless of custody status, unless a court order specifies otherwise. An eligible student (i.e., a student who is 18 years or older or an emancipated minor) may also inspect and review their education records.

## Right to Request Explanation or Interpretation

A parent or eligible student may request, in writing, an explanation or interpretation of a student's education records. School officials will respond to any reasonable request.

## **Right to Request Amendment of Education Records**

A parent or eligible student may request that a student's education record be amended if the parent or eligible student believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights as explained in Board Policy.

## **Directory Information**

The District designates the following information as directory information:

School officials may disclose "directory information" without the prior written consent of a parent or eligible student unless the parent or eligible student specifically notifies the District that the parent or eligible student does not consent to the disclosure of the student's directory information for 1 or more of the uses for which the District would commonly disclose the information.

A Directory Information Opt Out Form is attached to this handbook as Appendix D. This form allows the parent or eligible student to elect not to have the student's directory information disclosed for 1 or more of the listed uses. Upon receipt of a completed Directory Information Opt Out Form, school officials may not release the student's directory information for any of the uses selected on the form.

## **Technology**

Use of District technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to use computers, the Internet, and other District technology resources for school-related educational purposes only. Students and their parents are required to sign and return the Acceptable Use Agreement attached as Appendix E before they may use or access District technology resources. Students who violate the District's Acceptable Use Agreement may have technology privileges terminated or suspended and may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion.

## **Transportation Services**

#### **School Vehicle Rules**

Riding in school vehicles is a privilege, not a right. Students must comply with the following rules and all school conduct rules and directives while riding in school vehicles. In addition, students must comply with the Student Code of Conduct while in school vehicles.

Parents are responsible for:

- The safety of their child while waiting at the designated stop for the school bus.
- Their Child being at the bus stop at least five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled pick up and drop off time. (Do not attempt to catch up to the bus in your car. Do not have your child run after the bus. Do not drop your child off at any place except their designated stop.)
- Damage by your child to the school bus, personal property, or public property. If a student causes damage, (example: damages a bus seat) the cost of repair must be paid before your child may return riding.
- Knowing their student's bus driver name and bus route number.

When in school vehicles, the following rules apply:

- 1. Students must promptly comply with any directive given by the driver.
- 2. Students must wait in a safe place for the vehicle to arrive, clear of traffic and away from where the vehicle stops.
- 3. Students may not fight or engage in bullying, harassment, or horseplay while riding or waiting for school vehicles.
- 4. Students must enter the vehicle without crowding or disturbing others and go directly to a seat.
- 5. Students must remain seated and keep aisles and exits clear while the vehicle is moving.
- 6. Students may not throw or pass objects on, from, or into vehicles.
- 7. Students may not use profane language, obscene gestures, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or any other controlled substance on the vehicles.
- 8. Students may not carry weapons, look-a-like weapons, hazardous materials, nuisance items, or animals onto the vehicle.
- 9. Students may converse in ordinary tones and volumes but may not be loud or boisterous and should avoid talking to the driver while the vehicle is moving. Students must be absolutely quiet when the vehicle approaches a railroad crossing and any time the driver calls for quiet.
- 10. Students may not open windows without the driver's permission. Students may not dangle body parts or other items (e.g., legs, arms, backpacks) out of the windows.
- 11. Students must secure any item(s) that could break or cause injury if tossed about the inside of the vehicle if the vehicle were involved in an accident.
- 12. Students must respect the rights and safety of others at all times.
- 13. Students must help keep the vehicle clean, sanitary, and orderly. Students must remove all personal items and trash upon exiting.
- 14. Students may not vandalize or intentionally cause damage to the vehicle.
- 15. Students may not leave or board the vehicle at locations other than the assigned stops at home or school unless approved prior to departure by the superintendent or designee.

Video cameras may be placed on vehicles and buses to monitor student behavior on the vehicle/bus. Exceptions or modifications to these rules may be made as necessary to accommodate a student with a disability.

### **School Vehicle Misconduct Consequences**

Students who violate the school vehicle rules will be referred to the transportation director and/or building principal for discipline. Disciplinary consequences may include

parent notification, suspension of vehicle/bus riding privileges, exclusion from extracurricular activities, in-school suspension, and suspension or expulsion.

These consequences are not progressive and school officials have discretion to impose any listed consequence they deem appropriate in accordance with state and federal law and Board Policy.

Records of vehicle misconduct will be forwarded to the appropriate building principal and will be maintained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of serious misconduct may be reported to law enforcement.

## **Video Surveillance and Photographs**

The District may monitor any District building, facility, property, bus, or vehicle with video recording equipment other than areas where a person has a legally recognized and reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g., restrooms and locker rooms). Except in those school areas, a person has no expectation of privacy.

The District may use video recordings for any lawful purpose, including student discipline, assisting law enforcement, or investigations.

Students may not make recordings: on school property; when on a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the District; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event unless otherwise authorized by Board Policy, applicable law, or a District employee.

#### Withdrawal From School

Students who are transferring from the District must submit written notice to the building principal at least 1 week before the withdrawal.

#### SECTION II: ACADEMICS

To encourage students and parents to stay apprised of student academic information, grades, attendance, and other information can be accessed via PowerSchool.

To register for PowerSchool, contact the building secretary.

## Classes, Grades, and Honors

Gaylord High School uses the following grade values:

Advanced Placement course scale: A=5, A-=4.7, B+=4.3, B=4, B-=3.7, C+=3.3, C=3, C-=2.7, D+=2.3, D=2, D-=1.7, F=0

Students will be recognized for the following academic honors:

- 9th, 10th, 11th grade students with a 3.50 cumulative GPA or better (semester GPA).
- Seniors who are recognized with a cumulative GPA of 3.75 to 4.00 as Summa Cum Laude, 3.50 to 3.7499 as Magna Cum Laude and 3.25 to 3.499 as Cum Laude.
- Seniors who achieve honors recognition will wear honor cords at graduation.
- The senior(s) ranked #1 by GPA will be considered Valedictorian. The senior(s) ranked #2 will be considered Salutatorian.

## **Incompletion of Finals or Marking Periods:**

Incompletes must be made up within 2 weeks from the end of each semester. Exams missed at the end of each semester must be made up within 2 weeks after the end of the term. All senior exams must be made up before diplomas can be issued. These deadlines can be extended with principal approval.

#### Commencement

The District may conduct a commencement ceremony for eligible students at the end of the school year. Participation in the ceremony is a privilege, not a right. Students may be prohibited from participating in the ceremony as a consequence for misconduct. A student's disqualification from participating in the commencement ceremony does not impact the issuance of a diploma to the student, provided that all graduation requirements have been satisfied.

## **Credits and Graduation Requirements**

A student must successfully complete all graduation requirements to earn a high school diploma.

The following are the graduation requirements for Gaylord High School. Students must complete 8 full semesters in order to be eligible for graduation

## **Courses Credits**

Courses	Credits
English: English 9 (1cr), English 10 (1cr), English 11 (1cr), English 12 (1cr)	4
Social Studies: American History (1cr) Government/Economics (1cr), World Hist. (1cr)	3
Science: Biology (1cr), Chemistry or Physics (1cr)	3
Mathematics: Algebra 1 (1 cr), Geometry (1 cr), Algebra 2 (1 cr), plus 1 senior math (1 cr)	4
Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts	1
<b>Physical Education/Health:</b> Physical Education (.5 cr), Health* (.5 cr)	1
World Language**	2
Total Required Credits	18
Additional Electives	3
Required Credits to Graduate	21

Students must complete all portions of the state assessment in order to graduate from Gaylord High School.

<sup>\*</sup>Section 166A of the School Aid Act (Public Act 175 of 1993) allows a student or the student's parent or guardian to have the student excused from the Health/Life Management course without penalty. This must be a written request by the parent or guardian. Students who are excused must take an additional 1/2 credit in life management skills.

\*\*World Language-Students may substitute the 2nd World Language credit with either an additional Virtual, Performing, and Applied Arts course, or by completing a formal CTE program.

Students who participate in one high school sanctioned sport offered by Gaylord Community Schools may be granted a .5 Physical Education credit starting in the fall of 2015. This credit does not meet the .5 Health credit and can be only granted once. Successful completion of the sport will be determined by the principal or his/her designee. Credit will be granted on a credit/no credit basis and must be completed prior to January 31st of their senior year.

## Drop/Add

If a student in grades 9-12 wishes to drop or add a class, they must return a drop/add form signed by a parent to the guidance office no later than 3:00 PM on the first Friday of the semester.

### **Dual Enrollment**

Students in grades 9 and above may be eligible to dually enroll in college classes to obtain high school and college credit. Please contact your assigned counselor for information about enrollment eligibility, charges paid by the District, eligible institutions, and other matters related to dual enrollment.

Dropping or adding dual enrollment classes must go through the GHS guidance office. If you drop a dual enrollment class it must take place during the college drop and add time window. If you drop the class after the college time window it will result in an "F" on your high school transcript and will be figured into your grade point average. If you withdraw from your dual enrollment class during the college's withdrawal window, it will result in a "W" on your high school transcript and will not be figured into your grade point average. If you fail a dual enrollment class the "F" will be placed on your high school transcript and will be calculated into your grade point average whether you've taken the class for high school credit or not

### Grades

Report cards will be issued at least quarterly in 4th-12th grades and at the trimester for K-3 students. Grades are calculated using the following grading scale:

K-3 Elementary School uses proficiency based grading as opposed to letter grades.

Grade Scale:

1=Area of Concern 2=Progressing 3=At or Above Grade Level

Gaylord Intermediate School uses the following grade values:

A=4.0, A-=3.7, B+=3.3, B=3.0, B-=2.7, C+=2.3, C=2.0, C-=1.7, D+=1.3, D=1.0, D-=.7.

Gaylord Middle School uses the following grade values:

Students maintaining a 3.75 Grade Point Average or higher for the first three marking periods will be acknowledged at the end of the year.

#### Homework

Classroom teachers may assign homework. Parents who have questions about homework or concerns about class work should contact their student's teacher.

Each student is expected to spend time preparing for classes outside of school hours. The amount of time that is needed will depend upon each student and each class.

### **Personal Curriculum**

For some students, it may be appropriate to modify the Michigan Merit Curriculum through implementation of a personal curriculum. All students who have completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade are entitled to a personal curriculum, and the District will implement a personal curriculum for a student if requested by a parent or by the student if the student is age 18 or older. Any modification to the Michigan Merit Curriculum must be consistent with Michigan law and must incorporate as much of the Michigan Merit Curriculum content standards as practicable for the student. The District retains discretion to determine what modifications to the Michigan Merit Curriculum are appropriate for a particular student through a personal curriculum. A student who successfully completes an approved personal curriculum will earn a regular high school diploma.

To request a personal curriculum, please contact the high school principal or guidance counselor.

For additional information about the Michigan Merit Curriculum and Personal Curriculum, see Board Policy.

#### Placement and Retention

The District has the sole discretion to make promotion, retention, and placement decisions for its students, consistent with state and federal law. The District may consider parent requests that a student be placed in a particular classroom, building, educational program, or grade. The District's placement decision is final.

## **Students with Disabilities**

Eligible students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act are entitled to a free appropriate public education. The District will follow state and federal law and applicable rules and regulations in identifying, locating, evaluating, and educating students with disabilities.

A parent who believes their student is eligible for special education or accommodations due to a disability or suspected disability should contact:

Dennis Keck, Director of Curriculum and Special Education 615 S Elm Avenue Gaylord, MI 49735 989-705-3080 keckd@gaylord.k12.mi.us

### Summer School

Determinations regarding summer school will be made in spring of each school year.

## **Testing Out**

A student may test out of high school classes and earn credit. Students interested in testing out of a class should make arrangements with their assigned counselor.

## **Work Permits**

Information about work permits is available at the main office.

## SECTION III: STUDENT CLUBS, ACTIVITIES, AND ATHLETICS

Students are encouraged to participate in the various student clubs, activities, and athletics offered by the District.

For the 2023-2024 school year, the District offers the following student clubs, activities, and athletics:

GIS Offers: 6th Grade Fall Running Club and a 5-6 Running Club in the fall.

GMS offers these sports: cross country, football, volleyball, boys and girls basketball, wrestling, cheer, and track & field.

GMS also offers these clubs: robotics, archery, xc ski, and strength training.

Gaylord High School offers the following clubs and activities:

- Athletics
- Band
- Bass Fishing Club
- Choir
- Debate
- DECA
- Drama
- Forensics
- Key Club
- National Honors Society
- Robotics
- Student Council

A student's failure to comply with Policy, the Student Code of Conduct, or any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations while participating in or attending a student club, activity, or athletic competition, meeting, event, or practice, may result in disciplinary action.

#### **Extracurricular Activities**

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities. Participation is open to students who meet the eligibility requirements established by the District and any applicable governing body.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Additional clubs or activities may be offered based on student interest and supervision availability.\*\*

The District has exclusive control over extracurricular activities including, but not limited to, formation, naming, structure, operation, financing, and discontinuance.

Student athletes are also subject to the Athletic Code of Conduct (see Appendix F) and any applicable team rules.

For more information, see Board Policy.

### Student-Initiated Non-Curricular Clubs

Students may voluntarily form clubs that are not directly related to the school curriculum to promote activities unrelated to curriculum. Membership in a student-initiated, non-curricular club must be open to all interested and eligible District students, and the club may not refuse membership to a student based on any protected classification under state or federal law.

For more information about student-initiated non-curricular clubs, including how to form a club, see Board Policy.

## **Transportation To/From Extracurricular Activities**

The District may provide transportation to students who participate in school-sponsored events. If District-provided transportation is available, students must ride to and from those events in a school vehicle unless otherwise excused by the activity sponsor.

#### SECTION IV: DISCIPLINE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

## **Discipline Generally**

The District may discipline students who engage in misconduct, up to and including suspension or expulsion from school.

The District will take steps to effectively discipline students in a manner that appropriately minimizes out-of-school suspensions and expulsions. The District will comply with applicable laws related to student discipline, including the consideration of specific factors and possible use of restorative practices.

If an administrator determines that an emergency requires the immediate removal of a student from school, the administrator may contact the student's parent or local law enforcement or take other measures to have the student safely removed from school.

Students who are involved in extracurricular activities and engage in misconduct may face consequences related to the activity in addition to the consequences provided in this handbook.

The District reserves the right to refer to an appropriate non-school agency any act or conduct which may constitute a crime. The District will cooperate with those agencies in their investigations as permitted by law.

The District's rules and policies apply to any student who is on school property or school-affiliated transportation, who is in attendance at school or at any school-sponsored activity or function, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operation, discipline, or general welfare of the school, regardless of location, date, or time.

### Forms of School Discipline & Applicable Due Process

## **Responsible Thinking Classroom (K-6)**

The Responsible Thinking Classroom (RTC) is designed as an alternative choice for students who, for whatever reason, refuse to follow the expectations of wherever they are. It is a place where, when they're ready, students can work on a plan to help them deal effectively with their problems without infringing on the rights of others. The primary purpose of the RTC is to temporarily remove the student from a problem situation and review expectations for a successful return to the learning environment. The goal of the RTC process is to support the student in evaluating his or her behavioral choices. *Appendix for RTC Referral and Plan process*.

### **Lunch Time Correctives (7-8)**

Can be assigned by administration or teaching staff for a variety of reasons. For example:

A. Students can be assigned a Behavior Corrective by any staff member for poor behavior. Examples: excessive tardiness, poor classroom behavior, poor lunchroom or hallway behavior, etc.

- B. Students will be assigned an Academic Corrective for assignments not completed on time. This time should be used to make up the late or missing work.
- 1. After serving two lunch behavior correctives, a student will be assigned an after school detention by the correctives teacher. All detentions will be served.
- 2. When a student is issued a third behavior corrective, the parents/guardians will be notified in writing of the infractions. The parents will also be informed if a fifth Behavior Corrective is assigned an in-school suspension will result.
- 3. When a fourth Behavior Corrective is assigned, an after school detention will be assigned by the corrective teacher.
- 4. When a student has accumulated five behavior correctives, a 3 day in-school suspension will result.
- 5. When a student receives two or more correctives within the same day, academic or behavior, an after school detention will be assigned by the corrective teacher. If a student reaches the academic corrective limit twice in a marking period (7th grade) or twice in a semester (8th grade), a 3 day in-school suspension will be assigned. All 8th graders will begin each semester, 7th graders each marking period, with a clean slate of correctives. Correctives are a place to help eliminate poor behavior. The correctives room is also a place where a student may go to have quiet time, to do assignments, make up a test or possibly get help with necessary work. Students are encouraged to use this room for educational purposes. Corrective teachers can issue correctives for improper room conduct.

### **After-School Detention**

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

Students who ride the bus home from school will be given a 24-hour notice of a detention so that parents may make transportation arrangements for the student the following day.

## **Lunch Detention**

Administrators may require students to serve a lunch detention when the student violates any of the rules contained in this handbook or violates classroom-specific conduct rules set by individual teachers.

## **In-School Suspension**

The building administrator may require a student to serve in-school suspension, during which students follow strict rules and must work on assignments the entire time, except for short breaks. Students not completing their In-School Suspension will face further disciplinary action.

## Snap Suspension - Suspension from Class, Subject, or Activity by Teacher

A teacher may suspend a student from any class, subject, or activity for up to 1 full school day if the teacher has good reason to believe that the student:

- intentionally disrupted the class, subject, or activity;
- jeopardized the health or safety of any of the other participants in the class, subject, or activity; or
- was insubordinate during the class, subject, or activity.

Any teacher who suspends a student from a class, subject, or activity must immediately report the suspension and its reason to the building principal or designee. If a student is suspended from a class, subject, or activity, but will otherwise remain at school, the building principal or designee must ensure that the student is appropriately supervised during the suspension and, if the student is a student with a disability, that all procedures applicable to students with disabilities are followed.

Any teacher who suspends a student from a class, subject, or activity must, as soon as possible following the suspension, request that the student's parent attend a parent/teacher conference to discuss the suspension. The building principal or designee must attend the conference if either the teacher or the parent requests the building principal's attendance. The building principal or designee must make reasonable efforts to invite a school counselor, school psychologist, or school social worker to attend the conference.

## Removal for 10 or Fewer School Days

Before a student is suspended for 10 or fewer school days, an administrator will: (1) provide the student verbal notice of the offense the student is alleged to have committed, and (2) provide the student an informal opportunity to respond and explain what happened. Except in emergency circumstances, an administrator will not suspend the student unless, after providing the student notice and an opportunity to explain, the administrator is reasonably certain that the student committed a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and that suspension is the appropriate consequence. The building administrator will consider the 7 factors provided in the Student Code of Conduct before suspending a student.

## Removal for More than 10 and Fewer than 60 School Days

Before a student is suspended for more than 10 school days but less than 60 school days, the Superintendent or designee will provide the parent or student with: (1) written notice of the offense the student is suspected to have committed; (2) an explanation of the evidence relied upon by the District in arriving at the conclusion that disciplinary action may be warranted; and (3) an opportunity for a hearing at which the student may present evidence and witnesses to show that the student did not commit the alleged offense or that suspension is not an appropriate consequence.

The Superintendent or designee will provide the parent or student at least 3 calendar days' notice before the hearing. The parent and student may be represented, at their cost, by an attorney or another adult advocate at the hearing.

The Superintendent or designee will not suspend the student unless, following the hearing, he or she is convinced by a preponderance of the evidence that the student committed a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and that suspension is the appropriate consequence. The Superintendent or designee will consider the 7 factors noted in the Student Code of Conduct before suspending a student.

A parent or student may appeal the Superintendent's or designee's decision to the Board. The appeal must be submitted to the Board within 3 calendar days of the decision. The Board will hear the appeal at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board's decision is final. The student's suspension will run while the appeal is pending.

## Removal for 60 or More School Days

Before the Board suspends or expels a student, the Superintendent or designee must provide the parent or student with: (1) written notice of the offense the student is suspected to have committed; (2) an explanation of the evidence relied upon by the District in arriving at the conclusion that disciplinary action may be warranted; and (3) an opportunity for a Board hearing at which the student may present evidence and witnesses to show that the student did not commit the suspected offense or that suspension or expulsion is not an appropriate consequence.

The Superintendent or designee will provide the parent or student at least 3 calendar days' notice before the hearing. The parent and student may be represented, at their cost, by an attorney or another adult advocate at the hearing.

The Board will not suspend or expel the student unless, following the hearing, a majority of the Board finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the student committed misconduct that should result in suspension or expulsion under either the Student Code of Conduct or Board Policy and that suspension or expulsion is the appropriate consequence. The Board will consider the 7 factors noted in the Student Code of Conduct before suspending or expelling a student. The Board's decision is final.

#### **Student Code of Conduct**

This Student Code of Conduct is meant to be a guide and is subject to the discretion of administration and the Board.

Administration will, as required or permitted by state law, always consider the use of restorative practices as an alternative to, or in addition to suspension or expulsion. Nothing in the following table limits the District's ability to impose more or less severe disciplinary consequences depending on the situation's unique circumstances and the following factors:

- 1. the student's age;
- 2. the student's disciplinary history;

- 3. whether the student has a disability;
- 4. the seriousness of the behavior;
- 5. whether the behavior posed a safety risk;
- 6. whether restorative practices will be used to address the behavior; and
- 7. whether a lesser intervention would properly address the behavior.

Nothing in this handbook limits the District's authority to discipline a student for conduct that is inappropriate in school, but that is not specifically provided in this table. Depending on the circumstances of a particular situation, separate athletic or extracurricular sanctions may be imposed, in accordance with the applicable handbook or rules.

Prohibited Conduct	Potential Consequence(s)		
Illegal Substances or Paraphernalia, including Alcohol: possession, sale, attempted sale, distribution, attempted distribution, use, or attempted use of drugs, alcohol, fake drugs, illegal steroids, illegal inhalants, or look-alike drugs	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li><li>Police Referral</li></ul>		
<b>Tobacco/Nicotine:</b> possession, sale, attempted sale, distribution, attempted distribution, use, or attempted use of any form of tobacco, including vaping devices or supplies.	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li><li>Police Referral</li></ul>		
<b>Disruptive Behavior or Insubordination:</b> disrupting the learning environment or school activity or violating a school rule or directive.	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li></ul>		
Dangerous Weapon Possession: firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over 3 inches in length, pocketknife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles.	<ul> <li>Restorative Practices</li> <li>Parent Notification</li> <li>Suspension or Permanent Expulsion</li> <li>Police Referral</li> </ul>		
Other Weapons and Look-Alike Weapons Possession: an object that is not a "dangerous weapon," including but not limited to a pellet or air-soft gun, a knife with a blade of 3 inches or less, items intended to look like a dangerous weapon, or similar items.	<ul> <li>Restorative Practices</li> <li>Parent Notification</li> <li>Suspension or Permanent Expulsion</li> <li>Police Referral</li> </ul>		

Use of an Object as a Weapon: any object used to threaten or harm another, regardless of whether injury results.	<ul> <li>Restorative Practices</li> <li>Parent Notification</li> <li>Suspension or Permanent Expulsion</li> <li>Police Referral</li> <li>Restorative Practices</li> </ul>		
<b>Arson:</b> purposefully, intentionally, or maliciously setting a fire on school property.	<ul> <li>Parent Notification</li> <li>Suspension or Permanent Expulsion</li> <li>Police Referral</li> </ul>		
Physical Assault (Student to Student): causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through intentional use of force or violence.			
Physical Assault (Student to Employee, Volunteer, or Contractor): causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through intentional use of force or violence.	<ul> <li>Restorative Practices</li> <li>Parent Notification</li> <li>Suspension or Permanent Expulsion</li> <li>Police Referral</li> </ul>		
Verbal or Written Threat, including Bomb or Similar Threat: statement that constitutes a threat against a student, employee, other person, or school property.	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li><li>Police Referral</li></ul>		
Plagiarism, Cheating, or other Falsification of Schoolwork: submitting work that is not your own, including copying from others' work.	<ul> <li>Restorative Practices</li> <li>Credit Loss or Grade Reduction</li> <li>Parent Notification</li> <li>Suspension or Expulsion</li> </ul>		
Discrimination, Harassment (including Sexual Harassment), and Bullying: violating Board Policy addressing anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-bullying.	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li></ul>		

Criminal Sexual Conduct: commits criminal sexual conduct in a school building or on school grounds; or pleads to, is convicted of, or is adjudicated for criminal sexual conduct against another student enrolled in the same school district; or commits criminal sexual conduct against another student enrolled in the same school district.	<ul> <li>Restorative Practices</li> <li>Parent Notification</li> <li>Suspension or Permanent Expulsion</li> <li>Police Referral</li> </ul>
Fighting, Inciting Violence, Filming a Fight or Assault, Distributing or Publishing a Fight or Assault Video	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li></ul>
<b>Sexting:</b> distribution or publication of lewd, pornographic, or sexually suggestive videos or photographs of students or staff.	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li><li>Police Referral</li></ul>
Misuse of District Technology: violating the District's acceptable use policies and agreement.	<ul><li>Restorative Practices</li><li>Parent Notification</li><li>Suspension or Expulsion</li><li>Police Referral</li></ul>

## North Ohio and South Maple Elementary Rules and Procedures

## **Building Placement**

To ensure safety and minimize transportation time, elementary attendance zones have been established. The following guidelines will help to determine which school a child will attend.

North Ohio Elementary School: West of Old 27

South Maple Elementary School: East of Old 27 Class Size

Enrollment numbers and student needs may result in a child being assigned to a school outside of their zone. Building assignments will be determined by the building principals. Keeping siblings together in one school will be a priority.

#### **Visitors and Volunteers**

All volunteers will be required to fill out a clearance form at least two weeks prior to the event. All visitors and volunteers are required to enter and exit through the main office, be signed in, and wear an identification sticker. Students will walk independently to their class. Visitors and volunteers will follow district guidelines.

## **School Regulations**

- Children are expected to go outside when recess is held. Requests that children
  be allowed to stay indoors must be accompanied by a physician's statement. All
  students go outside every day that it is above 0 degrees for a 20 minute recess.
- Tag or clearly mark all boots, sweaters, hats, lunch boxes, or other articles brought to school.
- Use of the telephone is permitted only when it is of the utmost importance and the child is given permission by the teacher. Children or teachers will NOT be called out of the classroom to answer the telephone except in an emergency.
- Permission to ride a bike to school must be obtained from the building principal.
- Children will be expected to participate in all programs planned by the school, including art, music, and physical education, unless other arrangements have been made with the school.
- Students are not to bring personal property to school that is not needed for educational purposes such as: electronic devices, cell phones, toys, trading cards, and any other items that may distract from the educational environment. The school is not responsible for any of the above items.
- For the safety of all students, and to protect classroom instructional time, birthday treats will not be allowed at school.

## Gaylord Intermediate School School Motto- Expect the Best

#### **Rule and Procedures**

#### **Behavior Motto**

We will treat other people the way we want to be treated.

#### **Code of Conduct**

A major component of the educational program at GIS is to prepare students to become responsible workers and citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards:

- We will follow teacher/adult directions the first time.
- We will walk and use "inside" voices in school.
- We will use proper language and not put down statements (making fun of another person's name, appearance, or abilities.
- We will keep hands, feet and objects to ourselves.
- We will follow other school rules such as those in the classroom, and cafeteria or on the playground.

#### **Conflict Resolution Plan**

If you are doing something wrong:

**STOP** what you are doing.

THINK of other choices.

PLAN to make better choices.

#### Headwear

In addition to the district dress code GIS prohibits hats, bandannas, headbands, etc.

### **Electronics/Cell Phone Policy**

Cell phones or other electronic devices are prohibited during the school day.

- Devices are to be turned off and in student backpacks or lockers during the school day.
- No calls, texting, or other use of the cell phone during the school day by students for any reason-including before school, lunch, and recess. Students can use the phone in the main office to communicate with parent/legal guardian.

#### **Visitors and Volunteers**

All volunteers will be required to fill out a clearance form at least two weeks prior to the event. All visitors and volunteers are required to enter and exit through the main office, be signed in, and wear an identification sticker. Students will walk independently to their class. Visitors and volunteers will follow district guidelines. Creating a safe learning environment is a top priority.

## Gaylord Middle School Rules and Procedures

#### **Visitors and Volunteers**

All volunteers will be required to fill out a clearance form at least two weeks prior to the event. All visitors and volunteers are required to enter and exit through the main office, be signed in, and wear an identification sticker.

## **Athletics Eligibility**

Academic eligibility requirements and behavior responsibilities will be discussed by the coach, supervisor, and/or athletic director, and could affect your participation in the activity.

- A grade of D in any class requires a <u>WARNING</u> to the coach/supervisor and then the student and parent will be notified.
- No F's in any class on the day of the eligibility check.

#### AN "F" SITUATION:

- 1. Student may miss the next school day of practice and/or contest(s).
- 2. If student has done <u>whatever necessary</u> to make up the deficiencies, then the student could participate again.
- 3. If the student does <u>not</u> fulfill the requirements for eligibility, <u>then the student remains</u> <u>ineligible until the problem is resolved.</u>
- 4. BEHAVIORAL standards set by individual teachers may also affect participation.
- 5. Student handbook policies (social probation, etc.), will also affect eligibility.

#### **Head wear**

Students are not allowed to wear hats, bandannas, headbands, etc.

## **Gaylord High School**

#### **Rules and Procedures**

#### **Visitors and Volunteers**

All volunteers will be required to fill out a clearance form at least two weeks prior to the event. All visitors and volunteers are required to enter and exit through the main office, be signed in, and wear an identification sticker.

#### Attendance

All students are expected to be in class while at school. When a student is excused to leave early by a parent or guardian they must leave the premises.

## **Office Deliveries**

Please limit deliveries to the office to emergency situations only. For the safety of all students, and to protect classroom instructional time, birthday treats will not be allowed at school.

#### APPENDIX A: TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT

#### ARTICLE IV. STUDENTS

Section 12. Student Discrimination and Harassment.

The District is committed to maintaining a learning environment in which all individuals are treated with dignity and respect, free from discrimination and harassment. The District shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex [including sexual orientation or sexual identity], age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, disability, military status, genetic information, or any other legally protected category in its programs and activities, including employment. Sexual harassment (see specific requirements below) is a form of sex discrimination, and shall likewise not be permitted with respect to students or employees. The District shall not retaliate against a person who reports or opposes improper discrimination or retaliation. The District shall fully comply with all applicable federal and state civil rights statutes. Discrimination, retaliation and harassment are prohibited whether occurring at school, on District property, in a District vehicle, or at any District-related activity or event.

The Superintendent shall designate not less than two compliance officers responsible for coordinating the District's compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, and for investigating reports of discrimination or harassment. The Superintendent shall ensure that all required notices under the civil rights or other laws are provided to staff members.

A student who believes he or she has been or is the victim of discrimination or harassment should immediately report the situation to a teacher, counselor, social worker, the building principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. A staff member who observes, has knowledge of, or learns that a student has been or is the victim of discrimination or harassment shall immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal or the Superintendent. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative guidelines to enforce this policy.

### Sexual Harassment

"Sexual Harassment" is defined as conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

- An employee of the District conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct (i.e. quid pro quo sexual harassment);
- 2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education programs or activities; or
- 3. Sexual assault (as defined in the Clery Act, 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(a)(v)), dating violence, domestic violence or stalking (as defined in the Violence Against Women Act, 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)).

The District shall not retaliate against a person who reports or opposes sexual harassment. The District shall fully comply with Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the accompanying regulations.

The Superintendent shall designate not less than two Title IX Coordinators responsible for coordinating the District's compliance with Title IX and its regulations, and for investigating reports of sexual harassment.

A student who believes he or she has been or is the victim of sexual harassment should immediately report the situation to a teacher, counselor, social worker, the building principal or assistant principal, the Superintendent, or a Title IX Coordinator. A District employee who observes, has knowledge of, or learns that a student has been or is the victim of sexual harassment shall immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal, Superintendent or Title IX Coordinator. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent or Title IX Coordinator. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President or Title IX Coordinator.

The Superintendent shall develop and implement as an administrative guideline a Title IX Grievance Procedure.

#### APPENDIX B: ANTI-BULLYING

#### ARTICLE IV. STUDENTS

Section 13. Bullying.

It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all of its students. Appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of students, as well as administrators, faculty, staff, visitors, and volunteers.

## Bullying and Cyberbullying are Prohibited

Bullying and cyberbullying of a student, whether by other students, staff, visitors, Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers, is prohibited. All students are protected under this policy, and bullying and cyberbullying are prohibited without regard to their subject matter or motivating animus.

#### Definitions

"<u>Bullying</u>" means any written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication, but not limited to, cyberbullying, that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more students either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. Substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more students.
- B. Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the District's or school's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- C. Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health.
- D. Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

"Cyberbullying" means any electronic communication that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more students either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. Substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more students.
- B. Adversely affecting the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the District's or school's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- C. Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health.
- D. Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Since "bullying" also includes "cyberbullying", any reference in this policy to "bullying" shall also be deemed to refer to "cyberbullying."

Bullying and cyberbullying are prohibited at school. "At school" is defined as on school premises, at school-sponsored activities or events, in a school-related vehicle, or using a telecommunications access device or a telecommunications service provider if the telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider is owned by or under the control of the School District. "Telecommunications access device" and "telecommunications service provider" mean those terms as defined in MCL §750.219a.

Bullying and cyberbullying that does not occur "at school," as defined above, but that causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment, may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with this policy and applicable law.

Reporting and Investigating Reports of Bullying

Every student is encouraged to promptly report any situation that he or she believes to be bullying behavior directed toward himself/herself or another student to a teacher, a counselor, a building principal, or an assistant principal. Staff members shall report any reports made by students or situations that they believe to be bullying behavior directed toward a student to the building principal.

Complaints against the building principal shall be reported to the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent shall be reported to the Board President.

Under State law, a school employee, school volunteer, student, or parent or guardian who promptly reports in good faith an act of bullying to the appropriate school official designated in this policy and who makes this report in compliance with the procedures set forth in this policy is immune from a cause of action for damages arising out of the reporting itself or any failure to remedy the reported incident. This immunity does not apply to a school official who is responsible for implementing this policy or for remedying the bullying, when acting in that capacity.

Retaliation or false accusation against a target of bullying, a witness, or another person with information about an act of bullying is prohibited. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as suspected bullying behavior. Making intentionally false accusations of bullying is likewise prohibited. Retaliation and making intentionally false accusations of bullying may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

All complaints about bullying that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated and documented. The building principal or the principal's designee is responsible for the investigation. If the investigation results in a finding that bullying has occurred, it shall result in prompt and appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for students, up to and including discharge for employees, and up to and including exclusion from school property for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

Where the investigation results in a finding that bullying has occurred, both the parent or legal guardian of a victim of bullying and the parent or legal guardian of a perpetrator of the bullying shall be notified promptly in writing. In addition, administrators investigating alleged bullying may notify parents of the victim or perpetrator of bullying sooner than the conclusion of the investigation if circumstances dictate such earlier notification.

Each school shall document any prohibited incident that is reported and shall document all verified incidents of bullying and the resulting consequences, including the required notification of parents or guardians and any discipline and referrals.

The Superintendent is the school official responsible for ensuring that the policy is implemented.

## Confidentiality

The District will comply with all applicable laws regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable information from education records. In addition, the identity of an individual who reports an act of bullying or cyberbullying shall be and remain confidential. The principal, or the principal's designee, shall ensure that the name of an individual who reports an act of bullying or cyberbullying is withheld from the alleged perpetrator and the perpetrator's parent(s), legal guardian(s) and representative(s), and is redacted from any report of bullying or cyberbullying that is publicly disclosed.

#### Notification

This policy will be annually circulated to parents and students, and shall be posted on the District website.

#### Reporting

As required by State statute, the Superintendent shall provide a report of all verified incidents of bullying and other required information to the Michigan Department of Education on an annual basis, according to the form and procedures established by the Department.

As required by State statute, the District's procedures with respect to bullying are contained within this policy, and thus no administrative guidelines accompany this policy.

#### APPENDIX C: PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS

### **ARTICLE IV. STUDENTS**

Section 8. Due Process.

The Board recognizes the importance of safeguarding a student's constitutional rights, particularly when subject to the District's disciplinary procedures. The due process to be accorded students is as follows:

Students subject to suspensions greater than 10 days or expulsions of 180 days or less. Except in emergency situations, prior to the implementation of a suspension or expulsion a student must be given oral or written notice of the charges against him or her, a summary of the evidence supporting the charges, and, if the student denies the charges, the opportunity to be heard and to respond to the charges. When such suspension or expulsion has occurred, notice and opportunity to respond shall occur as soon as reasonably possible. The building administrator shall provide the student an opportunity to be heard and shall be responsible for making the suspension decision.

Students subject to permanent expulsion or expulsion greater than 180 days. Prior to the imposition of a permanent expulsion or an expulsion of greater than 180 days, a student and the student's parent or guardian must be given written notice of the intention to permanently expel or expel for more than 180 days, a summary of the evidence supporting the expulsion, and notice that the Superintendent or designee shall conduct a hearing to determine whether to accept the recommendation for expulsion. The student and the student's parent or guardian must also be provided a brief description of the student's rights and of the hearing procedure. The Superintendent shall establish guidelines in the Student Code of Conduct governing the procedure to be followed in the hearing to determine whether the expulsion shall be implemented.

#### APPENDIX D: DIRECTORY INFORMATION AND OPT OUT FORM



#### **Directory Information Opt Out**

#### ONLY RETURN IF YOU SELECT ANY OF THE OPTIONS BELOW

I understand that the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, allows the Gaylord Community School District to disclose designated directory information to third parties. I am choosing to have some or all of my child's directory information be withheld from this disclosure. If you do not wish to opt-out of any of the below common uses, you do not need to return this form or take any other action.

Please check the applicable statement below along with the information you do not wish to be shared:

\_\_\_\_\_ I DO NOT\_ authorize the Gaylord Community School District to share any of the following checked directory information with anyone outside of the Gaylord Community School District, with the exception of the military.

\_\_\_\_\_ I DO NOT\_ authorize the Gaylord Community School District to share any of the following checked directory information with anyone outside of the Gaylord Community School District, for the entire school year.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student name (includes ALL awards, events, games, etc.)

		and the Control of th
5500 es 56 86 00 00 00 00 <u>00 00</u>		Student name (includes ALL awards, events, games, etc.)
Student Name	\$6 \$6 \$6 \$6	Home address
 Grade Level	<del>92</del>	Telephone number(s)
Grade Level	10	Email address
Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)	<u> </u>	Grade level
	<del>8-18</del>	Date of birth
Parent/Guardian Signature	<del>(2</del>	Place of birth
	10 10	Weight/height
Date	10-10	Photograph, video or electronic images (includes ALL awards, events, games, etc.)
	<u> </u>	Yearbook picture and name
	<del>02</del>	Most recent school/education institution attended
	V2	Parent information (name, address, phone, email, etc.)
	W	Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
	<del>11 11</del>	Awards and honors received
	<del>27. 18</del>	Clubs/Affiliations
	10 TH	Printed holiday programs and/or graduation programs
	<del>10 - 10</del>	Newspaper articles
	<u> </u>	Scholarship information
	93 122	PTO directories

Child's work (media and internet)

## APPENDIX E: ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT



Form 7540.03 F1a / Pages 2

# STUDENT/PARENT AGREEMENT SIGNATURE PAGE dent Name: Grade: Parent/Guardian Name:

Student Name:	Grade:	Parent/Guardian Name:	
> NETWORK / INTERNET A	CCESS AGREEMENT FOR S	TUDENTS	
the Board of Education, from any a	and all claims or causes of act	ease the District, its employees, agents and ion arising out of my use or misuse of th by the rules and regulations set forth here	ne Network or Network
I have reviewed the Network Use A	greement with my parent or lo	egal guardian (or I have reached the age o	f 18).
Signa ture of Stu	dent	Date	
The following section must be comp	oleted for all students who has	ve not reached the age of 18.	
members of the Board of Education	n from any and all claims or ca gree to indemnify the District fo work equipment.	reby release the District, its employees an uses of action arising out of my use or mi or any fees, expenses or damages incurred Date	suse of the Network or
> FIELD TRIP PERMISSION			
4	rips during the school year. W	/hen field trips require transportation, chil	dren will be transported
l give permission for my child to part	ticipate in classfield trips. (	YES NO	
Signature of Paren	t / Guardian	Date	
> ACKNOWLED GMENT OF S	STUDENT HANDBOOK		
	rules, guidelines, procedures,	derstand the rights and responsibilities po and policies of the School District. We a ial on the same subjects.	
			. 100022-0-3-3-3-2-
Signature of Student	Date	Signature of Parent / Guardian	Date

615 South Elm • Gaylord Michigan 49735-1253 Phone: (989) 705-3080 • Fax: (989) 732-6029 • www.gaylordschools.com

#### APPENDIX F: ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in Gaylord High School's (the "District") athletics is a privilege, not a right. Student-athletes are students first. When participating in District athletics, student-athletes are District representatives and are held to the highest standards. Accordingly, this Athletic Code of Conduct applies 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Student-athletes and parents should be familiar with this Athletic Code of Conduct. By participating on any school-sponsored athletic team both student-athletes and parents agree to abide by these terms.

Athletic Director: Christian Wilson

989-705-3104

wilsonc@gaylord.k12.mi.us

## **Available Sports**

Boys and Girls Soccer

Football

Sideline and Competitive Cheer

Volleyball

Girls Swimming

**Cross Country** 

Boys and Girls Basketball

Ski

**Bowling** 

Wrestling

Hockey

Track and Field

**Boys Golf** 

Softball

Baseball

#### **Communication Protocol**

The District has full faith in its coaches to make decisions that are in the best interest of their teams. If parents have questions or concerns about their student-athletes' sports participation, use the following protocol:

- 1. Wait 24 hours before contacting the coach.
- 2. Schedule a time to speak with the coach, either via phone or in-person, at the coach's discretion.
- 3. If the issue is unresolved, schedule a time to speak with the Athletic Director, either via phone or in-person, at the Athletic Director's discretion.

#### **Concussion Protocol**

The District will comply with the concussion protocol identified by MHSAA.

#### **Athletic Code of Conduct**

A student-athlete must:

- 1. Learn and understand the rules and regulations of your sport.
- 2. Unless otherwise approved by your coach, if school is in session, attend school for the full day to be eligible to practice or play in an event on the same day.
- 3. Comply with the law, Board Policy, the Student Code of Conduct, the Athletic Code of Conduct, and all team rules. Failure to comply with this provision may result in suspension or removal from a team.
- 4. Not possess, use, or consume alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, nicotine (including a vape), or controlled substances (other than those prescribed by a physician for the student-athlete).
- 5. Not engage in conduct that is unbecoming of student-athletes.
- Maintain academic eligibility as required by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. Gaylord High School students must pass five out of six classes in order to be eligible to participate.
- 7. Notify your coach or District athletic trainer of any injury or medical condition that may affect your athletic participation.

If a student-athlete violates any provision of the Athletic Code of Conduct, practice, game, team, or complete athletic suspension may result. Any disciplinary consequences will be at the sole discretion of the Athletic Director or designee.

If a student-athlete is suspended or expelled from school, the student-athlete is prohibited from participating in any practice or game during the suspension or expulsion.

#### APPENDIX G: RESPONSIBLE THINKING PROCESS (K-6)

The Responsible Thinking Process teaches students to be responsible for their behavior, reduces disruptions within the classroom, and allows learning to take place. The program enhances students' abilities to resolve problems through the creation of effective plans. Visits to RTC should be interpreted as an opportunity to learn the proper response or reaction to a situation that caused inappropriate behavior, not as a punishment.

Elementary staff believe that all students are responsible for their own actions and must respect the rights of others. Teachers have a right to teach and students have a right to learn in a safe environment. No student has the right to disrupt school, regardless of where s/he is, but especially if they are preventing other students from learning or threatening the safety and rights of others.

Elementary staff have established rules and procedures to help children learn the rules that need to be followed. When children disrupt and break one of these rules they are questioned and then asked to compare their actions to the rules or standards of wherever they are. If they cannot identify the inappropriate action(s), the adult helps them. If they persist in breaking the rules (i.e. more than two disruptions in a day), they are removed from that situation and location to the Responsible Thinking Classroom (RTC), where they stay until they indicate to that staff member that they are willing to work on a plan to help them become successful in that situation in the future. While in the RTC they are taught by the RTC coordinator how to work out a plan, which they will use to negotiate their return with the person who was in charge of wherever they were disrupting. Students are permitted to go to all other classes and other areas where they've been responsible, such as the library, cafeteria, etc.

Severe disruptions (i.e. fighting, spitting, biting, threatening) may result in a different discipline process. Disruptive behavior while in RTC will result in a trip to the principal's office with the likely consequence of being sent home. A parent/guardian will be held in more extreme situations before a student returns to school

Following this process, we have found that students develop an increased sense of self-discipline and respect. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

#### APPENDIX H: SEARCH AND SEIZURE

## ARTICLE IV. STUDENTS

#### Section 15. Search and Seizure.

The Board has charged District administration with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, District administration may search school property such as lockers used by students or the person or property, including vehicles, of a student, in accordance with the following policy. School Property

Lockers and desks used by students remain at all times the property of the District. Where locks are provided for such places, students may lock them against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall students have an expectation of privacy as to prevent examination by a school official. District administrators may search student lockers and desks at any time and for any reason.

#### Student Person and Possessions

The privacy of students or his/her belongings may not be violated by an unreasonable search and seizure. No student may be searched without reasonable suspicion or in an unreasonable manner. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction, the student's age, and the student's disciplinary history. Reasonable suspicion shall not be required for the use of canines to search a student's possessions as part of a random drug sweep.

Searches may be conducted by administrators, school resource officer(s), or their designees. Efforts should be made to conduct a search in the presence of the student and a staff member other than the principal. A search prompted by the reasonable belief that health and safety are immediately threatened may be conducted with as much speed and dispatch as may be required to protect persons and property.

A search of a student's person or intimate personal apparel shall be conducted by a person of the student's gender, in the presence of another staff member of the same gender, and only in exceptional circumstances when the health or safety of the student or of others is immediately threatened. Strip searches by district employees, school resource officer(s) or any other person acting on behalf of or as a representative of the District, on or off school premises, are not permitted.

Administrators or designated staff members are authorized to utilize a breath-test instrument for the purpose of determining if a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

#### APPENDIX I: PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION



Form 8700/Page 1 of 1

#### PESTICIDE PRIOR NOTIFICATION REQUEST

State of Michigan law requires that schools and day care centers that may apply pesticides on school or day care property must provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians of students attending the facility.

As part of Gaylord school district's pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. As required by State of Michigan law, you will receive advance notice regarding the non-emergency application of a pesticide such as an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide, other than a bait or gel formulation, and other than a sanitizer, germicide, disinfectant, or anti-microbial product, that is made to the school or day care grounds or buildings during this school year. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than the products exempted in the paragraph above, will be given by at least 2 methods. The first method will be by posting at the main entrance of whichever building the product was used. The second method will be by posting on the school or day care center's web site.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school or day care center are entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mails postmarked at least 3 days before the pesticide application, if they so request. If you are requesting prior notification of pesticide treatments conducted by first-class mail please complete and submit the following form. Parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request.

> 615 South Elm Avenue, Gaylord, Michigan 49735 Phone: (989)705-3080 Fax: (989)732-6029 www.gaylordschools.com