

McLean County Unit District No. 5

High School Handbook

2024-2025



Normal Community High School
Normal Community West High School

**McLean County Unit District No. 5
Normal Community High School**

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Normal Community West High School**

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Dear Unit 5 Community Members,

Unit 5’s commitment to respecting diversity in all of its forms is vital to attaining the District mission of “educating each student to achieve personal excellence.” The district remains dedicated to expanding awareness of diversity issues; engaging in proactive diversity planning; and maintaining a welcoming, effective learning environment. With

the assistance of the Unit 5 Diversity and Inclusion Committee, the district will continue to establish and achieve diversity goals that will enrich our educational community.

Thank you for your involvement in and contributions to our efforts.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristen Kendrick-Weikle
Superintendent

Dayna Brown
Director Communications/Community Relations
Diversity Officer

McLean County Unit District No. 5 Mission Statement

“Unit 5 will educate each student to achieve personal excellence.”

McLean County Unit District No. 5 Contact Information

1809 West Hovey Avenue ~ Normal, IL 61761-4339
Phone: 309.557.4400 ~ Fax: 309.557.4501
Web: www.unit5.org General E-mail: district@unit5.org

General School Information

Introduction

This handbook is offered to provide students and parents/guardians with basic information about Unit 5 High Schools, and to explain the various procedures students should follow when attending classes, conducting school business, or attending school-related activities on or off campus. Students will be held responsible for knowing and following all procedures, policies and regulations. **Unit 5 administration reserves the right to change rules, as needed, in order to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment. Keep this handbook available as a reference. Changes in state and federal laws may dictate amendments to sources identified in this handbook during the school year. Please see the Board's comprehensive policy manual on the District's website - https://www.boardpolicyonline.com/?b=mclean_5 - or at the Board office, located at 1809 West Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois for current information.**

Bulletin Boards, Signs and Posters

No notices, posters, signs, or announcements may be displayed on bulletin boards, walls, lockers, windows, or doors without specific permission of one of the Assistant Principals. Violations will result in possible school disciplinary consequences.

Closed Campus

Unit 5 High Schools have a closed-campus policy that requires students to remain at school for the entire school day. Students may only leave campus to participate in approved curricular-related activities including but not limited to work programs, internships, blended courses, and off-campus courses.

Deliveries

Outside deliveries for students are not allowed. Office personnel will not accept or be responsible for deliveries of outside items such as food, gifts, flowers, balloons, etc. to students.

Distribution of Printed Material

No printed newspapers, bulletins, pamphlets, or other published materials may be distributed on school property without specific permission of one of the Assistant Principals. Violations will result in possible school disciplinary consequences.

Access to Non-School Sponsored Publications

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed On Campus

Creating, distributing, and/or accessing non-school sponsored publications shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the publication is endorsed by the School District.

Students are prohibited from creating, distributing, and/or accessing at school any publication that:

1. Will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
2. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
3. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or sexting as defined by School Board policy and the Student Handbook;
4. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
5. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. However, material from outside sources or the citation to such sources may be allowed, as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students ; or
6. Incites students to violate any Board policies.

Accessing or distributing on-campus includes accessing or distributing on school property or at school-related activities. A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for: (1) accessing or distributing forbidden material, or (2) for writing, creating, or publishing such material intending for it to be accessed or distributed at school.

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed Off-Campus

A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for creating and/or distributing a publication that: (1) causes a substantial disruption or a foreseeable risk of a substantial disruption to school operations, or (2) interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

Emergency Procedures

Plans have been made to protect your safety when emergencies occur. Become familiar with fire exit plans posted in each of your classrooms. In any emergency, silence and complete cooperation with teachers' instructions are essential. When evacuating the building or moving to a shelter area, walk rapidly but do not run.

In the case that students need to be evacuated from the high schools, the parent/guardian/student reunification site would be Eastview Christian Church for NCHS & NCWHS.

Equal Educational Opportunities and Sex Equity

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities are available to all students without regard to race, color, nationality, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and co-curricular programs and activities.

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact the Unit Office, 309.557.4400.

It is the policy of McLean County Unit District No. 5 that its educational programs, activities, services and benefits will be provided to students without discrimination on the basis of color, race, nationality, gender, handicapping condition, or other factors prohibited by law.

McLean County Unit District No. 5 does not discriminate on the basis of actual or potential marital or parental status, and no student in the District shall be subjected to sexual intimidation or sexual harassment by any school employee, by other students or, by the effect of any school policy or practice. Concerns regarding this policy may be directed to the Title IX of Section 504 Coordinator at 557-4400.

TITLE IX – Civil Rights. In June 1972, the Congress passed Title IX of the Education Amendments, a law that affects virtually every education institution in the country. The law prohibits discrimination by sex in educational programs that receive federal money. The spirit of the law is reflected in the opening statement: Under Title IX, *“No person in the United States shall on the basis of sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”*

Title IX Grievance Procedure

1. A student or an employee shall present his/her complaint in writing to his/her building principal.
2. The building principal shall investigate the complaint within five working days and arrange for a hearing.
3. Failing a resolution at stage 1, the student or employee may present a statement of his/her grievance to the grievance officer.
4. The Title IX Coordinator for McLean County Unit District No. 5 shall serve as the grievance officer and render his/her opinion within five working days from the time of the hearing.
5. Failing a resolution at stage 2, the student or employee may present a statement of his/her grievance to the Superintendent who shall determine the matter within five working days from the time of the hearing.
6. Failing a resolution of stage 3, the student or employee may present a statement of his/her grievance to the Board of Education who shall determine the matter.
7. Failing a resolution at stage 4, the grievant may file a complaint with the Circuit Court.

There shall be no reprisal against any student or employee for filing a grievance or for utilizing the grievance procedure. For maintaining confidentiality, grievances will not be filed in a student’s file or an employee’s personnel file. The grievance file will be kept in the office of the grievance officer. The grievant has the same access to this file as he/she does to his/her own personnel file.

“McLean County Unit District No. 5 is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution in accordance with Civil Rights legislation and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, age, handicap, other factors prohibited by law in any of its education programs, admissions, or employment policies.”

Concerns regarding this policy should be referred to:

Board of Education Office
1809 West Hovey Avenue
Normal, IL 61761
309-557-4400

The Title IX Coordinators and 504 Coordinator may be reached at the same address.

Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, Grooming Behaviors, and Boundary Violations

Child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations harm students, their parent/guardian, the District's environment, its school communities, and the community at large, while diminishing a student's ability to learn.

Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse

Warning signs of child sexual abuse include the following.

Physical signs:

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or other genital infections
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing
- Unusual weight gain or loss

Behavioral signs:

- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or being afraid to be away from primary caregivers
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors that the child had grown out of, such as thumb sucking or bedwetting
- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

Emotional signs:

- Change in eating habits or unhealthy eating patterns, like loss of appetite or excessive eating
- Signs of depression, such as persistent sadness, lack of energy, changes in sleep or appetite, withdrawing from normal activities, or feeling "down"
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Anxiety, excessive worry, or fearfulness
- Increase in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headaches
- Loss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors or expressing thoughts of suicide or suicidal behavior
- Failing grades
- Drug or alcohol use

Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors

School and District employees are expected to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students based upon students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels.

Prohibited grooming is defined as (i) any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, (ii) by an employee with direct contact with a student, (iii) that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples of grooming behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Sexual or romantic invitations to a student
- Dating or soliciting a date from a student
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog with a student
- Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
- Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with a student
- Failing to respect boundaries or listening when a student says “no”
- Engaging in touching that a student or student’s parents/guardians have indicated is unwanted
- Trying to be a student’s friend rather than filling an adult role in the student’s life
- Failing to maintain age-appropriate relationships with students
- Talking with students about personal problems or relationships
- Spending time alone with a student outside of their role in the student’s life or making up excuses to be alone with a student
- Expressing unusual interest in a student’s sexual development, such as commenting on sexual characteristics or sexualizing normal behaviors
- Giving a student gifts without occasion or reason
- Spending a lot of time with a student
- Restricting a student’s access to other adults

Warning Signs of Boundary Violations

School and District employees breach employee-student boundaries when they misuse their position of power over a student in a way that compromises the student’s health, safety, or general welfare. Examples of boundary violations include:

- Favoring a certain student by inviting the student to “hang out” or by granting special privileges
- Engaging in peer-like behavior with a student
- Discussing personal issues with a student
- Meeting with a student off-campus without parent/guardian knowledge and/or permission
- Dating, requesting, or participating in a private meeting with a student (in person or virtually) outside of a professional role
- Transporting a student in a school or private vehicle without administrative authorization
- Giving gifts, money, or treats to an individual student
- Sending a student on personal errands
- Intervening in a serious student problem instead of referring the student to an appropriately trained professional
- Sexual or romantic invitations toward or from a student
- Taking and using photos/videos of students for non-educational purposes
- Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day in a one-on-one or non-group setting
- Inviting a student to an employee’s home
- Adding a student on personal social networking sites as contacts when unrelated to a legitimate educational purpose
- Privately messaging a student
- Maintaining intense eye contact with a student
- Making comments about a student’s physical attributes, including excessively flattering comments
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog

- Making sexually suggestive comments directed toward or with a student
- Disclosing confidential information
- Self-disclosure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Full frontal hugs
- Invading personal space

If you believe you are a victim of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, or boundary violations, or you believe that your child is a victim, you should immediately contact the Building Principal, a school counselor, or another trusted adult employee of the School.

Additional Resources include:

- National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE (4673)
- National Sexual Abuse Chatline at online.rainn.org
- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE (2873)

Cross Reference: Board Policy 4.165

Prevention of Anaphylaxis

While it is not possible for the School or District to completely eliminate the risks of an anaphylactic emergency, the District maintains a comprehensive policy on anaphylaxis prevention, response, and management in order to reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment for anaphylactic reactions. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and students who desire more information or who want a copy of the District's policy may contact the Building Principal.

Cross Reference:

7:285, Food Allergy Management Program

7:285-AP1, Administrative Procedure ~ Implementing a Food Allergy Management Program

Sexual Abuse Response and Prevention Resource Guide

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) maintains a resource guide on sexual abuse response and prevention. The guide contains information on and the location of children's advocacy centers, organizations that provide medical evaluations and treatment to victims of child sexual abuse, organizations that provide mental health evaluations and services to victims and families of victims of child sexual abuse, and organizations that offer legal assistance to and provide advocacy on behalf of victims of child sexual abuse. This guide can be accessed through the ISBE website at www.isbe.net or you may request a copy of this guide by contacting the school's office.

Secure Gun Storage

The Board of Education of McLean County Unit 5 has adopted a resolution directing the Superintendent to include information in student handbooks about safe gun storage and the legal obligations regarding the secure storage of firearms.

Unsecured firearms put children and staff at risk in our schools and beyond. Adults may be liable both criminally and civilly when a child gains unsupervised access to firearms which are not appropriately and securely stored. According to the Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, "#NotAnAccident Index," <https://everytownresearch.org/maps/notanaccident/>, every year, nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else. That is roughly one unintentional shooting per day. More than

1,200 children die by gun suicide each year. In the overwhelming majority of these incidents, the gun used was one that belonged to someone in their home.

One study found that although 70 % of parents believe their teen cannot access the gun(s) in their home, more than one-third were contradicted by their child's report. The study also found that in households where parents said their child could not access a firearm, 21.8% of their children indicated that they could access a firearm within 5 minutes and 14.9% indicated that they could access a firearm in more than 5 minutes but less than 1 hour. Research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to an 85% reduction in the risk of self-inflicted and unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens. Storing firearms securely protects children in the home as well as students throughout the school district and community.

Nothing in the foregoing shall be read to establish an implied or contractual right of action for a victim of gun violence.

1. Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, “#NotAnAccident Index,” <https://everytownresearch.org/maps/notanaccident/>. Analysis includes incidents that occurred between 2015 and 2019.
2. Id.
3. Johnson RM, Barber C, Azrael D, Clark DE, Hemenway D. Who are the owners of firearms used in adolescent suicides? *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*. 2010;40(6):609-611.
4. Id.
5. Salhi C, Azrael D, Miller M. Parent and Adolescent Reports of Adolescent Access to Household Firearms in the United States. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2021;4(3):e210989. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.0989
6. Id.
7. <https://everytownresearch.org/solution/responsible-gun-storage/>

Fees

The district establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Some students may not be able to pay these fees. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parent or guardian is unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver applies to all fees related to school, instruction, and extracurricular activities.

Applications for fee waivers may be obtained from the school office and may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. A student is eligible for a fee waiver if at least one of the following prerequisites is met:

1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the free lunch or breakfast eligibility guidelines established by the federal government pursuant to the National School Lunch Act;
2. The student or student's family is currently receiving aid under Article IV of the Illinois Public Aid Code (Aid to Families of Dependent Children); or
3. The student's parent is a veteran or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line.

The building principal will notify the parent/guardian promptly as to whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied. Questions regarding the fee waiver application process should be addressed to the building principal.

Pursuant to the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act, the school is required to provide a federally reimbursable meal to a student who requests one, regardless of whether the student has the ability to pay for the meal or owes money for earlier meals. Students may not be provided with an alternative meal and the school is prohibited from publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay or owes money for a meal.

Free and Reduced-Price Food Services; Meal Charge Notifications

The following notification is provided to all households of students at the beginning of each school year as federally required notification regarding eligibility requirements and the application process for the free and reduced-price food services that are listed in Board policy 4:130, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services, and 4:140, Waiver of Student Fees. This notification is also provided to households of students transferring to the District during the school year. For more information, see www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges, and/or contact the Building Principal or designee.

Free and Reduced-Price Food Services Eligibility

When the parents/guardians of students are unable to pay for their child(ren)'s meal services, meal charges will apply per a student's eligibility category and will be processed by the District accordingly.

A student's eligibility for free and reduced-price food services shall be determined by the income eligibility guidelines, family-size income standards, set annually by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and distributed by the Ill. State Board of Education.

Meal Charges for Meals Provided by the District

The Building Principal and District staff will work jointly to prevent meal charges from accumulating. Every effort to collect all funds due to the District will be made on a regular basis and before the end of the school year. Contact your Building Principal or designee about whether your child(ren)'s charges may be carried over at the end of the school year, i.e., beyond June 30th.

Unpaid meal charges are considered delinquent debt when payment is overdue as defined by Board policy 4:45, Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery and the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act (105 ILCS 123/). The District will make reasonable efforts to collect charges classified as delinquent debt, including repeated contacts to collect the amounts and, when necessary, requesting that the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) apply for meal benefits to determine if the student qualifies for such benefits under Board policy 4:130, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services. The District will provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of the student's ability to pay or negative account balance.

When a student's funds are low and when there is a negative balance, reminders will be provided to the staff, students, and their parent(s)/guardian(s) at regular intervals during

the school year. State law allows the Building Principal to contact parents(s)/guardian(s) to attempt collection of the owed money when the amount owed is more than the amount of five lunches [or insert lower amount]. If a parent/guardian regularly fails to provide meal money for the child(ren) that he/she is responsible for in the District and does not qualify for free meal benefits or refuses to apply for such benefits, the Building Principal or designee will direct the next course of action. Continual failure to provide meal money may require the District to notify the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and/or take legal steps to recover the unpaid meal charges, up to and including seeking an offset under the State Comptroller Act, if applicable.

Fund-Raising Activities

All fund-raising activities must be approved in writing by the administration. Fundraising will only be approved for school related clubs, teams, or organizations. Sale of fund-raising items may not be done in classrooms or in any manner that interferes with the educational environment. Merchandise and cash must be secured at all times, and are the responsibility of the individual involved. Violations will result in forfeiture of the opportunity to participate. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen money or items.

Lost and Found

All found items must be turned in to the high school office. Billfolds, purses, watches, and rings will be kept in the Main Office and may be claimed there after proper identification of the lost item has been made.

Sale of Merchandise

The sale of any item at school or on school grounds must be approved by an administrator in advance. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary consequences.

School Cancellation/Dismissal Due to Weather

School cancellation/early dismissal information can be accessed from the Unit 5 website at www.unit5.org. Additional information will be available on local radio and TV stations, in addition to a *School Messenger* phone call that will be sent to parent/guardian contacts.

Student Handbook

The Superintendent shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook, including the District disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the students' parents/guardians within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

Student Identification Cards

Student identification cards must be in a student's possession at all times during the school day. Students must present their ID card for a variety of reasons throughout the school day. For example, students must present a current ID card to purchase a school lunch, to leave study hall with a pass, to use the IMC, to borrow IMC materials, to sign in and out of the nurse's office and guidance office as well as for admittance to detention and extracurricular events. Stickers and other decorations may not be placed on the front of the ID cards. The ID cards should not be altered in any way from their original condition except for school issued stickers.

Students who have lost or misplaced their ID will be allowed to buy a new ID without penalty provided they report to the main office before school or as soon as they realize the ID is missing. Students who are found during the school day not to be in possession of their ID will be sent to the main office to purchase a new ID. Failure to comply with this policy may result in school disciplinary consequences. Being in unauthorized possession of another person's ID will be considered theft.

Students can purchase replacement cards in the main office for a fee of \$3.00.

Student Insurance

A low cost accident policy is available to all students. While the school has no obligation in case of an accident, the District is glad to make available this limited policy. Briefly, students may be insured for accidents which may occur while engaged in any school-sponsored activity or between home and school. Enrollment information and claim forms for the collection of insurance payments due to accidents may be obtained in the school offices or online.

Visitors

All visitors to campus must check in at the Visitor's Station at the main entrance, sign-in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the location they are visiting, and wear a visitor's pass for the duration of their stay. Visitors may be asked to provide a photo ID. The photo ID will be held at the Visitor's Station until the visitor signs out of the building and leaves campus. If no photo ID is presented, the visitor may not be permitted to enter the building.

Students are not allowed to bring visitors to school. Any person wishing to visit a class must obtain permission in advance from the main office.

Any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespass and/or disruptive behavior.

No person on school property or at a school event shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco or vaping products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied with Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and district policies.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other district policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or district employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the district or a school function.

Any person who engages in prohibited conduct may be ejected from or denied admission to school property in accordance with State law. The person may also be subject to being denied admission to school athletic or extracurricular events for up to one calendar year.

Attendance/Enrollment/Registration

Attendance Overview

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between six (by September 1st) and seventeen years of age shall assure that the child attends school in the district in which he or she resides, during the entire time school is in session (unless the child has already graduated from high school). Illinois law also requires that whoever has custody or control of a child who is enrolled in the school, regardless of the child's age, shall assure that the child attends school during the entire time school is in session.

There are certain exceptions to the attendance requirement for children who: attend private school, are physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), are lawfully and necessarily employed, are between the ages of 12 and 14 while in confirmation classes, have a religious reason requiring absence, or are 16 or older and employed and enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program. For students who are required to attend school, T

Cross Reference: Board Policy 7.70, Attendance and Truancy

Registration Guidelines

The Board of Education and staff of McLean County Unit District 5 take pride in the programs offered to meet the high standards set by the community it serves. As a public school district, Unit 5 provides programs for all students and has a firm commitment to prepare graduates for future success in life. A solid foundation, essential to reaching this goal, becomes the responsibility of the school district, parents, guardians, community and the student. Through this combined effort we will have a better school and community.

All students, eighth through eleventh grades, are expected to register during the second semester for classes offered the following year.

All eligible students who move into the district or who transfer from another school are expected to register on or before the first day of a semester. Students enrolling late who have been attending school elsewhere will be placed in equivalent classes, if possible. Grades from the previous school will be combined with grades earned in Unit 5 high school classes to determine semester grades and credit. If there is not a similar course available, students may not be able to earn credit and may be assigned to study hall.

A student wishing to enroll late who has not been attending school during the current semester will be placed in the appropriate classes. The opportunity for credit will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis if the prospective student chooses to enroll. Credit is not guaranteed.

Change of Address or Telephone

Report to the office immediately any change of home address, home or parent's/guardian's work telephone number or any other important information that we may need in order to contact your parent or guardian in case of an emergency. Proof of residency must be provided prior to changes being made.

Attendance Procedures

Attendance in all assigned periods, including homeroom, is required.

Student Absences

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program. For students who are required to attend school, there are two types of absences: excused and unexcused as defined below. The school may require documentation explaining the reason for the student's absence.

Excused Absences

Absences for the reasons listed below are considered "valid causes" and will be marked as an excused absence. Documentation or proof of the reason may be required from a professional source in some cases.

1. Illness (including up to 5 days per school year for mental or behavioral health of the student) or injury
2. Serious illness or death in the family
3. Medical or dental appointment (an appointment card or other verification from the doctor's or dentist's office may be required.)
4. Unavoidable accident or emergency
5. Observance of a religious holiday or event
6. Circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety Court appearance (beyond student's control)
7. College Visit / Military Visit (with verification)
8. Attending a military honors funeral to sound "Taps" if the child is in grades 6 through 12
9. Military Family Absence *
10. Attend a civic event**
11. Other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Board of Education in Board Policy 7.70
12. Students eligible to vote are also excused for up to two hours to vote in a primary, special, or general election.

*A student will be excused for up to five (5) days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-supported postings. Students are responsible for obtaining assignments and ensuring assignment completion.

**Any student from a public middle school or high school, subject to guidelines established by ISBE, shall be permitted by a school board one school day-long excused absence per school year for the student to engage in a civic event. The school board may require that the student provide reasonable advance notice and require that the student

provide appropriate documentation of participation in the civic event. "Civic event" means an event sponsored by a non-profit organization or governmental entity that is open to the public. "Civic event" includes, but is not limited to, an artistic or cultural performance or educational gathering that supports the mission of the sponsoring non-profit organization. The State Board of Education may adopt rules to further define "civic event".

Students who are excused from school will be given a reasonable timeframe to make up missed homework and classwork assignments. Teachers may make work available through electronic means.

Unexcused Absences

All other absences are considered unexcused. Requests for excused absences for reasons other than those listed above should be made to the Board of Education. Unexcused absences include but are not limited to:

1. Truancy
2. Oversleeping
3. Missing the bus
4. Lack of ride to school
5. Private vehicle breakdown or failure to start
6. Working
7. Personal business
8. Participation in non-school sponsored activities
9. Vacation

Reporting Absences

Each day that a student is absent, his/her parent or guardian must call the Attendance Line before 8:30 a.m. to explain the reason for the absence. This is required regardless of a student's age at the time of the absence. The attendance phone line is available 24 hours per day. If a call has not been made to the school by 10:30 a.m. on the day of a student's absence, a message will go out by the attendance office to remind the parent/guardian to call the attendance line. If the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, the student will be required to submit a signed note from the parent/guardian explaining the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence. Upon request of the parent/guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

When students return from a reported absence, they are to report directly to their first period class. An individual Absent/Tardy Notice will not be required. If the absence was not properly reported, report directly to the appropriate Assistant Principal.

Procedure for Arriving Late to School

1. If a student arrives after first hour begins, they must enter at the Main Entrance (Door A) and check-in at the main office before reporting to class.
2. The student will be given a pass that will admit them to class.

Procedure for Leaving School Early

1. A student's parent/guardian may make arrangements, in advance whenever possible, to have him/her check out prior to their usual dismissal time by calling the Attendance Line.
2. If a student's checkout time is during a class period, the yellow copy of the Absent/Tardy Notice may be delivered to the student prior to the checkout time. If the Absent/Tardy Notice has not been delivered, it is the student's responsibility to check in the Main Office prior to leaving.
3. At the appropriate time, report to the Main Entrance (Door A) and sign the Student Check-Out List.

A copy of a student's Absent/Tardy notice will be kept in the office until their return to school. If a student returns to school the same day, he/she must sign back in before returning to classes.

4. If a student becomes ill or injured in school or during lunch, the School Nurse or one of the Assistant Principals must check him/her out of school. Failure to check in or check out may result in disciplinary consequences.

A parent/guardian who takes their child out to lunch is required to follow the procedures mentioned above, and sign him/her out in the main office.

Students leaving school early should exit the building through the Main Entrance (Door A).

0 Hour Absences

Frequent absences from assigned 0 hour class may result in removal from the 0 hour period and placement in the equivalent class during the regular school day.

Prearranged Absences

Whenever you know in advance that you will be absent from school due to family vacation, required court appearance, business interview, college visitation or unavoidable circumstances not considered excused, your parent/guardian must contact your Assistant Principal to request a Prearranged Absence. It is your responsibility to secure a Prearranged Absent/Tardy Notice from the Assistant Principal and to make arrangements with each of your teachers regarding assignments. This should be done at least three days prior to your absence. Please note that prearranging an absence does not excuse absences that would otherwise be unexcused.

College Visitation

Parents/Guardians are to call the Attendance Line prior to the visit. College visitations will be considered excused when verification of student attendance is produced from the college. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements regarding assignments from each teacher prior to the absence. Whenever possible, college visits should be scheduled during school holidays or Teacher Institute days.

Chronic Absenteeism

Student attendance at school is a large factor in the success students experience at school. The early years are a critical period in children's learning and development. Every child should be counted present every day. Every day of school matters. Being absent too many days from school can make it difficult for students to stay on-track academically and maintain the momentum to graduate from high school in order to be college-or career-ready. Every day of school attendance matters for all students and their families. It is crucial, therefore, that the implications of chronic absence be understood and reviewed regularly.

"Chronic absence" means absences that total 10% or more of school days of the most recent academic school year, including absences with (excused) and without (unexcused) a "valid cause" and out-of-school suspensions for an enrolled student.

"Student" means any enrolled student that is subject to compulsory attendance but does not mean a student for whom a documented homebound or hospital record is on file during the student's absence from school.

The District will follow its diagnostic procedures in Board Policy 7.70 for identifying the cause(s) of a student's chronic absenteeism, including requesting documentation for absences and interviews with the student, his or her parent(s)/guardian(s), and staff members or other people who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problem. Students who are excessively absent from school may be requested to provide documentation from a professional/medical source explaining the cause of the absences. Students with excessive absences will be subject to administrative consequences.

Truancy

A “truant” is a child who is subject to compulsory school attendance and who is absent without “valid cause” (see Excused Absences above) from such attendance for more than 1% but less than 5% of the past 180 school days. A “chronic or habitual truant” is a child who is subject to compulsory school attendance and who is absent without “valid cause” from such attendance for 5% or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days. A “truant minor” is a chronic truant to whom supportive services, including prevention, diagnostic, intervention and remedial services, alternative programs and other school and community resources have been provided and have failed to result in the cessation of chronic truancy, or have been offered and refused.

Truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue. If truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school will make a referral to a Truancy Outreach Specialist with the Regional Office of Education #17 using the ROE’s online Request for Truancy Service form.

If truancy persists after a referral has been made to a Truancy Outreach Specialist with the Regional Office of Education #17 and the Truancy Outreach Specialist has provided all appropriate and available supportive services and other school resources to the student, then the school and district may take the following actions:

- Assign disciplinary consequences, provided the student is a chronic or habitual truant, and provided further that a student shall not be recommended for expulsion unless he or she has at least 15 unexcused absences;
- Refer the truancy issue to officials under the Juvenile Court Act;
- Refer the truancy issue to the School Resource Officer or municipality where the school is located to issue the person having custody or control of the truant, chronic truant, or truant minor a citation, provided the school certifies at the time of the referral it has met its obligations with respect to meetings regarding homeless students and students with or believed to have a disability.

The required procedure of notifying the Regional Office of Education with an initial truancy petition will take place on the sixth offense and a chronic truancy petition will be filed when the student has been truant 5% of the last 180 consecutive school days.

Chronic or habitual truants will be deemed to have withdrawn from enrollment after 15 consecutive unexcused absences, absent notice of exigent circumstances. Students withdrawn from enrollment may re-enroll following the District’s normal registration process at any time.

Unauthorized Skip Day

We do not sanction or approve any unauthorized skip day by any group of students. Students who are known to be participating in such a skip day will be considered truant and will be held accountable as described above. Parents/guardians will need to verify the legitimacy of excused absences.

Tardiness to School and Class

All students are required to be on time to each class. Tardiness to class is unexcused unless a student presents, upon arrival to class, a Hall Pass that indicates why the student was detained by another teacher.

- If a student is not in their assigned class at the appropriate time, the tardy will be documented by the teacher. Teacher interventions may include student conference, parent communication, classroom level consequences or administrative referrals.
- Consequences will be administered by the Assistant Principal for unexcused tardiness to class or school beginning with the fifth tardy and any successive tardies. Missing an entire class or a significant portion will be considered truancy.

Excessive Tardies to School, May Result in Loss of Parking Privileges - Make-Up Work

It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with each teacher regarding the work missed. For absences due to illness, suspension, or family emergency, students may request the Counseling Office to gather assignments from the teachers. In order to request assignments, call the Counseling Office and allow 24 hours for the assignments to be ready. The student's teachers will be contacted by the Counseling Office to get these materials. Students should be fully prepared to take any announced exam that was scheduled before their absence.

The following guidelines should be used in setting deadlines for completion of make-up work:

- **Excused and Unexcused Absence** - upon a previous day's notice, a student may be required to take a test or complete other make-up work at the scheduled time. The penalty for not doing this work will be decided by the teacher. Reasonable deadlines for tests and class work will be established by the teachers after careful consideration of the circumstances of the absence and must be met by the student. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of all class assignments and deadlines.
- **Prearranged Absence** - as determined prior to absence.
- **School-Related Absence** (field trips, contests, performances, etc.) - assignments and exams may be required in advance or as soon as the student returns to class. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any work missed or announced during an absence of this nature. Students may be withheld from participation in any activity if involvement in that activity is unduly interfering with academic performance. Contact the teacher, sponsor or coach as early as possible to discuss any such problems.
- **Suspension** - Students have an obligation to make-up work that was missed due to a suspension (**see Suspension from School**).
- **Semester Exams** - All absences from semester exams must be cleared in advance by the Associate Principal or on the day of by the Assistant Principal. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with the teacher for completion of semester exams with the teachers involved. Students truant or otherwise unexcused from semester exams will receive a grade of "0", and their semester grades will be computed accordingly.

All assignments and tests missed due to absence must be made up, regardless of the reason for the student's absence. The student will be permitted the same number of days as he/she was absent to turn in the make-up work up to five (5) days. For additional time, the student should contact their teacher.

Home and Hospital Instruction

A student who is absent or whose physician, physician assistant, or licensed advance practice registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school for an extended period of time or on an intermittent basis because of a medical condition, may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction: (1) before the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction; and (2) for up to 3 months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

Student Behavior

Student Behavior

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that:

- (1) Ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff;
- (2) Maintain a positive, weapons-free and drug-free learning environment;
- (3) Keep school property and the property of others secure;
- (4) Address the causes of a student's misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and
- (5) Teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

To the greatest extent possible the District will use positive behavior management strategies to encourage all students to maintain personal conduct consistent with District expectations, avoiding any cause for disciplinary action.

Students are accountable for conducting themselves within the parameters of District expectations and for complying with reasonable corrective actions imposed for violations. When violations occur, incidents will be investigated thoroughly to determine appropriate disciplinary action, intervention and/or supports. Discipline will be administered in a fair and equitable, but not necessarily equal, manner in consideration of individual circumstances.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to review District expectations with their student(s) at the beginning of each school year. A student handbook, which includes the District's discipline philosophy, and school rules, shall be distributed to students within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or the first day of a student's attendance.

Cross Reference:
Board Policy 7.125, Student Discipline Philosophy

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in *prohibited student conduct*, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.
5. During periods of remote learning.

Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens, or other vaping related products.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, selling or offering for sale alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, selling or offering for sale:
 - a. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis

unless the student is being administered a medical cannabis infused product as authorized under *Ashley's Law* and Board Policy 7.270).

- b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- d. Any prescription medication when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions, or without following the procedures for student medication outlined below including without limitation failing to have a completed and signed "School Medication Authorization Form" on file, failing to keep medication in the original container, giving other students medication, or taking improper doses of medication. Violations of this paragraph may be reported to appropriate law enforcement agencies. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is being administered a medical cannabis infused product as authorized under *Ashley's Law* and Board Policy 7.270.
- e. Any non-prescription medication without following Board Policy 7.270 and its implementing procedures.
- f. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- g. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
- h. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, or controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- i. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a knife, a "weapon," as that term is defined in the *Weapons* section of this policy, or a look-alike weapon, or violating the *Weapons* section of this policy.
5. Using or possessing an electronic mobile device including but not limited to mobile (i.e. cellular or smart) phone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), iPod, mp3 player, laptop, netbook, iPad, tablet, or other similar electronic devices in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, eavesdrop (e.g. secretly recording a conversation), or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer or electronic mobile device, commonly known as "sexting."

Students are allowed to possess and use electronic mobile devices in school, provided they do not cause a disruption, and are not used, seen or heard during instructional time unless:

- (a) The supervising teacher grants permission;
 - (b) Use of the device is provided in a student's IEP; or
 - (c) It is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
7. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
8. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
9. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
10. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault.
11. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7.185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
12. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, or relocating personal or school property or another person's personal property.
13. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
14. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, a school bus, or at any school activity.
15. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
16. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
17. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
18. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
19. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
20. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
21. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that, interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations where the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or

automobile; (c) In a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; or d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions, supports and progressive discipline, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board's authority to impose a disciplinary consequence.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures may include, without limitation, any of the following:

1. Notifying parent/guardian.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension in accordance with Board policy 7.200, *Suspension Procedures*. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. Detention provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration may use this option as an alternative to another disciplinary measure giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this handbook or school disciplinary rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7.220, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 7.200, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended is prohibited from being on school grounds and at school activities during the period of the suspension.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed two calendar years in accordance with Board Policy 7.210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled is prohibited from being on school grounds and at school activities during the period of the expulsion.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualified for the transfer under State law. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and/or expulsion will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension and/or expulsion. In addition to the above list of disciplinary measures, juvenile authorities or other law enforcement may be notified whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances),

“look-alikes”, alcohol, or weapons, or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student’s behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

Corporal punishment is prohibited. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self- defense or defense of property.

Weapons

A student, who uses, possesses, controls, or transfers one of the following weapons at school, on school grounds, on a school bus, at any school-sponsored activity or event, or at any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school, shall be expelled for at least one calendar year but not more than two calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, a weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18, United States Code (18 U.S.C.§ 921), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Act (430 ILCS 65/), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/24-1);
2. Ammunition;
3. A knife with a blade of at least 3 inches, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, billy club, brass knuckles, other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, or any object listed in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/24-1);
4. A look-alike firearm; or
5. Any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent or designee, and the Superintendent’s or designee’s determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

This policy’s prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

Students should report suspected possession or use of such items to any counselor, teacher, or administrator. Arrangements to bring such items to school for classroom demonstrations must be made in advance with one of the building administrators.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall be to support the student’s ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office or the Building Principal in the event that he or she:

- (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision,
- (2) observes, or has reason to suspect that, any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or
- (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member.

Upon receiving such a report, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, State Police, and any involved student's parent/guardian. "School grounds" includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1,000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other licensed educational employees, and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, Associate Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal or School Administration Manager (SAM) is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to ten (10) consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of ten (10) days for safety reasons.

Student Handbook

The Superintendent or designee, with input from the parent-teacher advisory committee, shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook, including the District's student disciplinary philosophy, disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the students' parent/guardian within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

<p>Cross Reference: Board Policy 7.190, <i>Student Behavior</i> Administrative Procedure 7.190-AP2, <i>Gang Activity Prohibited</i></p>

Misconduct by Students with Disabilities**Behavioral Interventions**

Behavioral interventions shall be used with children with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. The Board will establish and maintain a committee to develop, implement, and monitor procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for children with disabilities.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

The District shall comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 ("IDEA") and the Illinois State Board of Education's rules when disciplining a child with a disability as defined under IDEA. No child

with a disability shall be expelled if the child's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others, and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven in effective in stopping it. The School may not use isolated time out, time out, or physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, as a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others. The use of prone restraint is prohibited.

Cross Reference:
Board Policy 7.230, Misconduct by Students with Disabilities

Academic Dishonesty

Any student engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, using a writing service and/or emerging technologies (***including but not limited to generative artificial intelligence technology***) in place of original work unless specifically authorized by staff, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores will be subject to consequences, including possible reduction of grade, loss of credit and/or other appropriate consequences.

First Offense will be addressed by the classroom teacher, and the appropriate assistant principal will be notified. Subsequent offenses will be referred to the appropriate assistant principal, and consequences issued.

Suspension and/or dismissal from co-curricular activities are realistic consequences. In addition, any stipulations outlined by sponsors of such activities will be seriously considered in the disposition of each case.

Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks

Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks

All use of the District's electronic networks shall be consistent with the District's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These procedures do not attempt to state all required or prohibited behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action.

Terms and Conditions

The term electronic networks includes all of the District's technology resources, including, but not limited to:

1. The District's local-area and wide-area networks, including wireless networks (Wi-Fi), District-provided Wi-Fi hotspots, and any District servers or other networking infrastructure;
2. Access to the Internet or other online resources via the District's networking infrastructure or to any District-issued online account from any computer or device, regardless of location;
3. District-owned and District-issued computers, laptops, tablets, phones, or similar devices.

Acceptable Use - Access to the District's electronic networks must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research, and be consistent with the District's educational objectives, or (b) for legitimate business use.

Privileges - Use of the District's electronic networks is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action. The system administrator or Building Principal will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. His or her decision is final.

Unacceptable Use - The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the electronic networks. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

- a. Using the electronic networks for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other intellectual property rights or contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
- b. Using the electronic networks to engage in conduct prohibited by board policy;
- c. Unauthorized downloading of software or other files, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or scanned for malware;
- d. Unauthorized use of personal removable media devices (such as flash or thumb drives);
- e. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
- f. Using the electronic networks for private financial or commercial gain;
- g. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
- h. Hacking or attempting to hack or gain unauthorized access to files, accounts, resources, or entities by any means;
- i. Invading the privacy of individuals, including the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature, such as a photograph or video;
- j. Using another user's account or password;
- k. Disclosing any network or account password (including your own) to any other person, unless requested by the system administrator;
- l. Posting or sending material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
- m. Posting or sending anonymous messages;
- n. Creating or forwarding chain letters, spam, or other unsolicited messages;
- o. Using the electronic networks for commercial or private advertising;
- p. Accessing, sending, posting, publishing, or displaying any abusive, obscene, profane, sexual, threatening, harassing, illegal, or knowingly false material;
- q. Misrepresenting the user's identity or the identity of others; and
- r. Using the electronic networks while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

Network Etiquette - The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
- d. Recognize that the District's electronic networks are not private. People who operate District technology have access to all email and other data. Messages or other evidence relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- e. Do not use the networks in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the electronic networks to be private property.

No Warranties - The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Indemnification - By using the District's electronic networks, the user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

Security - Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify or suspects a security problem on the network, the user must promptly notify the system administrator or Building Principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep user account(s) and password(s) confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log-on to the network as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the networks.

Vandalism - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of malware, such as viruses and spyware.

Telephone Charges - The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, texting or data use charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

Copyright Web Publishing Rules - Copyright law and District policy prohibit the re-publishing of text or graphics found on the Internet or on District websites or file servers/cloud storage without explicit written permission.

- a. For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.
- b. Students engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of public domain documents must be provided.
- c. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.
- d. The fair use rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
- e. Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and student.

Use of Email - The District's email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the District. The District provides email to aid students in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, and as an education tool.

- a. The District reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of any account on its system, without prior notice or permission from the account's user. Unauthorized access by any student to an email account is strictly prohibited.
- b. Each person should use the same degree of care in drafting an email message as would be put into a written memorandum or document. Nothing should be transmitted in an email message that would be inappropriate in a letter or memorandum.
- c. Electronic messages transmitted via the District's Internet gateway carry with them an identification of the user's Internet domain. This domain is a registered name and identifies the author as being with the District. Great care should be taken, therefore, in the composition of such messages and how such messages might reflect on the name and reputation of the District. Users will be held personally responsible for the content of any and all email messages transmitted to external recipients.
- d. Any message received from an unknown sender via the Internet, such as spam or potential phishing emails, should either be immediately deleted or forwarded to the system administrator. Downloading any file

attached to any Internet-based message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message's authenticity and the nature of the file so transmitted.

- e. Use of the District's email system constitutes consent to these regulations.

Internet Safety

Internet access is limited to only those acceptable uses as detailed in these procedures. Internet safety is supported if users will not engage in unacceptable uses, as detailed in these procedures, and otherwise follow these procedures.

Staff members will supervise students while students are using District Internet access to ensure that the students abide by the Terms and Conditions for Internet access contained in these procedures.

Each District computer with Internet access has a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

The system administrator and Building Principals shall monitor student Internet access.

Receipt and Acknowledgement of the Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks is required before access to Electronic Networks is granted. Secondary students and their parent/guardian must sign the *Student Authorization of Acceptable Use for Electronic Networks* form and return it to the appropriate building administration before students will be granted access to District electronic networks.

Please see the Parent Forms section at the end of the handbook to view the District's 1:1 Laptop Agreement. Parents will acknowledge receipt and understanding of agreement during the online registration process.

Online Privacy Statement

The District respects the privacy of all website visitors to the extent permitted by law. This *Online Privacy Statement* is intended to inform you of the ways in which this website collects information, the uses to which that information will be put, and the ways in which we will protect any information you choose to provide us.

There are four types of information that this site may collect during your visit: network traffic logs, website visit logs, cookies, and information voluntarily provided by you.

Network Traffic Logs

In the course of ensuring network security and consistent service for all users, the District employs software programs to do such things as monitor network traffic, identify unauthorized access or access to nonpublic information, detect computer viruses and other software that might damage District computers or the network, and monitor and tune the performance of the District network. In the course of such monitoring, these programs may detect such information as email headers, addresses from network packets, and other information. Information from these activities is used only for the purpose of maintaining the security and performance of the District's networks and computer systems. Personally identifiable information from these activities is not released to external parties without your consent unless required by law.

Website Visit Logs

District websites routinely collect and store information from online visitors to help manage those sites and improve service. This information includes the pages visited on the site, the date and time of the visit, the Internet address (URL or IP address) of the referring site (often called "referrers"), the domain name and IP address from which the access occurred, the version of browser used, the capabilities of the browser, and search terms used on our search engines. This site makes no attempt to identify individual visitors from this information; any personally identifiable information is not released to external parties without your consent unless required by law.

Cookies

Cookies are pieces of information stored by your Web browser on behalf of a website and returned to the website on request. This site may use cookies for two purposes: to carry data about your current session at the site from one Web page to the next and to identify you to the site between visits. If you prefer not to receive cookies, you may turn them off in your browser, or may set your browser to ask you before accepting a new cookie. Some pages may not function properly if the cookies are turned off. Unless otherwise notified on this site, we will not store data, other than for these two purposes, in cookies. Cookies remain on your computer, and accordingly we neither store cookies on our computers nor forward them to any external parties. We do not use cookies to track your movement among different websites and do not exchange cookies with other entities.

Information Voluntarily Provided by You

In the course of using this website, you may choose to provide us with information to help us serve your needs. For example, you may send us an email to request information, an application or other material, and you may sign up for a mailing list. Any personally identifiable information you send us will be used only for the purpose indicated. Requests for information will be directed to the appropriate staff and may be recorded to help us update our site. We will not sell, exchange, or otherwise distribute your personally identifiable information without your consent, except to the extent required by law. We do not retain the information longer than necessary for normal operations.

Each web page requesting information discloses the purpose of that information. If you do not wish to have the information used in that manner, you are not required to provide it. Please contact the person listed on the specific page, or the system administrator, with questions or concerns on the use of personally identifiable information.

While no system can provide guaranteed security, we take reasonable efforts to keep information you provide to us secure, including encryption technology (if any), and physical security at the location of the server where the information is stored.

Web Links to Non-District Websites

District websites provide links to other World Wide Web sites or resources. We do not control these sites and resources, do not endorse them, and are not responsible for their availability, content, or delivery of services. In particular, external sites are not bound by this *Online Privacy Statement*; they may have their own policies or none at all. Often you can tell you are leaving a District website by noting the URL of the destination site. These links to external websites open a new browser window as well.

Please email your questions or concerns to the System Administrator.

Annual Notice to Parents about Educational Technology

School districts throughout the State of Illinois contract with different educational technology vendors for beneficial K-12 purposes such as providing personalized learning and innovative educational technologies, and increasing efficiency in school operations.

Under Illinois' Student Online Personal Protection Act, or SOPPA (105 ILCS 85/), educational technology vendors and other entities that operate Internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications that are designed, marketed, and primarily used for K-12 school purposes are referred to in SOPPA as operators. SOPPA is intended to ensure that student data collected by operators is protected, and it requires those vendors, as well as school districts and the Ill. State Board of Education, to take a number of actions to protect online student data.

Depending upon the particular educational technology being used, our District may need to collect different types of student data, which is then shared with educational technology vendors through their online sites, services, and/or applications. Under SOPPA, educational technology vendors are prohibited from selling or renting a

student's information or from engaging in targeted advertising using a student's information. Such vendors may only disclose student data for K-12 school purposes and other limited purposes permitted under the law.

In general terms, the types of student data that may be collected and shared include personally identifiable information (PII) about students or information that can be linked to PII about students, such as:

- Basic identifying information, including student or parent/guardian name and student or parent/guardian contact information, username/password, student ID number
- Demographic information
- Enrollment information
- Assessment data, grades, and transcripts
- Attendance and class schedule
- Academic/extracurricular activities
- Special indicators (e.g., disability information, English language learner, free/reduced meals or homeless/foster care status)
- Conduct/behavioral data
- Health information
- Food purchases
- Transportation information
- In-application performance data
- Student-generated work
- Online communications
- Application metadata and application use statistics
- Permanent and temporary school student record information

Operators may collect and use student data only for K-12 purposes, which are purposes that aid in the administration of school activities, such as:

- Instruction in the classroom or at home (including remote learning)
- Administrative activities
- Collaboration between students, school personnel, and/or parents/guardians
- Other activities that are for the use and benefit of the school district

Aiding/Abetting

Any student found to be either directly or indirectly involved in aiding, abetting, or assisting another student(s) found to be in violation of the student conduct code will be subject to disciplinary consequences ranging from verbal warning to expulsion.

School Dress Code

Students are expected to dress in accordance with commonly acceptable standards of decency and with regard to standards for health and safety. A student's appearance, including dress and hygiene, must not disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety. The school does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locs, and twists. The school will not prohibit students from wearing or accessorizing the student's graduation attire with items associated with the student's cultural, ethnic, or religious identity or any other protected

characteristic or category identified in the Illinois Human Rights Act. Students who disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety must modify their appearance.

- Shoes or other appropriate footwear must be worn in the school building. Shoes that contain wheels should not be worn at school.
- No head covering that obscures the view of the student's face. Interpretation and enforcement of this rule is up to administration discretion.
- Words or pictures on articles of clothing, or book bags, notebooks or other personal possessions, which advertise or promote illegal drugs, alcohol or alcohol products, cigarettes or other tobacco products or any other items not legally usable by high school students will not be permitted. Also, statements or pictures which are violent or threatening in nature will not be permitted.
- Words or pictures on articles of clothing which are sexually explicit, offensive to commonly acceptable standards of propriety or suggestive in nature such as to constitute sexual harassment will not be permitted.
- Metal studs, chains longer than jewelry, and any other objects that may be used as weapons or that may be hazardous to persons or property are specifically prohibited.
- Clothing which fails to adequately cover the body, or which is torn or altered in an explicit or suggestive manner, will not be permitted. Shirts, blouses and tops which are not tucked in must be long enough to cover the midsection when the student is in a standing or sitting position. Pants or shorts must be worn at the waist.

If you have any questions regarding acceptability of a particular item of clothing, check with an Assistant Principal before you wear the item to school. First-time offenders will be required to correct the violation before returning to class. Administrative consequences will be assigned for flagrant first offenses or any subsequent offenses. Class time missed due to inappropriate clothing may be made up as a detention. Persistent violations will be handled as willful insubordination.

Damage to or Loss of School Property

The regulations of our Board of Education are very specific with regard to care of school property. These regulations state that students are required to pay for all damages which they have done to school property. Students may be assigned a disciplinary consequence for willful damage. All report cards, transcripts of credit or graduation diplomas may be withheld until all obligations are met.

Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Prohibition

The possession, use, consumption, distribution, purchase, or sale of any substance, including, but not limited to, alcoholic beverages, drugs (prescription, over the counter and/or illegal), drug paraphernalia, controlled substances, marijuana, look-alike drugs, tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or any other substance when taken into the human body is intended to alter mood or mental state, including any item or substance which is represented by a student to be, or is believed by a student to be any of the aforementioned, regardless of the true nature or the appearance of the substance, is prohibited in school buildings, school buses, and on all other school property or school related events at any time, except with respect to prescription drugs used by the person for whom such drugs were prescribed in the manner intended by the prescribing medical doctor or with respect to a medical cannabis infused product administered to an authorized under *Ashley's Law*. See the "Medication at School" section of the handbook for appropriate use of prescription and over the counter medicine at school.

Drugs/Alcohol

Possession – Any student in possession, possession by consumption of any alcohol, legally controlled substance, illegal substance, prescription medications, or over the counter chemical substance as defined previously, paraphernalia, or any substance purported or represented to be a legally controlled substance or illegal substance while on school property or attending school activities will be subject to school and legal consequences.

Any student in violation is subject to suspension from school for ten (10) days. All violations will be reported to the School Resource Officer and could result in an ordinance violation or arrest.

Cessation programs or other options may be available to reduce the overall suspension time

The administration reserves the right to withhold this option and/or recommend expulsion for a first offense. Repeat offenders will not have this option available and may be recommended to the board of Education for expulsion.

Sale/Delivery/Purchase

Any student who sells, delivers, or purchases any alcohol or drug substance defined above to another student or students during the school day, while on school property or in connection with attendance at school activities will be subject to school and legal consequences. Possession of a large amount or individually packaged substances that are prohibited will also be covered under the provisions of this section.

Any student who sells, delivers, or purchases any alcohol or drug substance is subject to suspension from school for ten (10) days may be recommended for expulsion. All violations will be reported to the School Resource Officer and could result in an ordinance violation or arrest.

Tobacco and E-Cigarette Devices

Possession - Students may not possess, smoke, chew, handle, exchange, or display tobacco items or E-cigarettes on school district property at any time. Tobacco products of any kind are not allowed in the school building, on the school grounds, including all areas maintained by our school district, or on a school bus.

Possession of tobacco products will result in administrative consequences. E-cigarettes found to contain any other substance, will be given consequences aligned to possession of the identified substance.

The school prohibits the possession of smokeless tobacco and any other tobacco products as well as e-cigarettes and vaporizing pens or equipment. Matches and cigarette lighters are also prohibited.

Use/Sale/Delivery - Use, sale, or delivery of tobacco products may result in a suspension from school not to exceed ten (10) days.

Students may receive an Ordinance Violation for tobacco possession/use/sale/delivery.

Prohibited items will be confiscated.

Electronic Devices

Students may not use or possess an electronic mobile device, including but not limited to a mobile (i.e. cellular or smart) phone, video recording device, PDA (personal digital assistant), iPod, mp3 player, laptop, netbook, iPad, tablet, or other similar electronic devices, in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, eavesdrop (e.g. recording a conversation without the consent of all parties) or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer or electronic device. Students are allowed to possess and use mobile devices in school, provided they do not cause a disruption and are not used, seen, or heard during instructional time unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's IEP; (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals. Instructional time is defined as times when students are assigned to a class, study hall, homeroom, or the IMC.

Administrative consequences ranging from verbal warnings to suspension will be issued for violations.

Fighting/Battery/Verbal Altercations

A fight will be defined as "two or more individuals involved in mutual, aggressive physical contact with one another." Battery will be defined as knowingly causing bodily harm or making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with another individual. Students involved in an incident of fighting/battery may be subject to a disciplinary consequence. Subsequent incidents may result in a suspension of up to ten (10) days and a possible recommendation for expulsion from school.

All incidents of fighting/battery will be reported to the School Resource Officer and could result in an ordinance violation or arrest.

Bystanders who encourage or instigate an altercation or interfere with staff members trying to break-up an altercation may be subjected to discipline consequences.

Verbal Altercations that result in a school disruption will result in a disciplinary consequence. Students may also be required to participate in a mediation session.

Fireworks

Possession, sale or use of fireworks or any explosive or incendiary device (lighters, matches) is prohibited in the school building, on school grounds, and on school buses. Violators will be subject to administrative consequences.

Food/Beverages

Food and/or beverages (except water) will be left up to teacher discretion in the classroom. Delivery of outside food products during the school day is not permitted for students.

Gangs and Gang-Related Activities

The presence of gangs or gang-related activities on school grounds is strictly prohibited. Student involvement in gangs, as a gang member or gang associate, or gang-related activities on school grounds, while school is in session, or at school-related events, including the display of gang symbols or paraphernalia, is strictly prohibited.

As used herein, the term "gang" is defined as a somewhat organized group of persons who form an allegiance of some duration. This group is sometimes characterized by a gang name, symbols, special dress, colors, or turf concerns. The activities of the group are anti-social, with its members frequently engaging in criminal activity. The gang creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation within the school environment and/or community.

As used herein, the term "gang member" is defined as a person who actively joins with two or more persons who participate in or who are members of an organized group which has identified itself as a gang or part of a gang. The gang member must do more than be a mere associate of gang members. The gang member must actively participate in the group's anti-social behavior. The gang member frequently wears special dress, colors, or symbols, and claims membership in the group.

As used herein, the term "gang associate" is defined as a person who on occasion spends time in the company of two or more persons who by their activities have been identified as members of a gang. The gang associate does not engage in special dress, colors, or symbols, or have the same turf concerns as do gang members. The gang associate is an individual who does not claim gang membership but whose association with gang members is social in nature.

As used herein, the phrase "gang-related incident" is defined as any incident in which there is gang motivation as one of its elements. Not all criminal activity perpetrated by persons identified as gang members meets this

criterion. Any criminal activity committed by gang members which promotes the group can properly be labeled as a gang-related incident.

As used herein, the phrase "gang-related activity" is defined as any conduct engaged in by a student (1) on behalf of any gang; (2) to perpetuate the existence of any gang; and/or (3) to effect the common purpose and design of any gang, including but not limited to manner of dress, use of symbols, graffiti, gestures, recruitment, harassment, intimidation, threatening or retaliation.

Students involved with any behavior as related to gangs or gang-related activity will be subject to a disciplinary consequence and other legal action as deemed appropriate.

Hall Pass

Students are required to have an appropriately marked and signed Hall Pass when not in their assigned classroom. Students who are in unauthorized possession of one or more passes will be subject to school disciplinary action for theft and/or possession of stolen property. Any student who forges or is involved in forging a pass will be subject to school disciplinary consequences.

Harassment

Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, Teen Dating Violence and Harassment Policy

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a program to respond to incidents of teen dating violence that:

1. Fully implements and enforces each of the following Board policies:
 - a. *Board Policy 7.20*. This policy prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on the student's actual or perceived characteristics of sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; and gender-related identity or expression (this policy includes more protected statuses).
 - b. *Board Policy 7.180*. This policy prohibits students from engaging in bullying, intimidation, and harassment at school, school-related events and electronically. Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.
2. Encourages anyone with information about incidents of teen dating violence to report them to any of the following individuals:
 - a. Any school staff member. School staff shall respond to incidents of teen dating violence by following the District's established procedures for the prevention, identification, investigation, and response to bullying and school violence.
 - b. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Associate Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or a Complaint Manager identified in *Board Policy 7.20*.
3. Incorporates age-appropriate instruction in grades 7 through 12, in accordance with the District's comprehensive health education program in *Board Policy 6.60*. This includes incorporating student social and emotional development into the District's educational program as required by State law and in alignment with *Board policy 6.65*.
4. Incorporates education for school staff, as recommended by the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Associate Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or a Complaint Manager.
5. Notifies students and parent/guardian of this policy.

Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important District goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity orientation, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital status or parental parenting status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic **is prohibited** in each of the following situations:

1. During any school sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school sponsored or school sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the District or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the education process or orderly operation of a school. This paragraph (item #4) applies only when a school administrator or teacher receives a report that bullying through this means has occurred; it does not require staff members to monitor any non-school related activity, function, or program.

Definitions from Section 27-23.7 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7)

Bullying includes *cyber-bullying* and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. Cyberbullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyberbullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Bullying Prevention and Response Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a bullying prevention and response plan that advances the district's goal of providing all students with a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassment. This plan must be consistent with the requirements listed below; each numbered requirement, 1-12, corresponds with the same number in the list of required policy components in 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(b) 1-2.

1. The District uses the definition of *bullying* as provided in this policy.
2. Bullying is contrary to State law and the policy of this District. However, nothing in the District's bullying prevention and response plan is intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views protected under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or under Section 3 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution.
3. Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the building principal, nondiscrimination coordinator, District Complaint Manager or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. All school staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the District Complaint Manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted.

Complaint Manager: and Nondiscrimination Coordinator:	Name:	M. Curt Richardson
	Address:	1809 West Hovey Ave; Normal IL 61761
	Email:	richardmc@unit5.org
	Telephone:	(309) 557-4082

Complaint Manager:	Name:	Dayna Brown
	Address:	1809 West Hovey Ave; Normal IL 61761
	Email:	brownda@unit5.org
	Telephone:	(309) 557-4032

4. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the parents/guardians of every student involved in an alleged incident of bullying and discuss, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.
5. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate and address reports of bullying, by, among other things:
 - a. Making all reasonable efforts to complete the investigation within 10 school days after the date the report of a bullying incident was received and taking into consideration additional relevant information received during the course of the investigation about the reported bullying incident.
 - b. Involving appropriate school support personnel and other staff persons with knowledge, experience, and training on bullying prevention, as deemed appropriate, in the investigation process.
 - c. Notifying the Building Principal or school administrator or designee of the reported incident of bullying as soon as possible after the report is received.

- d. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, providing parents/guardians of the students who are parties to the investigation information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the Building Principal or school administrator or his or her designee to discuss the investigation, the findings of the investigation, and the actions taken to address the reported incident of bullying.
6. The Superintendent or designee shall investigate whether a reported incident of bullying is within the permissible scope of the District's jurisdiction and shall require that the District provide the victim with information regarding services that are available within the District and community, such as counseling, support services, and other programs.
7. A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying **is prohibited**. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as *bullying* for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
8. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the District's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as *bullying* for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.
9. The District's bullying prevention and response plan must be based on the engagement of a range of school stakeholders, including students and parents/guardians.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the District's Internet website, if any, and include it in the student handbook, and, where applicable, post it where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are currently posted. The policy must also be distributed annually to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel, including new employees when hired.
11. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its evaluation and assessment of this policy's outcomes and effectiveness. This process shall include, without limitation:
 - a. The frequency of victimization;
 - b. Student, staff, and family observations of safety at a school;
 - c. Identification or areas of a school where bullying occurs;
 - d. The types of bullying utilized; and
 - e. Bystander intervention or participation.

The evaluation process may use relevant data and information that the District already collects for other purposes. The Superintendent or designee must post the information developed as a result of the policy evaluation on the District's website, or if a website is not available, the information must be provided to school administrators, Board members, school personnel, parents/guardians, and students.

12. The Superintendent or designee shall fully implement the *Board policies*, including without limitation, the following:
 - a. 2.260 ~ A student may use this policy to complain about bullying.
 - b. 6.60 ~ Bullying prevention and character instruction is provided in all grades in accordance with State law.
 - c. 6.65 ~ Student social and emotional development is incorporated in the District's educational program as required by State law.
 - d. 6.235 ~ This policy states that the use of the District's electronic networks is limited to: (1) support of education and/or research, or (2) a legitimate business use.
 - e. 7.20 ~ This policy prohibits *any* person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an actual or perceived characteristic (the list of characteristics in 7.20 is the same as the list in this policy).

- f. 7.185 ~ This policy prohibits teen dating violence on school property, at school sponsored activities, and in vehicles used for school-provided transportation.
- g. 7.190 ~ This policy prohibits, and provides consequences for, hazing, bullying, or other aggressive behaviors, or urging other students to engage in such conduct.
- h. 7.310 ~ This policy prohibits students from, and provides consequences for: (i) accessing and/or distributing at school any written, printed, or electronic material, including material from the Internet, that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, and (ii) creating and/or distributing written, printed, or electronic material, including photographs and Internet material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

Cross-References:

Board Policy 2.260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*

Board Policy 7.20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*

Board Policy 7.180, *Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*

Board Policy 7.190, *Student Behavior*

Racial, Ethnic or Religious Harassment

Racial, ethnic or religious harassment is specifically prohibited and will not be tolerated. Language, gestures, apparel or behaviors which show disrespect, intimidate, threaten or cause injury on the basis of racial, ethnic or religious origin or background will constitute racial, ethnic or religious harassment. Harassment is against the law. A disciplinary consequence will be assigned for engaging in racial, ethnic or religious harassment. Students should report suspected harassment to any teacher, counselor or administrator. Students may be accompanied by a parent/guardian, friend or advisor in making such a report. Every report will be documented and investigated in a prompt, thorough and confidential manner. Reasonable attempts will be made to provide an opportunity for informal consultation and, where appropriate, informal resolution. The complainant will have an opportunity for reasonable input into decision-making regarding the method for resolving the situation.

Sexual/Sexual Orientation Harassment

Sexual harassment is specifically prohibited and will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment is defined as unwanted and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an student's education, or;
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for any education decision affecting such individual, or;
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's school performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive school environment.

As defined, sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to sexual flirtations, advances or propositions; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; graphic or degrading verbal comments about an individual or his or her gender, appearance or sexual orientation; sex-oriented verbal kidding, teasing or joking; displays of sexually suggestive objects or pictures; demands for sexual favors; subtle pressure for sexual activity; and physical contact such as patting, pinching, touching or brushing against another's body.

Students should report suspected sexual harassment to any teacher, counselor or administrator. Students may be accompanied by a parent/guardian, friend or advisor in making such a report. Every report will be documented and investigated in a prompt, thorough and confidential manner. Reasonable attempts will be made to provide an

opportunity for informal consultation and, where appropriate, informal resolution. The complainant will have an opportunity for reasonable input into decision-making regarding the method for resolving the situation. Students also have the option of contacting the district's Title IX coordinator if they feel they have been the victim of sexual discrimination and or harassment. Contact the Title IX Coordinator at the Unit 5 District Office, 557-4400, for more information on how to file a complaint and/or report such occurrences.

Unit 5 respects the right of every student to be free from harassment, including sexual orientation harassment. Sexual harassment is against the law. Disciplinary consequences will be assigned for engaging in sexual harassment.

Cross Reference:

Board Policy 7.180, Preventing of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Board Policy 7.185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Board Policy 7.20, Harassment of Students Prohibited

Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin negatively affect a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from such discrimination and harassment is an important District goal. The District does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, or national origin in any of its education programs or activities, and it complies with federal and State non-discrimination laws.

Examples of Prohibited Conduct

Examples of conduct that may constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: disciplining students more harshly and frequently because of their race, color, or national origin; denying students access to high-rigor academic courses, extracurricular activities, or other educational opportunities based on their race, color, or national origin; denying language services or other educational opportunities to English learners; and assigning students special education services based on a student's race, color, or national origin.

Harassment is a form of prohibited discrimination. Examples of conduct that may constitute harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: the use of racial, ethnic or ancestral slurs or stereotypes; taunts; name-calling; offensive or derogatory remarks about a person's actual or perceived race, color, or national origin; the display of racially-offensive symbols; racially-motivated physical threats and attacks; or other hateful conduct.

Making a Report or Complaint: Investigation Process

Individuals are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Reports under this policy will be processed under Board Policy 2.260, Uniform Grievance Procedure.

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

Federal and State Agencies

If the District fails to take necessary corrective action to stop harassment based on race, color, or national origin, further relief may be available through the Ill. Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) or the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office

for Civil Rights. To contact IDHR, go to: <https://dhr.illinois.gov/aboutus/contact-idhr.html> or call (312) 814-6200 (Chicago) or (217) 785-5100 (Springfield).

Prevention and Response Program

The District maintains a prevention and response program to respond to complaints of discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including harassment, and retaliation. The program includes procedures for responding to complaints which:

1. Reduce or remove, to the extent practicable, barriers to reporting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation;
2. Permit any person who reports or is the victim of an incident of alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to be accompanied when making a report by a support individual of the person's choice who complies with the District's policies and rules;
3. Permit anonymous reporting, except that an anonymous report may not be the sole basis of any disciplinary action;
4. Offer remedial interventions or take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate on a case-by-case basis;
5. Offer, but do not require or unduly influence, a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation the option to resolve allegations directly with the accused; and
6. Protects a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation from suffering adverse consequences as a result of a report of, investigation of, or a response to the incident.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with Board Policy 7.190, Student Behavior.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited (see Board policy 2.260, Uniform Grievance Procedure).

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

Cross Reference Board Policy 2.270

Insubordination

As a student of Unit 5, there is an absolute obligation and responsibility to follow verbal and written instructions from any faculty member and to properly identify oneself to any staff member in regard to all aspects of student behavior and conduct at school and school activities. Willful and deliberate refusal to do so is insubordination and may result in a disciplinary consequence.

Inappropriate Items for School

Laser pointers, cameras, video equipment, pornographic and offensive material as well as other items, too numerous to mention, that have no acceptable purpose for school may not be brought to school or on buses. If any such items are brought to school, they will be stored in the main office until parents/guardians make appropriate arrangements for the property to be returned.

Language and Gestures

Students are responsible at all times for their language and gestures. Profane or obscene language is always unacceptable. Students responsible for improper language and gestures directed toward any teacher, staff member, or students are to be reported to the appropriate Assistant Principal immediately for appropriate disciplinary action. Students will be subject to a disciplinary consequence for using obscene or otherwise offensive language or gestures toward a staff member. Disciplinary consequences will also be assigned for incidents not directed toward a staff member.

Locks and Lockers

All lockers must be locked. A combination lock that is sold and serviced by Unit 5 is recommended.

Lockers are school property. The school retains ultimate control of all lockers, including student lockers, and said lockers are subject to search to prevent school lockers from being used in illicit ways or for illegal purposes. The school reserves the right to inspect all lockers at all times to detect health or safety problems or violations of school rules or the law, including but not limited to the presence of illegal drugs, weapons or contraband, notwithstanding the fact that the lockers are assigned to the individual Unit 5 students who assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers.

Students are not to share lockers, use more than one locker, or use a locker that is not assigned to them.

Loitering

Loitering in the hallways in such a manner as to impede or hamper passing traffic, impede or hamper access to classrooms, offices or restrooms, harass or intimidate other students, create disturbance because of excessive noise or otherwise disrupt the orderly operation of the school is prohibited. Violators will be subject to a disciplinary consequence.

Obstruction of an Investigation

Students who willfully obstruct the investigation of a school official by withholding information in response to direct questions or by giving information known to be false present a potential danger to student and staff safety will be subject to a disciplinary consequence.

Parking Regulations

Cars driven to school by students and parked anywhere on school grounds other than in the student parking lot will be subject to being towed without warning. This restriction applies to all students from 6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. each

school day. School disciplinary action can be taken against students who violate parking lot restrictions and/or trespass on private property.

1. Parking is authorized in the student parking lot only. Students may not park in or drive through the Faculty parking lots. Students may never drive behind the school. Students may only enter the Student Parking lot at the "Entrance" (NCWHS north driveway or east driveway at NCHS) and may not enter through the "Exit."
2. Each vehicle must have a High School permit. Permits are available at registration. Juniors and Seniors will be given priority in the purchase of parking permits at registration in the fall. If more parking is available after registration, a lottery will be held for Sophomores. A fee is charged for each permit and that permit may only be used by the student who purchased it
3. Permits must be permanently affixed to the lower left corner of the front window.
4. Each permit is issued for a specific vehicle. If this vehicle is replaced, the permit may be transferred by completing a new application in the Assistant Principal's Office. If the permit is not reusable, bring the remnants to the Assistant Principal for a replacement. If it is not recoverable at all, parent/guardian should contact the Assistant Principal. Temporary permits may be arranged with the Assistant Principal for special circumstances.
5. Vehicles may not be parked in the driveways or driving aisles.
6. All traffic laws, including but not limited to reckless driving and posted signs must be obeyed. The speed limit is 10 M.P.H.
7. Vehicles parked or operated in violation of these regulations will be towed at the owner's expense and/or other disciplinary consequences that may also include a temporary or permanent loss of parking privileges.
8. Unit 5 cannot be responsible for any damage that may occur in the student parking lot. Please be sure that your personal automobile insurance coverage is sufficient.

Parking on campus is a privilege. Students who fail to comply with disciplinary and/or academic expectations may be revoked. A refund will not be available.

Personal Property

Textbooks, articles of clothing and personal possessions should all be clearly marked with your name. You are discouraged to bring expensive equipment to school, school activities or on school field trips. The school district provides hall lockers for students to store their personal property. The school provides adequate facilities for students to store their belongings, but the school cannot take the responsibility for these belongings. Each student must be responsible for personal property and should therefore keep the locker locked and not share lock combinations with other students. If property is lost or missing, it must be reported to the teacher and the main office immediately.

Students are strongly encouraged not to carry large amounts of money at school. If necessary, the best practice is to bring a check for the proper amount.

Sexual Acts and Public Display of Affection

Public display of affection, including but not limited to, kissing, prolonged embraces, excessive inappropriate touching, and sexual acts are not appropriate for school and will not be permitted. A disciplinary consequence will be assigned to students that engage in public acts of affection. Parents/guardians may be contacted beginning with the second and all subsequent offenses. Continued offenses will be considered willful insubordination.

Search and Seizure

To maintain order and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects, including student vehicles. "School authorities" include school resource officers.

School Property and Equipment as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there. This paragraph applies to student vehicles parked on school property. In addition, building principals shall require each high school student, in return for the privilege of parking on school property, to consent in writing to school searches of his or her vehicle, and personal effects therein, without notice and without suspicion of wrongdoing.

The Superintendent may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

Student Searches

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the District's student conduct rules. The search itself must be conducted in a manner which is reasonably related to its objectives and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

When feasible, the search should be conducted as follows:

- Outside the view of others, including students.
- In the presence of a school administrator or adult witness.
- By a employee with a professional educator license or school resource officer of the same sex as the student.

Immediately following a search, a written report shall be made by the school authority who conducted the search, and given to the Superintendent. The student's parents/guardians shall be notified of the search as soon as possible.

Access to Student Social Networking Passwords and Websites

School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates the school's disciplinary rules or school district policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination. School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website.

Seizure of Property

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the District's policies or rules, such evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, such evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

Questioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity

Before a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the building principal or designee will: (a) notify or attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian and document the time and manner in writing; (b) make reasonable efforts to ensure the student's parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that a school employee is present during the questioning; and (c) if practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure that a law enforcement officer trained in promoting safe interactions and communications with youth is present during the questioning.

Cross Reference:
Board Policy 7.140, *Search and Seizure*

Snowballs

Throwing snow and/or ice presents a serious safety hazard to persons and property and is prohibited. This prohibition includes snow and/or ice thrown onto school grounds from adjacent property or at school buses or other vehicles. Disciplinary consequences will be assigned.

Substitute Teachers and Other Substitute Employees

Substitute teachers and other substitute employees retain the same responsibility and authority as the persons for whom they are employed. Students' obligations toward substitute employees are the same as toward permanent employees.

Theft or Possession of Stolen Property

Students who find or are in possession of personal property not belonging to them, should bring the items immediately to the office. Students responsible for stealing school or private property (including student identification cards) or for being in unauthorized possession of property that does not belong to the student, whether or not it is "stolen", or reported as stolen will be subject to a disciplinary consequence.

Specific consequences may be modified due to the relative value and/or importance of the stolen property and other circumstances of the situation. "I found it," "I bought it," "It's not mine," or "I didn't know it was there," will not be acceptable reasons for a student to be in possession of lost or stolen property.

Threats Directed Toward or Actions Taken Against Staff Members

Students who are responsible for threatening teachers' or other staff members' personal safety or for threatening or vandalizing their personal property will be subject to a disciplinary consequence, a possible referral to the Regional Alternative School's SAVE program, possible expulsion proceedings, and possible legal action as deemed appropriate by the individual staff member and school district.

Transportation/School Buses

Eligible students are assigned to a specific bus route and pick-up/drop-off point. Temporary changes must be arranged in advance through the Assistant Principals. Behavior on the bus and at the pick-up/drop-off point must conform to the requirements for school conduct described in the Student Conduct and Discipline section of this handbook. Students must recognize and yield to the authority of the bus driver. Infractions that cannot be resolved by the driver will be reported to the Assistant Principals. Consequences range from warnings to suspension from the bus.

For all transportation related issues, please contact the transportation call line at 557-4BUS (557-4287).

Rules for Bus Riders

- 1.
2. Bus behavior has the same expectations as the school/classroom.
3. Talking and other distractions to the driver must be kept to a minimum.
4. No talking at all when the bus comes to a railroad crossing, so the driver can hear any approaching trains.
5. While on the bus and while the bus is in motion, you must stay in your seats with arms and legs out of the aisle.
6. Get permission before opening a window, and do not throw or stick anything out of the window.
7. There is to be no loud talking and/or yelling on the bus.

8. Cross the road at least ten (10) feet in front of the bus and then only on a signal from the driver.
9. While unloading, let the student closest to the front get off the bus first.
10. Move away from the bus door quickly after unloading. Stay clear of the rear wheels. Never walk behind the bus.
11. No inappropriate use of cell phones will be allowed on the bus (i.e. taking pictures, movies, recordings, etc.).

Courses Meeting at Bloomington Area Career Center (BACC)

A number of students have elective courses that meet only at the BACC. District transportation will be provided to and from the BACC each day with the exception of the first session. Students participating in the first session will need to transport themselves to BACC. Unit 5 will provide return transportation from BACC to the home high school. Private transportation may be used with advanced written approval by an Assistant Principal. Students who violate this provision will be assigned administrative consequences.

In addition, students who enroll in BACC will be subject to a quarterly performance review that will consider student behavior, attendance, and performance, with the possibility of being moved out of BACC coursework due to concerns in these areas. **Unauthorized Areas**

Students are not to be in unauthorized areas of the building during the school day or at times before or after the school day without specific permission from a Unit 5 staff member. Students out of class on a pass or to go to the restroom are to take the shortest route to their nearest destination and to return by the same route. Students who violate this directive may be subject to penalties for vandalism and/or theft that occur while they are in an unauthorized area as well as penalties for being in an unauthorized area without permission.

The parking lots, locker rooms (when not in PE class), hallways, restrooms (when not in possession of a hall pass), auditorium, multipurpose room, and any vacant classroom or office are considered to be unauthorized areas. Students are never to be in these areas without express permission from the Assistant Principals. Administrative consequences will be issued for being in an unauthorized area.

Video Surveillance

Video cameras are in use throughout the school to help insure the safety of the students and staff in the building. Students who tamper with or damage the video equipment will be assigned a disciplinary consequence.

Explanation of Student Disciplinary Interventions

Student Conferences

Based on the disciplinary infraction, students may be required to have a conference with a teacher, administrator, or another student. The conference would provide an opportunity for all parties to discuss the situation and collaborate towards resolution of conflict or problem.

Student Contracts

Student contracts define for all parties the behavioral and academic expectations for students and supports that will be provided to students as they re-enter from another placement, return from a suspension or expulsion, or after a series of disciplinary infractions.

Teacher Detentions

Teachers may assign detentions to be completed with them. They will issue a copy of the Classroom Detention Notice to the student and will allow the student at least one-day notice. If the student fails to complete this obligation assigned by the teacher, the length of the detention will be doubled by the Assistant Principal. If this assignment is not completed within five (5) school days, an administrative detention may be assigned.

Loss of Privileges

Loss of privileges may include, but is not limited to, lunch detention, loss of parking pass, extracurricular/school event attendance privileges, and/or Senior Homeroom exemption.

Administrative Detentions

Students may receive detentions from an Administrator for violations of handbook policy. If the detention assignment is not completed by the deadline, further administrative consequences will be issued.

Removal from Classes

The Assistant Principals may remove a student from one or more classes and require attendance in the office or Study Hall on a temporary basis. Credit will be given for classroom work that is missed due to removal from classes only if the student submits completed assignments the day of return to class or as agreed upon with individual teachers. It is the student's responsibility to secure assignments from teachers.

Suspension from School

Suspensions from school include in-school suspensions and out-of-school suspensions, and shall be in accordance with Board policy 7.200, *Suspension Procedures*. If a student is suspended from school for gross disobedience or misconduct, he or she will be sent home for a specified period of time. During the period of suspension, the student may not be on school grounds and may not attend or participate in any school activities. A suspension ends when the student is readmitted to classes.

Credit will be given for classroom work missed due to suspension from school only if completed assignments are submitted within a period of time not to exceed the length of the suspension, up to a maximum of three (3) days. Assignments given before the period of suspension will be given credit if submitted upon a student's return to school.

Expulsion from School

Expulsions from school shall be in accordance with Board policy 7.210, *Expulsion Procedures*. Students who engage in gross disobedience or misconduct may be expelled from school for a definite time period not to exceed two calendar years. During the period of expulsion, the student may not be on school grounds and may not attend or participate in any school activities.

Appeal of Discipline Decisions

Any parent/guardian has the right to request a review of any disciplinary action. If such a review is desired, the Associate Principal should be contacted as soon as possible in order to initiate the appeal procedure.

Step 1 Associate Principal

Step 2 Unit 5 Executive Director of Human Resources and Student Services
(557.4400)

Step 3 Unit 5 Superintendent (557.4400)

Student Services

Accessibility

Assistance for persons with disabilities is available and should be requested as needed. Contact the high school office for assistance.

Education of Children with Disabilities

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services.

The School provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to each “child with a disability” enrolled in the school. The term “child with disability” means a child between ages 3 and the day before their 22nd birthday for whom it is determined that special education services are needed, except those children with disabilities who turn 22 years of age during the school year are eligible for special education services through the end of the school year. It is the intent of the school to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

A copy of the publication “Explanation of Procedural Safeguards Available to Parents of Students with Disabilities” may be obtained from the school district office.

Students with disabilities who do not qualify for an individualized education program, as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and implementing provisions of this Illinois law, may qualify for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if the student (i) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of a physical or mental impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

For further information, please contact:

_____ (name)
 _____ (phone number)
 _____ (office location)

PUNS (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services)

Database Information for Students and Parents or Guardians

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) maintains a statewide database known as the PUNS database (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) that records information about individuals with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities who are potentially in need of services.

IDHS uses the data on PUNS to select individuals for services as funding becomes available, to develop proposals and materials for budgeting, and to plan for future needs. The PUNS database is available for children with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities with unmet service needs.

Registration to be included on the PUNS database is the first step toward receiving developmental disabilities services in this State. A child who is not on the PUNS database will not be in the queue for State developmental disabilities services.

For more information and to sign up for PUNS, see the Illinois Department of Human Services PUNS information page at <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=41131>.

You may also contact the following District employee for assistance:

Carrie Chapman, Director of Special Education: 557.4400

English Language Learners

The District offers opportunities for English Learners to develop high levels of academic attainment in English and to meet the same academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to attain.

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be: (1) be involved in the education of their children; and (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students; and (3) participate and serve on the District's Transitional Bilingual Education Programs Parent Advisory Committee.

For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Language Learners program, contact the Director of Multilingual Services, Leslie Webb at the unit office, 309.557.4039.

Child Find Responsibility

Our school actively seeks out and identifies all students from 9th to 12th grade or through age 21 who may be eligible for special education and related services. Procedures include ongoing review of each child's performance and progress by teachers and other professional personnel, in order to refer those children who exhibit problems which interfere with their educational progress and/or their adjustment to the educational setting, suggesting that they may be eligible for special education and related services.

When a staff member concludes that an individual is in need of referral for an evaluation based on factors such as a child's educational progress, interaction with others, or other functioning in the school environment, the member shall refer the student to the building based intervention team for consideration of an individual evaluation.

Related Service Logs

For a child with an individualized education program ("IEP"), the school district must create related service logs that record the type of related services administered under the child's IEP and the minutes of each type of related service that has been administered. The school will provide a child's parent/guardian a copy of the related service log at the annual review of the child's IEP upon request and at any other time upon request.

Foreign Exchange Program

Classes and credit will be included so the foreign exchange student coming to Unit 5 can experience a full year of academics. The student will be a senior; however, only a certificate of attendance will be issued. Applications must be submitted to the Building Principal by May 1 of the previous year.

Student Monitors or Assistants

Some teachers utilize student assistance for secretarial work, lab assistance, office monitors, etc. In such cases, a "Request for Student Help" form should be completed and returned to the Assistant Principal.

Students must be under the direct supervision of a staff member at all times while serving as a student assistant and must follow all school rules regarding attendance and conduct.

Counseling Office

- Course selection/scheduling for students
- Career counseling, including Career Cruising
- College and Vocational counseling
- Registration of new students
- Individual counseling
- Academic counseling
- Communication with parents
- Collaboration with outside agencies as needed
- Test administration
- Assist with college applications, recommendations, and scholarships
- Gathering homework assignments
- Group counseling

Employment Certificates (Work Permits)

Applications for Employment Certificates for 14 and 15-year-old students are available. Contact the Registrar in the Counseling Office. Certificates of Age will be issued for students 16 years of age and over.

Chestnut Health Services

A Chestnut Health Services Counselor provides confidential counseling services for students. Students can be referred by school staff, parent/guardian, or themselves to talk with the chestnut Counselor about a variety of life challenges including mental health and substance abuse concerns. To learn more about this service, contact the guidance office.

Project Oz Youth Specialist

Project Oz is a non-for-profit agency that operates in McLean County. A School Youth Specialist's responsibilities are to assist in the areas of truancy, academic deficiency, personal stress, and family related issues. Services may include tutoring, assisting families with locating resources, and one to one or family counseling. To learn more about this service, please contact the guidance office.

Applying For College

1. After selecting possible colleges, fill out an application online at the college website. Prepare applications thoroughly, having an adult review your application. Most online applications allow for the student to save their work along the way before submitting.
2. Application fees are usually required. Students with financial need may qualify for an application fee waiver. Check with your Counselor.
3. Obtain a "Transcript Release Form" from the Counseling Office or Counseling website for each college application in order for your official transcript to be sent. Each transcript will cost \$3. Transcripts are only considered official if mailed from the high school.
4. Official ACT and/or SAT scores must be ordered directly from ACT (www.actstudent.org) or SAT College Board
5. (www.collegeboard.com).

Testing

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test /National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT)

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT) is given to juniors in October. There is a fee charged for this test. Registration period will be in the daily announcements. State Farm and a number of other corporations and businesses use this test as a means of awarding scholarships. All college bound students are encouraged to participate.

Pre-ACT

Students in Grade 10 will take the preACT Secure, and students in Grade 9 will take the preACT 9 Secure on a date set by the state which usually occurs in mid-April. The purpose of the assessment is to determine student/school/district performance in Math and ELA.

AP Tests

The Advanced Placement (AP) program is offered by The College Board and provides high school students the opportunity to take a three-hour exam in May to potentially qualify for college course credit. All students throughout the world take a given exam on the same day. Although The College Board does not mandate taking an AP course before completing the exam, it is much more likely a student completing an AP course will be able to attain a qualifying score. Each exam is graded on a point basis with a range from one to five. A score of five, four, or three is considered to be a qualifying score. Illinois law requires each public institution of higher education to comply with the same standard of awarding course credit to any student receiving a score of 3 or higher on a College Board Advanced Placement examination and applying the credit to meet a corresponding course requirement for degree completion at that institution of higher education. However, there is no guarantee that a college will accept AP credit. At the same time, The College Board indicates that over 90% of United States colleges accept AP credit and/or offer advanced placement. A student should determine potential credit or placement with the college he/she plans to attend. College websites often address AP credit and other opportunities to get advanced standing.

There is a cost for each exam. Students with financial need may qualify for a free/reduced fee. Students should check with the AP Coordinator (Counseling Office) to determine eligibility for the fee reduction. Registration for the exam will be necessary by the end of February in order to meet College Board deadlines.

Unit 5 is pleased to offer AP courses in several disciplines (English, foreign languages, mathematics, music, science, and social studies). Unit 5 will only offer AP exams that correlate to the ones taught this school year. Each AP class is expected to have the rigor of a comparable college level course. There are several AP options for junior and senior students.

For additional information and AP test schedule, contact your counselor, AP Coordinator, or The College Board website at <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html>. That site will lead you to specific AP information.

College Entrance Tests

Most colleges require a college entrance test as a part of their admission requirements--American College Test (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Illinois requires junior students to complete the ACT on a state designated testing date. The ACT is a graduation requirement for Illinois students. The state sponsored ACT will be administered, at no cost, to all juniors.

College entrance tests are usually taken in the spring or summer of the junior year in high school. You can take these tests as many times as you like. There is a fee charged for taking these tests. General information, test sites

and registration materials for these tests are available in the Counseling Office or at www.actstudent.org or www.collegeboard.com.

School Psychologist - Social Worker

The school district employs school psychologists and school social workers who have specialized training. If you desire additional help with a particular problem, arrangements may be made by your counselor or Assistant Principal.

School Resource Officer

Through a joint partnership with the Normal Police Department, Unit 5 utilizes the School Resource Officer (SRO) program. The SRO acts as a liaison of the Normal Police by assisting students with law related advise, documenting police reports, and working with the Assistant Principals regarding investigations of a criminal nature.

Instructional Media Center (IMC)

IMC Access and Procedures

The Instructional Materials Center is open every day before and after school. Listed below are guidelines informing you on how to attend the IMC, expected behavior when using the IMC, and procedures for checking out IMC materials?

Before and After School:

1. Students are welcome and encouraged to use the IMC before and after school.
2. Students may use this time to locate learning materials, study, or use computers.

During Lunch Periods:

1. Students are welcome to come to the IMC during their lunch period.
2. Students may come to the IMC during homeroom only with a pass from their teacher.

From a Classroom:

1. Students must have a pass from their teacher to come to the IMC during class.
2. Since study hall students and classes are scheduled in the IMC, faculty are asked to send no more than five students at a time from class with a pass unless prior arrangement with the IMC staff have been made.

From a Study Hall:

1. Students must sign the IMC sign-out sheet in the study hall.
2. When classes are in the IMC, the number of students admitted from study hall will be adjusted because of seating limitations and demands of classes on computer availability. First priority will be given to students who have a pass from a teacher to work on an assignment.
3. Come directly to the IMC: do not stop at a locker, restroom, or Counseling Office.

Student Expectations for Using the IMC

Respect your peers' learning

1. Students must have a purpose for being in the IMC, even if it's just reading for pleasure or working on homework. Students must be engaged in what they came to the library to do, not spend the time napping or socializing.
2. Students are requested to keep their voices at a respected noise level.
3. Students must respect the right of everyone to accomplish study and work goals.
4. Students are requested to turn off cell phone ringers.

Respect your IMC Facility

1. Return library books, textbooks, laptops, supplies and games to designated places.
2. One student per seat.

3. Keep feet off of furniture.
4. Report broken or missing items.
5. Return furniture to its proper place.
6. Keep the facility clean by throwing away trash and picking up after yourself.

Circulation of IMC Materials

1. Your student ID serves as your library card for checking out all materials and technologies.
2. Students may check out books for reading and research in addition to school textbooks. Books may be checked out for three weeks. Books may be renewed unless a reserve request has been issued. Students are given a grace period after which a fine of \$.10 per school day is charged for overdue books.
3. Reference and reserve books may be checked out after school. These books are due before first hour the following school day. Overdue reference and reserve books are charged \$.10 per day.
4. Returning materials on time is your responsibility and will save you money. Overdue notices will be sent weekly. Report to the IMC as soon as possible after receiving an overdue notice. Students are financially responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items checked out in their name. Fines and lost book charges are collected at registration and must be paid by seniors before graduating.

Textbooks

Textbooks are checked out to students through the IMC during school registration with their student ID. Students are asked to write their name inside the cover of the textbook. Students who are dropping/transferring schools are responsible for returning all textbooks to the IMC before they leave. The drop form is available from the Assistant Principal. For students that are dropping a class, the drop form is available in the Counseling Office. All textbooks will be collected in the classrooms and returned to the IMC at the end of each semester (for semester classes) or at the end of the school year (for year-long classes). Students will be charged for lost, missing or destroyed textbooks at the end of the school year.

School Nurse

The primary function of the school nurse is to promote student health and safety and maintain student records. If a student becomes ill or injured at school when the nurse is not present, another school official will provide care. Please contact the school nurse at your child's school any time you have questions or concerns. This handbook is not intended to be all inclusive. Students will be excluded from school for any health condition that in the professional, clinical judgment of the Certified School Nurse places that student or others in the school community at a health or safety risk. Certified School Nurses utilize Evidence Based Practice and collaboration with health care professionals and organizations to make decisions best for the students and school community.

Procedures

1. If you become ill or injured during the school day, report to the Nurse's Office with a Hall Pass from the class you are in or will be missing. Do not come in between classes without a Hall Pass.
2. Sign in and out of the Nurse's Office using the computer and your student ID.
3. If it is necessary for you to be excused from school, the nurse will contact your parent/ guardian and will write an Absent/Tardy Notice. Do not call/text your parent/guardian before reporting to the nurse.
4. No treatment except first aid will be given by the nurse. If additional treatment is required, the nurse will contact parent/guardian to make appropriate arrangements.
5. If the school nurse is not available, you are to report directly to the Main Office.

Illness or Accidents at School

All accidents and illnesses which occur at school or at a school function are to be reported to the office. If they are considered serious or if the accident or illness remains in question to the school nurse or office staff, parents will be notified.

The Illinois General Assembly does not require school districts to carry student accident insurance. If a student is injured at school or during a school activity, the parent/guardian's health insurance company should be contacted for coverage.

The Unit 5 District does make available low cost student accident insurance for all students that attend our schools. This insurance application is available at all our school buildings.

Additionally, the State of Illinois All Kids health insurance program is available to all children in the state regardless of income level. This program provides health insurance for a child which includes accident insurance. Information about the All Kids program can be found at www.illinois.gov/hfs/medicalprograms/allkids.

Cross Reference:
Board Policy 4.170, *Safety*

Emergency Numbers

Emergency information will be maintained for all students and should be filled out during the registration process. It is important to have the name and phone number of a person other than the parent/guardian to call in case of a school emergency when parents cannot be reached. Please contact your school office if any changes in this emergency information occur during the school year.

Immunization, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations

Illinois law requires that all students entering an early childhood program, kindergarten, sixth, or ninth grades, or transferring from out of state, have a physical examination within one calendar year *prior* to the date of entry. The examination must include a complete immunization record and medical history. Students transferring from another Illinois school must present copies of their current Illinois health records.

Section 27-8.1 of the Illinois School Code states: "If a child does not comply...then the local school authority shall exclude that child from school until such time as the child presents proof of having had either the health examination or those required immunizations which are medically possible to receive immediately."

All students entering ECE, Pre-K, Kindergarten, 6th grade, and 9th grade must submit a current physical exam and complete immunization record by the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. For detailed information on immunization requirements, click on the link below or check with your health care provider.

http://www.isbe.net/pdf/school_health/immunization-requirements.pdf. Children without physicals and immunizations will NOT be allowed to start school until the school nurse receives the records. NO appointment cards will be accepted. *Sports physicals are NOT accepted for this requirement.* It is strongly recommended that you turn in these requirements by the walk in registration date each year either in person or by mailing it to the school.

Parents/guardians who object to the health examination or immunizations on religious grounds must present an "Illinois Certificate of Religious Exemption to Required Immunizations and/or Examination" form found at: <https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/religious-exemption-form-081815-040816.pdf>

to the local school authority. This form must be signed by both the parent/guardian and the child's health care provider responsible for performing the child's health examination. If a child cannot be fully immunized because of health reasons (medical contraindication), the physician must state this fact on the health examination certificate.

In the event of a diagnosed case of a communicable disease the school nurse will consult with the McLean County Health Department to determine the need to exclude students not protected by immunizations, utilizing the most current Illinois Department Public Health Rules and Regulations.

The following immunizations are required by the State of Illinois for students in grades Pre-K through 12. The specific requirements for each are determined in Section 665.240 (Basic Immunization) and Section 665.250 (Proof of Immunity) of Title 77 of the Illinois Administrative Code.

1. DPT/DTaP/Tdap
2. OPV/IPV
3. Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)
4. Varicella
5. Hepatitis B (required for early learning programs and 6th grades and up)
6. Hib (required for early learning programs)
7. Pneumococcal (required for early learning programs)
8. Meningococcal (required for 6th-8th grades and 12th grade)

Eye Examination

Effective in 2008, Illinois law requires all children in kindergarten or enrolling for the first time in an Illinois school to have an eye examination completed by a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist on file at the school by the first day of school.

Exemptions

A student will be exempted from the above requirements for:

- Religious grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the Building Principal an "Illinois Certificate of Religious Exemption" form signed by both the parent/guardian and the health care provider;
<https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/religious-exemption-form-081815-040816.pdf>
- Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification;
- Eye examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
- Dental examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Cross Reference:

Board Policy 7.100, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students

Homeless Child

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment. *Board policy 6.140 governs the enrollment of homeless children.*

Medical

Student Medication

Students should not take medication during school hours or during school-related activities unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that

it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian and healthcare provider with prescriptive authority must complete a *School Medication Authorization Form* requesting that the school dispense the medication to the child and otherwise follow the District's procedures on dispensing medication.

Except when: (1) the school nurse or a delegated school employee administers or supervises a student's self-administration of limited over-the-counter medications; or (2) the school nurse or trained personnel, as defined by State law, administers an undesignated epinephrine injector, e.g.: EpiPen[®], an opioid antagonist, undesignated asthma medication, or undesignated glucagon to a person that the school nurse or trained personnel in good faith professionally believes is having an anaphylactic reaction, an opioid related overdose, respiratory distress, or life-threatening low blood sugar under a standing protocol from a licensed physician; no District employee shall administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. A parent/guardian may opt-out from the administration by or supervision of a student's self-administration by the school nurse or delegated school employee of limited over-the-counter medications during online registration or by completing Exhibit 7.270-E9, [Parent/Guardian Opt-Out from Administration or Self-Administration of Limited Over-the-Counter Medications](#).

No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in Board Policy 7.270 and its implementing procedures.

Nothing shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

School District Supply of Undesignated Limited Over-the-Counter Medication

The Superintendent or designee may maintain a supply of undesignated limited over-the-counter medications in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary consistent with Policy 7.270. This may include but is not limited to: normal saline skin cleanser, Lubriderm lotion, anti-itch cream, eye irritation relief drops, contact solution, orajel, antibiotic ointment, first aid and burn cream, and numbing wipes.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector and/or asthma medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion. A student may self-administer other medication, including medication required under a qualifying plan, dispensed by a delegated school employee, provided the student's parent/guardian and healthcare provider with prescriptive authority has completed and signed a *School Medication Authorization Form*. A student's self-administration of medication other than an epinephrine injector or asthma medication must be under the direct supervision of a delegated school employee. A qualifying plan means: (1) an asthma action plan; (2) an Individual Health Care Action Plan; (3) an Illinois Food Allergy Emergency Action Plan and Treatment Authorization Form; (4) a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or (5) a plan pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The District shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication, including asthma medication, epinephrine injector, or medication required under a qualifying plan, or the storage of any medication by school personnel. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the District and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of asthma medication, an epinephrine injector, opioid antagonist, and/or medication, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication

The Superintendent or designee shall implement 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f) and maintain a supply of undesignated asthma medication in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. Undesignated asthma medication means an asthma medication prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated asthma medication to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having respiratory distress. Respiratory distress may be characterized as mild-to-moderate or severe. Each building administrator and/or his or her corresponding school nurse shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law.

District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine Injectors

The Superintendent or designee shall implement 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f) of the School Code and maintain a supply of undesignated epinephrine injectors in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. Undesignated epinephrine injector means an epinephrine injector prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated epinephrine injector to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an anaphylactic reaction. Each building administrator and/or his or her corresponding school nurse shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law.

District Supply of Undesignated Opioid Antagonists

The Superintendent or designee shall implement Section 22-30(f) of the School Code and maintain a supply of undesignated opioid antagonists in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. Opioid antagonist means a drug that binds to opioid receptors and blocks or inhibits the effect of opioids acting on those receptors, including, but not limited to, naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Undesignated opioid antagonist is not defined by the School Code; for purposes of this policy it means an opioid antagonist prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated opioid antagonist to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an opioid overdose. Each building administrator and/or his or her corresponding school nurse shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law. See the website for the Ill. Dept. of Human Services for information about opioid prevention, abuse, public awareness, and a toll-free number to provide information and referral services for persons with questions concerning substance abuse treatment.

School District Supply of Undesignated Glucagon

The Superintendent or designee shall implement 105 ILCS 145/27 and maintain a supply of undesignated glucagon in the name of the District in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

When a student's prescribed glucagon is not available or has expired, a school nurse or delegated care aide may administer undesignated glucagon only if he or she is authorized to do so by a student's diabetes care plan.

Administration of Medical Cannabis

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act allows a parent/guardian of a student who is a minor or any other individual who is at least 21 years of age to register with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH) as a designated caregiver to administer a medical cannabis infused product to a student.

A designated caregiver is allowed to administer a medical cannabis infused product to a child who is a student on the premises of his or her school or on his or her school bus if:

1. Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH;
2. Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the District; and

3. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis, specifying the times where or the special circumstances under which the medical cannabis infused product must be administered.

After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver shall immediately remove it from school premises or the school bus. The product may not be administered in a manner that, in the opinion of the District or school, would create a disruption to the educational environment or cause exposure of the product to other students.

State law does not require school personnel to administer medical cannabis to students. Trained school nurses and administrators are allowed, but not required, to administer a medical cannabis-infused product to a student who is a registered qualifying patient. Prior to the administration of a medical cannabis-infused product under subsection, a school nurse or school administrator must annually complete a training curriculum developed by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Department of Public Health, on the administration of medical cannabis-infused products and must submit to the school's administration proof of its completion.

A trained school nurse or administrator is allowed to administer a medical cannabis infused product to a child who is a student while on school premises, at a school-sponsored activity, or before or after normal school activities, including while the student is in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property or while the student is being transported on a school bus if:

1. The student possesses a valid registry identification card issued by IDPH;
2. A copy of the registry identification card is provided to the District; and
3. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a *School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis*, specifying the times where or the special circumstances under which the medical cannabis infused product must be administered.

The written authorization and a copy of the registry identification card(s) must be kept on file in the office of the school nurse. Medical cannabis infused products must be stored with the school nurse at all times in a manner consistent with storage of other student medication at the school and may be accessible only by the school nurse or a school administrator.

Medical cannabis infused product includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited.

Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver pursuant to this Board Policy 7.270 is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

Void Policy

The School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication section of Board Policy 7.270 and this Handbook is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for undesignated asthma medication from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school asthma medication.

This School District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine Injectors section of Board Policy 7.270 and this Handbook is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for undesignated epinephrine injectors from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school epinephrine injectors.

The School District Supply of Undesignated Opioid Antagonists section of Board Policy 7.270 and this Handbook is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for opioid antagonists from a health care professional who has been delegated prescriptive authority for opioid antagonists in accordance with Section 5-23 of the Substance Use Disorder Act, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school opioid antagonists.

The School District Supply of Undesignated Glucagon section of Board Policy 7.270 and this Handbook is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for glucagon from a qualifying prescriber; or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school glucagon.

The Administration of Medical Cannabis section of Board Policy 7.270 and this Handbook is void and the District reserves the right not to implement it if the District or school is in danger of losing federal funding.

Administration of Undesignated Medication

Upon any administration of an undesignated medication permitted by State law, the Superintendent or designee(s) will ensure all notifications required by State law and administrative procedures occur.

Disclaimers

Upon implementation of Board Policy 7.270, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions applicable under State law apply.

No one, including without limitation parent(s)/guardian(s) of students, should rely on the District for the availability of undesignated medications. Board Policy 7.270 and this Handbook do not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these medications.

Cross References:

Board Policy 7.270, Administering Medicines to Students

Administrative Procedure 7.270-AP1, Dispensing Medication

Exhibit 7.270-E1, School Medication Authorization Form

Failure to follow the procedures for self-administration of medication outlined in this section will be considered a disciplinary situation and will be handled according to procedures outlined in the "Controlled Substances" section of this handbook. This includes, but is not limited to, giving other students medications not prescribed for them or taking improper doses of medication. Violators will be subject to disciplinary consequences, and may be reported to appropriate law enforcement agencies (see Over the Counter Chemical Substances).

Student Concussions and Head Injuries

If a student sustains a physician-diagnosed concussion, either during school hours or outside of school, parents are requested to notify the school. If a student's parent/guardian is requesting academic accommodations after a concussion, the Unit 5 Concussion Staging Form must be completed by the student's physician (elementary, junior high, high school) or athletic trainer (high school only) and submitted to the school nurse.

A student that participates in an interscholastic athletic activity and who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game will be immediately removed from participation or competition at that time. A student that participates in an interscholastic athletic activity who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play or practice until cleared to do so by a

physician (licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches in Illinois) or a licensed athletic trainer working under the supervision of a physician and the District's return-to-learn and return-to-play protocols have been completed.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

Vision and hearing screenings will be conducted at state-mandated grade levels. Vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor. Your child is not required to undergo the mandated vision screening. If a report of an eye examination within the last 12 months by an optometrist is on file at the school. The vision examination report must be completed and signed by the optometrist. This section of the student handbook constitutes notice to parents and guardians of students in the grades mandated for vision and hearing screenings. Vision and hearing screenings will be conducted for all students in the mandated grades unless the parent provides a written request that the student not be screened, or, in the case of vision screening, provides a current eye examination report.

Board Policy 7.305, *Student Concussions and Head Injuries*
Administrative Procedure 7.305-AP1, *Program for Managing Student Concussions and Head Injuries*
Exhibit 7.305-AP1, E1, *Concussion Information*
Administrative Procedure 7.305-AP2, *Concussion Care Protocol -Return-to-Learn and Return-to-Play*
Exhibit 7.305-AP2, E1 *Concussion Staging Form*
Exhibit 7.305-AP2, E2 *Return-to-Play Consent Form*
Exhibit 7.305-AP2, E3 *Concussion Care Graphic ~ Return-to-Learn and Return-to-Play*

Physical Education/Activity Restrictions

Physical Education Activity Restrictions

If you must be excused from Physical Education/Health activity for more than three days because of illness or injury, you must have a physician's request that states: 1. Type of illness or injury 2. Activities in which you can/cannot participate 3. The specific length of time this request is to be effective The request must be presented to the School Nurse before school. She will forward it to your Physical Education teacher.

A PE modification form is available for extenuating circumstances that impact participation.

For the PE staff to do everything it can to modify your activity for continued active participation, please print out a PE Modification Form for your physician to fill out.

If a physician restricts you from all participation, those days will need to be made up. If there is an extended restriction (exceeding 2 weeks) please see your instructor for alternate options. Any student who is physically exempt for 8 weeks or more will be withdrawn from class and placed in a virtual PE course to be completed for PE credit.

Disability Assistance

Persons with a disability of either a temporary or permanent nature may receive help by request through the nurse, counselors, or administrators.

Health Information

Health information gathered through screening registration forms, physical exams, oral/written communication by a health care provider or parent/guardian may be shared by the certified school nurse with those individuals (i.e. teachers or other school personnel) who have an educational interest in enhancing the health and safety of the student. This information may be shared via written or electronic communication or by direct personal contact. If you do not wish this information to be shared, please send a written request to the school office by the end of the first week of attendance.

Counseling

Each building has counselors available to assist students who require additional assistance. Counselors will assist students in several areas including the following:

- Personal/Social - peer relationships, communication, and decision-making.
- Educational – study habits, homework, student/teacher relationships, grades, course selection.
- Vocational – career information and exploration, interests, abilities, career planning, and training opportunities.
- Testing – achievement, ability, and aptitude.

Students will be assigned a particular counselor; however, students can request to talk to the counselor of their choice. The services of a school psychologist and school social worker are also available through the Counseling Office.

Cross Reference
Board Policy 6.270, *Guidance and Counseling Programs*

Safety Drill Procedures and Conduct

Safety drills will occur at times established by the Superintendent. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of:

- Three school evacuation drills,
- One bus evacuation drill,
- One severe weather and shelter-in-place drill, and
- One law enforcement lockdown drill to address a school shooting incident.

There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. The law enforcement lockdown drill will be announced in advance and a student's parent/guardian may elect to exclude their child from participating in this drill. All other drills will not be preceded by a warning to the students.

Cross Reference:
Board Policy 4.170, *Safety*
Administrative Procedure 4.170-AP1, *Comprehensive Safety and Crisis Program*

Reunification Site

In the event a relocation from school and a student-parent reunification is necessary, the following are designated as the reunification sites for Normal Community High School and Normal Community West High School:

<u>School</u>	<u>Reunification Site</u>
NCHS	Eastview Christian Church
NCWHS	Eastview Christian Church

Communicable Diseases

For everyone's protection, sick students must be at home, not at school. When reporting the student's absence, please report the reason for the child's absence. The school needs to be informed of any student having a special health problem or communicable disease. Children with the following conditions should not be in school:

- A fever within the last 24 hours of 100° F or higher
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- A frequent or disruptive cough or other signs of an acute respiratory infection
- Any contagious illness such as "strep throat" that requires antibiotic therapy. Once a student has been fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications and on antibiotics for at least 24 hours, he/she may return to school.
- Any undiagnosed skin rash. A student with a rash may attend school upon presenting a physician's note stating the rash is not contagious

- Pronounced lethargy or fatigue that interferes with participation in learning activities.
- Any other health condition that in the professional, clinical judgment of the School Nurse places that student or others in the school community at a health or safety risk. In the absence of the Certified School Nurse, this determination may be made by the building principal or his/her designee.

Head Lice

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding head lice.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has head lice.
2. Infested students will be sent home following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the infestation.
4. A student excluded because of head lice will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings the student to school to be checked by the school nurse or building principal and the child is determined to be free of an active infestation. Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

Bed Bugs

The Superintendent or designee may implement procedures to further a healthy school environment and prevent or reduce the adverse health effects of bed bugs and spread of disease. Policy #7.250-AP1 Administrative Procedure - Bed Bug Protocol will be followed to provide a healthy, pest-free environment.

Cross Reference:
Board Policy 7.250, Student Support Services

School Insurance

A low cost accident policy is offered to all students. While the schools have no obligation in case of an accident, the District is glad to cooperate with the agency and offer this limited, yet liberal policy for your consideration. Briefly, students may be insured for the school year for the accidents, which occur while engaged in any school-sponsored activity or between home and school. Enrollment information and claim forms for the collection of insurance payments due to accidents may be obtained in the school offices.

Care of Students with Chronic Health Conditions

State law requires our school district to annually inform parents of students with life-threatening allergies or life-threatening chronic illnesses like Diabetes of the applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other applicable federal statutes, State statutes, federal regulations and State rules.

It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to inform the School Nurse or Building Principal of their child's health concern, including diabetes, asthma, food allergy, and seizures. The School Nurse will then work with the family, the student, the student's physician and the classroom teacher to develop a Plan of Action. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to ensure that The Plan and all medication and procedure forms (if needed) are completed and signed by the physician and parent/guardian before they will be implemented. Please contact your School Nurse for further information.

Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important goals of the school district.

The school district maintains student and parent resources on suicide and depression awareness and prevention. Much of this information, including a copy of the school district's policy, is posted on the school district website. Information can also be obtained from the school office.

Safe2Help Illinois

Safe2Help Illinois offers students a safe, confidential way in which to share information that might help prevent suicides, bullying, school violence or other threats to school safety. This program is not intended to suspend, expel, or punish students. Rather, the goal is to get students to "Seek Help Before Harm."

Call: 844-4-SAFEIL

Text: SAFE2 (72332)

Email: HELP@Safe2HelpIL.com

Additionally, resources are available by calling the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by dialing 988** or through the **Crisis Text Line by Texting HOME to 741741** to connect with a Crisis Counselor.

Cross Reference:

Board Policy 7.290, *Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention*

Procedures at Schools

If a student must have a medical procedure performed at school to protect their health and well-being, an "Authorized School Personnel to Perform a Medical Procedure" form must be on file at the school. The form must be filled out and signed by the health care provider and signed by the parent/guardian.

Reasonable accommodations will be made by Unit 5 schools to ensure a student receives a free and appropriate education in the least restrictive environment. In order to prevent educational interruption, procedures performed at school are limited to those requested by the parent and which the licensed health care prescriber (physician, dentist, podiatrist, physician's assistant, or advanced practice nurse) certifies cannot be scheduled outside school hours without risk to the health and safety of the student.

No district employee shall perform a medical procedure for any student or supervise a student performing their own medical procedure until a completed and signed "Request for Authorized School Personnel to Perform a Medical Procedure" form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. Teachers and other non-administrative school employees, except certified school nurses, shall not be required to perform a medical procedure. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including performing a medical procedure.

The Building Principal shall include this policy in the Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parent/guardian of the student requesting performance of a medical procedure during school hours.

Building Security

For the safety of our students, Unit 5 has adopted a closed-building concept. All exterior doors are locked with the exception of the front doors outside the office.

No students should be in the building during non-school hours without direct supervision from a staff member and/or coach/sponsor. Students should not be using school equipment or accessing any spaces (indoor and outdoor school property) and such access may result in school discipline and/or law enforcement involvement.

All visitors to the building are required to check into the main office to report their purpose for being in the school. Visitors will be given an appropriate ID Badge to wear during their stay.

Co-Curricular Activities

Attendance at Co-Curricular Activities

Students must be in regular school attendance all day on the day of an activity in order to be eligible to participate in or attend any after-school co-curricular activity. Exceptions due to unusual circumstances may be granted only by a building administrator.

Dances

Students must present their student ID to be admitted to dances. Various dances are held throughout the year. Any dancing deemed inappropriate by a supervisor or administrator is prohibited. Inappropriate dancing may result in removal from the dance. Students should consider these activities as an extension of the school day in terms of personal conduct and behavior. Under usual circumstances, students will not be allowed to return to a dance after they have left the building. Hallways and lockers not in the immediate vicinity of the dance will not be available during or after school dances. Students are to arrange for transportation to and from dances and are to leave the campus immediately after the dance. All school rules are applicable and in force during dances. A student who is assigned a disciplinary consequence as a result of any misconduct at a school dance may not be admitted to any school dance for the remainder of that school year.

For Homecoming and Prom, students may invite ONE guest and must complete the "Guest Permission Form" and have it approved by one of the Assistant Principals in advance. Guests must be at least freshmen in high school and also under the age of 21. Only pre-registered guests with photo ID will be admitted to these dances. This may apply at other dances as determined by building administration.

Good Night Rule

Once a student leaves a school activity (dances, sporting events, etc.) he/she will not be readmitted to the activity and must leave the school grounds. Violators will be subject to arrest for loitering or trespassing.

Statement of Policy for Co-Curricular Participation as Related to Drug Use, Alcohol Use, and Inappropriate Behavior

Unit 5 considers its student members of IHSA sanctioned teams and co-curricular clubs to be representative of the school. Participation in co-curricular activities, including but not limited to clubs and interscholastic teams, is considered to be a privilege at Unit 5. Because these students represent our high school, the standard of student conduct is necessarily high and without exception. It is the policy of Unit 5 that any student engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct or possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages and /or drugs, or engaging in illegal or inappropriate behavior which reflects poorly on Unit 5 and its educational philosophy and objectives, will be subject to appropriate disciplinary sanctions, including but not limited to, immediate suspension from the team or club for which the student is current participating. The disciplinary sanctions and/or suspension will be announced at a conference attended by the Principal or designee, team coach or club sponsor, Assistant Principal or designee, student, parent/guardian, student's counselor and the Athletic Director as appropriate.

Transportation for School Activities

Students must utilize school transportation to and from all-school activities for which transportation is provided. BACC students may drive themselves to class each day if parents have signed off on transportation permission form.

For these events, parents/guardians of the student may transport their student only if specific arrangements are made in advance with the activity sponsor. Transportation may not be provided in some instances. These instances would include, but not be limited to: practices, athletic contests, music events or club activities held within the

Bloomington-Normal area when it is deemed more practical for the students to meet the coach or sponsor at the site. In these cases it will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to arrange safe transportation.

Organizations and Activities

School Clubs

All clubs meet before or after school as arranged by the sponsor and club members. Please consult the school website or the Counseling Office for a list of these activities.

IHSA Scholastic Competition Activities

National Honor Society

Eligibility for the National Honor Society is based on four criteria: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. NHS is not a purely scholastic honorary organization.

To be academically eligible for membership, a student must be a second semester Junior or a first semester Senior and must have a grade point average of at least 4.7.

The student must also have participated actively in ten school-sponsored and/or community-related activities during high school. He or she must have held at least two positions of leadership, either elected or appointed.

Students who meet these criteria will then be evaluated by the entire faculty on the basis of character. A council of five faculty members appointed by the Principal will make the final selection of members from eligible candidates. These requirements are in accordance with the guidelines established by the National Constitution of the organization.

IHSA Interscholastic Athletics

For information concerning each school's athletic program, please consult the school's website (listed below) or contact the Athletic Office.

Normal Community High School - <http://www.il.8to18.com/nchs>
Athletic Director Nic Kearfoot – Email kearfon@unit5.org Phone 557-4570

Normal Community West High School - <http://www.il.8to18.com/ncwhs>
Athletic Director Wes Temples – Email templesw@unit5.org Phone 557-4975

Student Interscholastic Activities Concussions and Head Injuries

A student-athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game will be removed from participation or competition at that time. A student-athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury, may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student-athlete may not return to play or practice until the student-athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.

High School Interscholastic Athletic Activity Code – Revised April 2017

The McLean County Unit District No. 5 Board of Education believes that athletics are an extension of the educational process for its student athletes. In order to enjoy the privilege of participating in athletics at the Unit 5 schools, each student-athlete and parent/guardian should read and understand the following stipulations. The parent/guardian and student-athlete signatures on the student-athlete's Athletic Record must be present before participation will be allowed in any practice, game or other activity.

1. The student-athlete must be doing passing work in at least five (5) subjects (25 class hours). In addition, the student-athlete must have passed five (5) subjects (25 class hours) from the previous semester.
2. The student – athlete must have a valid physical examination on file in the school office before the beginning of practice. This exam must be current, i.e. dated less than 395 days from the end of the season in which the student-athlete is to participate.
3. The student-athlete must have purchased the student accident insurance or have on file in the Athletic Director's office a form which verifies adequate coverage by a family or group policy. It is understood that McLean County Unit District No. 5 does not assume financial responsibility for accidents incurred in athletics. It should also be clarified that complete coverage by any single policy is highly improbable; therefore the policy covering any student-athlete should be fully understood prior to participation. There is a special insurance rider, in addition to student accident insurance, available to cover football players (purchase optional).
4. Student-athletes must abide by the conduct code for the activity and Board Policy 7.190 at all times. Student-athletes engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct or engaging in illegal or inappropriate behavior which reflects poorly on Unit 5 and its educational philosophy and objectives, will be subject to appropriate disciplinary sanctions, including but not limited to, immediate suspension from the athletic team in which the student is currently participating.
5. Possession and/or use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, controlled substances and/or related paraphernalia at any time, or aiding and/or abetting others to possess or use, after the very first practice as a Unit 5 student-athlete will be considered as a reason for suspension/removal from an athletic team. Suspension will be defined as not participating in competition. Attendance at any activity involving the illegal use of alcohol, controlled substances or tobacco may result in an investigation leading to an athletic code violation. The following conditions will apply in any situation in which a violation occurs.
 - *First Violation:* A conference will be held including the student-athlete and Athletic Director. Coaches and additional administrators may be involved. Parents/guardians will be contacted following the outcome of the conference. The student-athlete will be suspended from the team for the equivalent of one-fourth (1/4) of the regular season games.
 - *Second Violation:* A conference will be held including those same parties who met as a result of the first violation. The student-athlete will be suspended from the team for the equivalent of one-half (1/2) of the regular season games.
 - *Third Violation:* The student-athlete is removed from all Unit 5 athletic programs for the duration of the student's high school career. A conference will be scheduled by the Athletic Director to ensure a review process for the student and parents/guardians.
6. Unauthorized possession or use of medication or over-the-counter chemical substances by a student-athlete, including but not limited to giving other students medication or over-the-counter chemical substances not prescribed for them, or taking improper dosages of medication or over-the-counter chemical substances, will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. In season or out of season: suspension from the team for the equivalent of one-fourth of the entire season. Subsequent violations will result in progressive consequences as outlined above in #4.
7. Coaches may establish additional rules for their respective sports, including rules for conduct. These rules will be communicated verbally and in writing to the student-athletes and will be on file in the Athletic Director's office.
8. The student-athlete agrees to care for and be responsible for school equipment issued and used. Necessary restitution must be made whenever loss or damage is the student-athlete's responsibility.
9. The student-athlete agrees to comply with all rules and regulations established by the Illinois High School Association and the High School Handbook of the McLean County Unit District No. 5 schools.
10. A season begins with the first day of practice and extends through the final competition for members of that

team. To be eligible for an award, a student-athlete must complete the season in good standing.

11. All rules established by this Athletic Permit will be considered to be in effect continually, year round, until the student-athlete completes eligibility or graduates, whichever is later.

Modification of Athletic or Team Uniform Students may modify their athletic or team uniform for the purpose of modesty in clothing or attire that is in accordance with the requirements of the student's religion or the student's cultural values or modesty preferences.

*Approved by Board of
Education 4/26/2017*

Academic Information

General Regulations

1. All students are required to be enrolled in a minimum of six courses. An exception will be made for 5th year seniors.
2. A student is required to take a minimum of 6 credit bearing courses and may choose to take a 7th course for credit.
3. Students who enroll in a 0 Hour class are expected to leave after 7th hour and will provide their own transportation.
4. Middle School foreign language and math courses (Algebra I and higher) will be documented on transcripts and will meet prerequisites. Middle school courses do not earn high school credit and will not be counted towards GPA or NCAA admissions requirements.
5. The following breakdown will be used to determine a student's grade to start the school year:
 - a. Sophomore – 2nd year of high school and minimum of 5 credits required
 - b. Junior – 3rd year of high school and minimum of 11 credits required
 - c. Senior – 4th year of high school and minimum of 17 credits required
6. The following breakdown will be used to determine a student's grade after first semester. Students may request a status change for second semester:
 - a. Sophomore – 2nd year of high school and a minimum of 8 credits required
 - b. Junior – 3rd year of high school and a minimum of 13 credits required
 - c. Senior – 4th year of high school and is anticipated to meet graduation requirements by July 31.

Students can change status during the second semester. Credit deficient students who meet the minimum credit requirements to be reclassified will be after 1st semester.

- a) To achieve 10th grade status - 2nd year of high school and 8 credits required
- b) To achieve 11th grade status - 3rd year of high school and 11 credits required
- c) To achieve 12th grade status – 4th year of high school and is anticipated to meet graduation requirements by July 31st

High School Graduation Requirements

To graduate from high school, unless otherwise exempted, each student is responsible for:

1. Completing all State mandated graduation requirements listed below.
2. Completing all District graduation requirements that are in addition to State graduation requirements.
3. Passing an examination on patriotism and principles of representative government, proper use of flag, methods of voting, and the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Participating in the State assessment required for graduation.

NUMBER OF CREDITS TO GRADUATE

ENGLISH	4.0
MATH	3.0*
SCIENCE	2.0
SOCIAL STUDIES	2.0**
PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH	3.5
CONSUMER EDUCATION	0.5****
ELECTIVES	9.0
TOTAL	24.0

Completion of SAT Test (11th grade)

MATH

1.0 credit Algebra I content

1.0 Math credit can come from AP Computer Science Principles or AP Computer Science Java

*Must take one course with Geometry content.

****SOCIAL STUDIES**

1.0 credit U.S. History

0.5 credit Civics or AP U.S. Government & Politics.

Successful completion of Constitution Test.

*****PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH**

Students are required to enroll in PE every semester they are in school even if they have attained 3.5 credits. Unit 5 expects all students to participate in a Physical Education course that includes swimming content. Therefore, students who decide to take Driver's Education through a private company will be expected to register for WALA or Advanced Aquatics.

Students may graduate with less than 3.5 credits in Physical Education if they are approved for early graduation or if they qualify for an exemption under the Board of Education guidelines:

Substitutions for Physical Education (No. 6.310)

See Page 6 for Substitutions for Physical Education.

******CONSUMER EDUCATION - STATE OF ILLINOIS REQUIREMENT**

Successful completion of any of the following courses/programs fulfills the State Consumer Education requirement for high school graduation:

- Introduction to Business Course (9, 10) 2 semesters
- Consumer Education course (11, 12) 1 semester
- Work Program and Work Program Class (11, 12) 2 semesters
- Personal Investment & Finance course (11, 12) 1 semester
- Agribusiness Management course (11, 12) 2 semesters
- Consumer Math (9, 10, 11, 12) 2 semesters (for students with case manager)
- Vocations Class (11, 12) 2 semesters (for students with case managers)

For students first entering high school in the 2023-24 school year, one year of a course that includes intensive instruction in computer literacy, which may be English, social studies, or any other subject and which may be counted toward the fulfillment of other graduation requirements.

The above requirements do not apply to students with disabilities whose course of study is determined by an Individualized Education Program or students who are exempted from participation in certain courses in accordance with State law.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Graduation Requirement

As a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, the parent or guardian of each student or, if a student is at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student must comply with either of the following:

File a FAFSA with the United States Department of Education or, if applicable, an application for State financial aid. File a waiver indicating that the parent or guardian or, if applicable, the student understands what the FAFSA and application for State financial aid are and has chosen not to file an application. Upon request, the school will provide a student and his or her parent or guardian any support or assistance necessary to comply with this requirement

A school district may award a high school diploma to a student who is unable to meet this requirement due to extenuating circumstances, as determined by the school district, if (i) the student has met all other graduation requirements, and (ii) the principal attests that the school district has made a good faith effort to assist the student or, if applicable, his or her parent or guardian in filing an application or a waiver.

Weighted Grade System

Unit District No. 5 utilizes a weighted grade system for determining grade point average.. To indicate the weight of a class, the following symbols are placed behind the course title.

Standard Level		A=4	B=3	C=2	D=1	F=0
Honors Level	[H]	A=5	B=4	C=3	D=2	F=0
Advanced Placement Level	[AP]	A=5	B=4	C=3	D=2	F=0
Dual Credit Level	[DC]	A=5	B=4	C=3	D=2	F=0
Dual Credit Career Technical Education [CTE]		A=5	B=4	C=3	D=2	F=0

Course Selection

All students, eighth grade through eleventh, are expected to select courses during the second semester for classes offered the following year.

The decision to take a course is an important one. Students should carefully consider their educational and career goals and develop a program of study to work toward those goals. Counselors will help students plan their programs. Parents are encouraged to be involved with their student during the course selection process. Students should choose elective courses which will meet the particular requirements for admission to the college, training, programs or vocation for which they wish to qualify.

An email will be sent to all parents in mid-March to check course verification in Infinite Campus. Changes to course requests must be completed with consent to the school counselor by the end of the last school day prior to spring break.

Course request verification information will be sent electronically to families each March. Changes to course requests must be completed by Spring Break. No changes will be allowed after that time except for the following reasons only:

1. Successful completion of credit recovery courses. Students must have prior written approval from a school counselor and associate principal before enrolling in a course.
2. Changes for Seniors that are necessary to meet graduation requirements.
3. Failure to meet course prerequisite if requested by the student/parent..
4. Driver Education changes for students placed in the wrong semester because of age or course failures.
5. Missing requirement for university admissions. Students will need to produce documentation from the university stating a specific course is needed for admission.
6. Drop a yearlong class that has been failed 1st semester and add a 2nd semester class.
7. Students enrolled in a study hall may choose to enroll in a class in the first 5 days of a semester.

Changes for Second Semester

Once first semester has begun, students may request one schedule change for second semester under the following parameters:

1. Drop class to move to higher weighted course.
2. Drop a yearlong class that has been failed and pick up a semester class (Office Approval/Interventions for success must be completed).
3. Students currently enrolled in study hall second semester may enroll in second semester class.

Dropping a Course

Students enrolled in seven courses may drop an elective course within the first six full weeks of the semester. Students enrolled in seven courses may drop an elective course for a study hall within the first six weeks of the semester.

Level Changes

Students enrolled in a course where multiple levels of the course exist and who are receiving a D/F may request a level change **within the first six (6) weeks of the semester**.

In order to request a change, students must complete a Level Change form that shows the interventions/resources utilized that were unsuccessful in the present course before a level change will be approved by the school administration. For year-long courses, a level change request for second semester must be submitted within the first week of 2nd semester.

Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs and Course Substitutions

Board Policy 6.310 - Credit for Non-District Experiences

A student may receive high school credit for successfully completing any of the listed courses or experiences even when it is not offered in or sponsored by the District:

1. Distance learning course, including a correspondence, virtual, or online course, from an accredited institution
2. Courses in an accredited foreign exchange program
3. Summer school or community college courses
4. College or high school courses offering dual credit at both the college and high school level
5. Foreign language courses taken in an ethnic school program approved by the Illinois State Board of Education
6. Work-related training at manufacturing facilities or agencies in a Tech Prep Program
7. Credit earned in a Vocational Academy

Guidelines for High School Non-District Experiences and Course Substitutions

- A student may take no more than six high school credits outside of Unit 5's course offerings.
- A student who has failed more than six high school credits may exceed the limit of six high school credits to recover credits to fulfill graduation requirements.
- High school credit may be earned during the school day only if approved in advance by the Building Principal or designee.
- A maximum of one high school credit (two classes) may be earned per semester unless approved in advance by the Building Principal or designee.
- A maximum of two high school credits may be earned during a single summer session unless approved in advance by the Building Principal or designee.
- The aforementioned credit limitations apply only to a student enrolled full-time.

Off-Campus Learning Courses

A student enrolled in an off-campus learning course may receive high school credit for work completed, provided:

1. The course is given by an accredited institution and approved in advance by the Building Principal or designee.
2. The student assumes all financial responsibility.

Off-campus learning courses may be taken during the school day for district-supported credit recovery.

The Superintendent or designee shall determine which, if any, non-District courses or experiences, will count toward a student's grade point average and eligibility for athletic and extracurricular activities.

Note – College-level courses that are taken while a student is enrolled in high school may not be recognized for college credit by some post-secondary institutions.

Accelerated Placement

The District provides for an Accelerated Placement Program (APP) for qualified students. It provides students with an educational setting with curriculum options that are usually reserved for students who are older or in higher grades than the student. Accelerated placement includes but may not be limited to: early entrance to kindergarten or first grade, accelerating a student in a single subject and grade acceleration. Participation is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It is not limited to students who have been identified as gifted or talented. Please contact the building principal for additional information.

By the fall of 2023, for each student who meets or exceeds State standards in English language arts, mathematics, or science on a State assessment, the school district is required by State law to automatically enroll the student in the following school year in the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework offered by the high school as follows:

- A. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in English language arts shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in English, social studies, humanities, or related subjects.
- B. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in mathematics shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in mathematics
- C. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in science shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in science.

The school district provides the parents/guardians of a student eligible for automatic enrollment with the option to instead enroll in alternative coursework that better aligns with the student's postsecondary education or career goals.

Dual Credit Course

A student who successfully completes a dual credit course may receive credit at both the college and high school levels.

Summer School

A student who has successfully completed eighth grade may receive high school credit for successfully completing any course provided:

1. The course is given by an accredited institution and approved in advance by the high school Building Principal or designee.
2. The student assumes all financial responsibility.

The summer school course grade will not count toward Unit 5 grade point average (GPA),.

Exchange Programs

A foreign exchange student will not be granted a diploma. In lieu of a diploma, a foreign exchange student will be awarded a certificate of attendance.

A Unit 5 student will receive high school credit for foreign exchange courses that meet the criteria established in the curriculum and that are approved by the Building Principal or designee. International study course work not meeting District requirements may be placed in the student's permanent record and recorded as an international study experience.

1. The student assumes all financial responsibility.

Foreign Language Courses

A student will receive high school credit by studying foreign language in an approved ethnic school program, provided such program meets the minimum standards established by the State Board of Education. (An ethnic school is a part-time, private school that teaches the foreign language, as well as the culture, geography, history, and other aspects of a particular ethnic group.)

The amount of credit will be based on foreign language proficiency achieved. The high school Building Principal or designee may require a student seeking foreign language credit to successfully complete a foreign language proficiency examination.

1. The student assumes all financial responsibility.

Blended Learning Courses

Unit 5 offers high school courses in a blended format. A blended course combines traditional instruction on required attendance days (face to face instruction within a classroom) with teaching and learning activities that happen virtually on flex days. Students in 1st hour blended courses may arrive to campus after 1st hour on their flex days and students in 8th hour blended courses may leave campus after their 7th hour course. Students in 2nd – 7th hour blended courses can report to one of the common spaces designated for blended learning students. Students in blended learning courses are expected to maintain a minimum course grade of a 'C'. If a student's grade falls below a 'C', the student will be required to be in the classroom with the teacher on flex days.

Unit 5 offers blended courses that would be very similar to college courses in that a significant amount of the coursework is to be completed outside of class time. The purpose is to expose students to a flexible schedule to help them transition to college or the workplace. Organization, communication skills, and self-advocacy are also required of students in blended courses. Teachers are prepared to assist students in the development of these skills through the supports and scaffolds they will provide to students in blended classrooms. Teachers will indicate, prior to each week, the days in which students will report to the classroom (required attendance days) and the days in which students have the flexibility to work outside of the classroom (flex days). Courses offered as Blended Learning are noted with BL on the course code list and within the course description pages. Students interested in taking a blended class should select the designated course code during course selection. Some courses are only offered in a blended fashion. Students are able to attend class daily as the teacher is required to be in the classroom.

Substitutions for Physical Education

A student in grades 11-12, unless otherwise stated, may submit a written request to the Building Principal to be excused from physical education courses for the reasons stated below. The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in this policy were applied to the student's individual circumstances, as appropriate. 1. Ongoing participation in a marching band program; 2. Enrollment in Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) program sponsored by the District; 3. Ongoing participation in an interscholastic athletic program; 4. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for admission to an institution of higher learning; or 5. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take such classes will result in the student being unable to graduate.

Students who have been excused from physical education shall return to the course as soon as practical. The following considerations will be used to determine when a student shall return to a physical education course:

1. The time of year when the student's participation ceases;
2. The student's class schedule; and
3. The student's future or planned additional participation in activities qualifying for substitutions for physical education, as outlined above.

A student in grades 3-12 who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses if:

1. The student's parent/guardian agrees that the student must utilize the time set aside for physical education to receive special education support and services, or
2. The student's individualized education program team determines that the student must utilize the time set aside for physical education to receive special education support and services.

The agreement or determination must be made a part of the individualized education program. A student requiring adapted physical education must receive that service in accordance with the student's individualized education program.

Re-Entering Students

Individuals younger than 21 years of age may re-enter high school to acquire a high school diploma or an equivalency certificate, subject to the limitations in *Board Policy 7.50*. Re-entering students may obtain credit through the successful completion of the following (not all of these may be available at any one time):

1. District courses
2. Non-District experiences described in this policy
3. Classes in a program established under Section 10-22.20 of the School Code, in accordance with the standards established by the Illinois Community College Board
4. Proficiency testing, correspondence courses, life experiences, and other non-formal educational endeavors
5. Military service, provided the individual making the request has a recommendation from the U.S. Commission on Accreditation of Service Experiences

The provisions in the section Credit for Non-District Experiences, above, apply to the receipt of credit for any Non-District course.

Cross Reference:

Board Policy 6.310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students

Proficiency Exam

The music department may administer a proficiency exam to enroll in a course. See prerequisite for individual department classes.

- The music department may administer a proficiency exam to enroll in a course.
- Advancement to a higher-level foreign language class is contingent upon a 70% passing score on the department placement exam. Students advancing to a higher level will not receive credit for courses in which they were not enrolled. Test outlines are available from foreign language teachers.

Report Cards

Progress Reports and Academic Report Cards will not be mailed to parents of high school students who have internet access. If you have internet access, you may view your student's report cards through the family portal link from either the Unit 5 website or the individual school website. If you do not have internet access, your student's

Progress Reports and Academic Report Cards will be mailed to you. Parents/guardians are invited to contact the individual teachers and/or counselor regarding these reports.

Incomplete Work

All incomplete work must be made up by the last day of each semester unless special arrangements have been made with the Assistant Principal and your teacher. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Assistant Principal. Work not made up will be considered a failure and the semester grade computed accordingly.

Semester Examinations

1. Any students who are truant, or otherwise unexcused, from a semester exam will receive a zero (0) for the exam. Semester grades will be averaged accordingly.
2. Students unable to attend school for any reason will be required to complete semester exams. If a student is absent from an exam, arrangements must be made by the student to make up that exam. Exams should be taken by dates established for submission of semester grades.
3. Prearranged absences from semester exams will be granted only in extreme cases and only by the appropriate Associate Principal. Students with prearranged absences may take their semester exams early, but no more than one week prior to semester exams.
4. If a prearranged absence is not approved and a student still chooses to leave, the absence will be treated as a truancy.
5. All absences, excused or unexcused, must be approved by school administration.
6. Any special or unusual circumstances should be submitted to the school administration for consideration.
7. Students with Study Halls may be excused pending approval from school administration.

Final Exam Policy

Any student with an "A" average in a class on the last day of the semester will be exempt from the semester final exam in that class.

Honor Roll

The High School publishes a school-wide Honor Roll at the end of each semester. Students with a GPA of 3.6 or greater will qualify for the Honor Roll. Only courses in which a student is enrolled at NCHS / NCWHS will be considered. Weighted grades will be used in determining eligibility for Honor Roll.

Seal of Biliteracy

Unit 5 Schools will offer both the Seal and Commendation to graduates. Students will qualify through showing proficiency on the AP Language and Culture exam for Spanish, Chinese, French, German, Italian, and Japanese. The portfolio option will be available for students who would like to qualify for the Seal or Commendation in Telegu, Tamil, or Arabic.

Students will need to 'declare' their intent to pursue the Seal of Biliteracy recognition to their counselor. Students will have to provide evidence of assessment scores to counselors (AP test or results of portfolio assessment).

Counselor will verify that students met college readiness benchmarks for ACT as well as the benchmark score for the additional/second/home language.

Students will qualify through demonstrating proficiency on the AP Language and Culture exam for Spanish, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese as well as meeting the college readiness benchmarks for the ACT or, for students who are English Learners, by meeting the Illinois proficiency criteria on ACCESS 2.0. These criteria are set by the State of Illinois and are as follows: To qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy students must score a 4 on the AP language exam. To earn the Commendation students must score a 3 on the AP language exam in the target language. To

demonstrate proficiency in English students must achieve proficiency as set by ISBE on the ACT. English Learner students who are working toward the Seal may also use an overall ACCESS score of 4.8 achieved during high school.

The district will recognize students who earn the Commendation or the Seal by affixing the Seal or Commendation to the student's transcript and diploma.

NCAA Approved Core Courses

Currently, the NCAA for athletic eligibility at the college level accepts the specified core courses. The information is listed as found on the clearinghouse web site. Potential Division I and Division II athletes need to carefully check the information as the requirements vary slightly for Division I and Division II. Generally, a student will need at least 16 core classes in the following areas: English, Mathematics, Social Science, Natural or Physical Science, and Foreign Language. For additional assistance, talk to your counselor, coach, and athletic director or visit the NCAA Clearinghouse web site at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. Unit 5 does not make the eligibility determination nor determine the classes that will count toward the core requirement.

Early Graduation

The counselor should be consulted if a student wishes to graduate early. Class rank will be determined at the end of the 7th semester for December graduates. A form, signed by the parent/guardian must be submitted to the guidance counselor. Students graduating in December are invited to participate in the graduation rehearsal and the commencement ceremony.

Students who anticipate graduating after six (6) semesters, will need to submit an early graduation form to the guidance office prior to the start of their fifth semester (third year). Students graduating after 6 semesters (3 full years) will not be required to fulfill the 3.5 credit requirement for Physical Education. These students are only required to complete 3.0 credits of Physical Education/Health to graduate.

Commencement

Commencement is a formal academic ceremony marking the conclusion of the high school experience. Graduates who have completed all requirements are eligible to participate in Commencement. Participation is voluntary and not required. The established attire is the standard black cap and gown, with white collars provided for female graduates and stoles provided for National Honor Society members and chords to designate magna or summa cum laude. Summa Cum Laude and Magna Cum Laude designations will be awarded based on GPA.

Summa Cum Laude designation: 4.1+ GPA

Magna Cum Laude designation: 3.85 – 4.099 GPA

Commencement is an event to celebrate the graduation of the class as a whole and is not a time to display individuality of expression or attire. Unauthorized decoration or modification of the cap or gown will not be permitted. Participation will be limited to eligible students who are properly attired.

Records

Definition

School student records are confidential and information contained therein shall not be released other than as provided by law. A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be individually identified that is maintained by a school or at its direction or by an employee of a school, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except as provided in:

1. Writings or other recorded information maintained by an employee of a school for his or her exclusive use, provided they are destroyed not later than the student's graduation or permanent withdrawal, and are not released or disclosed to any other person except a temporary substitute.
2. Information maintained by law enforcement professionals working in the school.

Categories of School Student Records

The district maintains permanent records and temporary records for each student. Student permanent records are maintained for not less than 60 years and student temporary records are maintained for not less than 5 years after a student has transferred, graduated or otherwise permanently withdrawn. A student's permanent record contains the following information:

- (1) Basic identifying information;
- (2) Academic transcript*;
- (3) Attendance record;
- (4) Accident reports and health record;
- (5) Record of release of permanent record information; and
- (6) High school State assessment test scores;

And may also consist of:

- (7) Honors and awards received; and
- (8) Participation in co-curricular activities or athletics.

A student's temporary record contains the following information:

- (1) A record of release of temporary record information;
- (2) Elementary State assessment test scores;
- (3) Completed home language survey form;
- (4) Information regarding serious infractions that resulted in discipline; and
- (5) Information provided under Section 8.6 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act;

And may also consist of:

- (6) Family background information;
- (7) Intelligence test scores, group and individual;
- (8) Aptitude test scores;
- (9) Reports of psychological evaluations;
- (10) Elementary and secondary achievement level test results;
- (11) Participation in co-curricular activities or athletics;
- (12) Honors and awards received;
- (13) Teacher anecdotal records;
- (14) Other disciplinary information;
- (15) Special education files;
- (16) Any verified reports or information from non-educational persons, agencies or organizations; and
- (17) Other verified information of clear relevance to the education of the student.

***A parent/guardian may ask the District to remove scores of college entrance exams from their student's academic transcript. This includes the state assessment that incorporates a College Career Readiness determination. To request removal, parent/guardian must submit a written request to the principal.**

Inspection and Access

State and federal law grants students and parents/guardians certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy, and challenge school records. The information contained in school student records shall be kept current, accurate, clear, and relevant. All information maintained concerning a student receiving special education services shall be directly related to the provision of services to that child. The District may release directory information as permitted by law, but a parent/guardian shall have the right to object to the release of information regarding his or her child. However, the District will comply with an *ex parte* court order requiring it to permit the U.S. Attorney General or designee to have access to a student's school records without notice to, or the consent of, the students' parent/guardian.

No person who is prohibited by an order of protection from inspecting or obtaining school records of a student pursuant to the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986 shall have any right of access to, or inspection of, the school records of that student. The district may prohibit a parent's or student's access to confidential letters and statements of recommendation furnished in connection with applications for employment to a post-secondary educational institution or the receipt of an honor or honorary recognition.

A parent's or student's request to inspect and copy records must be granted within a reasonable time, and in no case later than ten (10) school days after the date of receipt of such request.

Confidentiality

School student records are confidential and information contained therein will not be released other than as provided by law. No school student records or information contained therein may be released, transferred, disclosed or otherwise disseminated, except as follows:

Information may not be released pursuant to subparagraphs (3) or (6) above unless the parent receives prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information proposed to be released, and an opportunity to inspect and copy such records and to challenge their contents.

1. To a parent, student, or authorized representative;
2. To an employee of the district with current demonstrable educational or administrative interest in the student, in furtherance of such interest;
3. To the official records custodian of another school in which the student has enrolled, or intends to enroll, upon the request of such official or student;
4. To any person for the purpose of research, statistical reporting, or planning;
5. Pursuant to a court order;
6. To any person as specifically required by State or federal law;
7. To juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties;
8. To appropriate persons in connection with an emergency if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons;
9. To any person, with the prior specific dated written consent of the parent;
10. To a governmental agency in furtherance of an investigation of a student's school attendance;
11. To SHOCAP committee members who fall within the meaning of "state and local officials and authorities" for the purposes of identifying serious habitual juvenile offenders and matching those offenders with community resources; or
12. To the Department of Healthcare and Family Services in furtherance of the requirements of Section 2-3.131, 3-14.29, 10-28, or 34-18.26 of the School Code or Section 10 of the School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act.
13. To the Illinois State Board of Education or another State government agency in order to audit federal and State programs or perform research and planning.

Challenging Student Records

Parents may challenge any entry in their child's school student records except for academic grades and references to expulsions or out-of-school suspensions if the challenge is made at the time the student's school student records are forwarded to another school to which the student is transferring. Challenges can be made on the basis of:

- 1) Accuracy;
- 2) Relevance; or
- 3) Propriety.

Challenges must be in writing, request a hearing, and contain notice of the specific entry or entries to be challenged and the basis of the challenge. When a challenge is received by the district, an initial informal conference with the parents will be scheduled within 15 school days. If the challenge is not resolved by the informal conference, a hearing will be held. A hearing officer, who shall not be employed in the attendance center in which the student is enrolled, shall be appointed by the district. The hearing officer will conduct a hearing within a reasonable time, but no later than 15 days after the informal conference, unless an extension of time is agreed upon by the parents and school officials. The hearing officer will notify parents and school officials of the time and place of the hearing. At the hearing each party shall have the following rights:

- (1) The right to present evidence and to call witnesses;
- (2) The right to cross-examine witnesses;
- (3) The right to counsel;
- (4) The right to a written statement of any decision and the reasons therefore;

A verbatim record of the hearing will be made. A written decision of the hearing officer will be transmitted to the parents and the school district no later than 10 school days after the hearing and will be based solely on the information presented at the hearing. Any party has the right to appeal the decision of the hearing officer to the Regional Superintendent within 20 school days after such decision is transmitted. If the parent appeals, the parent shall so inform the school and within 10 school days the school will forward a transcript of the hearing, a copy of the record entry in question and any other pertinent materials to the Regional Superintendent. The school may initiate an appeal by the same procedures. The Regional Superintendent will make findings and issue a written decision to the parents and the school within 20 school days of the receipt of the appeal documents. Final decisions of the Regional Superintendent may be appealed to the circuit court of the county in which the school is located.

Directory Information

The District routinely discloses “directory” type information without consent. Directory information is limited to: a student’s name, address, gender, grade level, birth date and place, parents’/guardians’ names and addresses and telephone numbers; photographs, videos and digital images used for informational or news-related purposes of a student participating in school or school-sponsored activities, organizations and athletics that appear in school publications such as yearbooks, newspapers or sporting or fine arts programs; academic awards, degrees and honors; information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics; major field of study; and period of attendance at the school. Any parent/guardian or eligible student (student 18 or older) may prohibit the release of directory information by delivering a written request to the building principal.

Destruction of School Student Records

The District destroys school student records when it is no longer required to maintain them. Before any school student records are destroyed or information deleted therefrom, the parent of the child to whom those records pertain will be given reasonable prior notice at his or her last known address and an opportunity to copy the records and information proposed to be destroyed or deleted.

Adverse Action

No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege or benefits or make as a condition of employment, credit or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record that the individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under the School Student Records Act.

Student Privacy Protections

Surveys

All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the District's educational objectives, or assist students' career choices. This applies to all surveys, regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified or who created the survey.

Surveys by Third Parties

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions. Parents who object to disclosure of information concerning their child to a third party may do so in writing to the Building Principal.

Surveys Requesting Personal Information

School officials and staff members will not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the school or district) containing one or more of the following items:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
3. Behavior or attitudes about sex.
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
8. Income other than that required by law to determine program eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

The student's parent/guardian may: (1) inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and/or (2) refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

Instructional Material

A student's parent/guardian may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

The term "instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

Parents or guardians have the right to inspect all instructional materials used as a part of their child's education. If you believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy, you may file a complaint under the District's uniform grievance policy. Parents or guardians with other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a Curriculum Objection Form, which is available from the school office. A parent or guardian may also request that their child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a Curriculum Objection Form.

Prohibition on Selling or Marketing Students' Personal Information

No school official or staff member may market or sell personal information concerning students (or otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose). The term personal information means individually identifiable information including: (1) a student or parent's first and last name, (2) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), (3) a telephone number, (4) a Social Security identification number or (5) driver's license number or State identification card.

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, The above paragraph does not apply: (1) if the student's parent/guardian have consented; or (2) to the collection, disclosure or, use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions., such as the following:

1. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment.
2. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products.
3. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools.
4. Tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments.
5. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities.
6. Student recognition programs.

Under no circumstances may a school official or staff member provide a student's personal information to a business organization or financial institution that issues credit or debit cards

A parent/guardian who desires to opt their child out of participation in activities provided herein or who desires a copy or access to a survey or any other material described herein may contact the Building Principal.

A complete copy of the District's Student and Family Privacy Rights policy may be obtained from the Superintendent's office or accessed on the District's website.

Cross Reference:
Board Policy 7.340, *Student Records*

Using Animals in the Educational Program

Animals may be brought into school facilities for educational purposes according to procedures developed by the Superintendent assuring: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

Experiments on living animals are prohibited; however, behavior studies that do not impair an animal's health or safety are permissible. The dissection of dead animals or parts of dead animals shall be allowed in the classroom only when the dissection exercise contributes to or is a part of an illustration of pertinent study materials. All dissection of animals shall be confined to the classroom and must comply with *The School Code*.

Students who object to performing, participating in, or observing the dissections of animals are excused from classroom attendance without penalty during times when such activities are taking place. No student will be penalized or disciplined for refusing to perform, participate in, or observe a dissection.

The Superintendent shall inform students of:

1. Their right to refrain from performing, participating in, or observing dissection, and
2. Which courses contain a dissection unit and which of those courses offers an alternative project.

Cross Reference:

Board Policy 6.100, *Using Animals in the Educational Program*

Physical Education/Health

Students are expected to change daily for physical education classes.

The Unit 5 required PE uniform consists of plain black athletic bottoms, a plain gray t-shirt with the name marked on the back, athletic socks, and athletic shoes. Students are allowed to wear any color of sweats/sweatshirt over their PE uniform.

T-shirts must have sleeves and cover your stomach/back. Students will not be allowed to participate in flip-flops, slippers, boots, etc.

Loaner t-shirts, shorts, and athletic shoes are available on a first come first serve basis.

Physical Education Activity Restrictions

If you must be excused from Physical Education/Health activity for more than three days because of illness or injury, you must have a physician's request that states: 1. Type of illness or injury 2. Activities in which you can/cannot participate 3. The specific length of time this request is to be effective The request must be presented to the School Nurse before school. She will forward it to your Physical Education teacher.

A PE modification form is available for extenuating circumstances that impact participation.

For the PE staff to do everything it can to modify your activity for continued active participation, please print out a PE Modification Form for your physician to fill out.

If a physician restricts you from all participation, those days will need to be made up. If there is an extended restriction (exceeding 2 weeks) please see your instructor for alternate options. Any student who is physically exempt for 8 weeks or more will be withdrawn from class and placed in a virtual PE course to be completed for PE credit.

Religious Exemption

Students may be excused from physical education courses based on religious prohibitions. A student must present an appropriate excuse from his/her guardian or a member of the clergy. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request.

Cross references:

Board Policy 7.260, *Exemption Form Physical Activity*

Parental Notification

Asbestos Management Plans

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, Unit 5 has developed and submitted an asbestos management plan for each Unit 5 school. Copies of a school's management plan are available at the administrative office of the school district and at the school's office. These management plans are available for your inspection during normal business hours Monday through Friday, and during other times by special arrangement.

Sex Offender Notification Law

State law prohibits a convicted child sex offender from being present on school property when children under the age of 18 are present, except for in the following circumstances as they relate to the individual's child(ren):

1. To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of their child.

2. To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to their child's special education services.
3. To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning their child, such as retention or promotion.

In all other cases, convicted child sex offenders are prohibited from being present on school property unless they obtain written permission from the superintendent or school board.

Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property for any reason – including the three reasons above, he/she is responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property.

It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times he/she is in the presence or vicinity of children. A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Information about sex offenders or violent offenders against youth is available to the public on the Illinois State Police (ISP) website. The ISP website contains the following:

- Illinois Sex Offender Registry on the Illinois State Police's website, <https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor>
- Illinois Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry on the Illinois State Police's website, <https://isp.illinois.gov/MVOAY/Disclaimer>
- Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Sex Offenders, <https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/FAQs>

McLean County Unit District No. 5

High School Handbook

Parent/Student Forms



Letter to Parents Student Acceptable Use for Electronic Networks**McLean County Unit District No. 5****1809 West Hovey Avenue****Normal, IL 61761-4339**

Office of the Superintendent

Phone: 309.557.4400

Fax: 309.557.4501

E-mail: district@unit5.org

We have the ability to enhance your child's education through the use of electronic networks, including the Internet. The Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources. The District's goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Your authorization is needed before your child may use this resource.

The Internet electronically connects thousands of computers throughout the world and millions of individual subscribers. Students and teachers may have access to:

- Limited electronic mail communications with people all over the world,
- Information from government sources, research institutions, and other sources,
- Discussion groups,
- Many libraries, including the catalog to the Library of Congress, and the Educational Resources Information Clearinghouses (ERIC).

With this educational opportunity also comes responsibility. You and your child should read the enclosed *Student Acceptable Use for Electronic Networks* and discuss it together. The use of inappropriate material or language, or violation of copyright laws, may result in the loss of the privilege to use this resource. Remember that you are legally responsible for your child's actions.

The District takes precautions to prevent access to materials that may be defamatory, inaccurate, offensive, or otherwise inappropriate in the school setting. On an unregulated network, however, it is impossible to control all material and a user may discover inappropriate material. Ultimately, parents/guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their child or ward should follow. To that end, the District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to authorize Internet access.

Please read and discuss the *Authorization of Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks* with your child. If you agree to allow your child to have an Internet account, sign the *Authorization* form and return it to your school.

Signed _____ Date _____

Student Authorization of Acceptable Use of Electronic Network

Exhibit**User Signature of Agreement:**

I understand any violations to the *Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks* procedure, when using the district electronic information resources, may result in the loss of my user account and in disciplinary and/or legal action. I therefore agree to maintain required standards and to report any misuse of the electronic information resources to a systems administrator.

I also agree to fully disclose to my teacher/administrator all Internet/Intranet publishing activities on school network systems and web servers. I understand that files, documents, projects and information stored on my network storage location will be deleted annually and any attempt to keep or save completed work is the sole responsibility of the student at the time of completing work.

Misuse may include, but is not limited to: any messages, information or graphics sent or intentionally received that include/suggest pornography; unethical or illegal solicitation; racism; sexism; inappropriate language; and other listings as described in the Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks procedure.

I have read the Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks section of the Student Handbook and understand that Internet sites are filtered and that my district electronic information resource accounts, files, email, and telephony resources may be monitored or reviewed. I hereby agree to comply with the above described conditions of acceptable use.

User Name (Please Print): _____

User Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature of Agreement:

I have read and fully understand the Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks section of the Student Handbook. I understand that access is designed for educational purposes and that the District has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for the District to restrict access to all controversial and inappropriate materials. I will hold harmless the district, its employees, agents, or Board of Education, for any harm caused by materials or software obtained via district networks. I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting. I have discussed the terms of this Student Authorization of Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks Agreement with my child. I hereby request that my child be allowed access to the District's computer hardware, software and networked computer services, such as electronic mail and the Internet, unless otherwise stipulated.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date: _____



High School 1:1 Laptop Program Agreement 2023-2024

In addition to the provisions of the McLean County Unit District No. 5 *Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks Policy and Administrative Procedures* (6.235 of the district's Policy Manual), each of the following conditions apply to students participating in the 1:1 Laptop Program.

1. Students will bring their laptops to school each school day with the batteries fully charged.
2. Students will keep their laptops in a secure location when not using them.
3. Use of protective laptop case is recommended. Students must provide their own laptop case that is padded and has a strap for carrying between classes. Cases must fit a 14.1 inch or larger laptop computer.
4. Students will keep their laptops clean. Stickers or other items are not to be attached to the laptop.
5. Students should backup any personal data placed on the laptop in the event of a hardware/software failure or scheduled maintenance, as Unit 5 is not liable for this content.
6. Students must immediately report all malfunctions, damage, or loss of a computer to a classroom teacher, administrator or school office personnel.
7. Students are to use their laptops during the school day only for school-related purposes.
8. Unit 5 is the sole owner of the laptop, and all school software.
9. Unit 5 staff may, at any time, review, modify or remove any data that is found on the laptop.
10. Passwords issued to students are to be kept private and not disclosed to anyone, other than a parent/guardian.
11. Parents will be responsible to monitor student use of the laptop outside of the school day.

Student Name (print)

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read and agree to the provisions and conditions of this agreement. I understand that it is impossible for Unit 5 to restrict access to all controversial or inappropriate materials, and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired at school or at home. I understand that any violations of the above provisions by this student may result in disciplinary action.

Parent/Guardian Name (print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



District 87/Unit 5 Medication Authorization Form



Name: _____
(Last, First, Middle Initial)

Date of Birth: _____

As the parent/guardian, I understand that it is the policy of the district that as a regular and normal practice, medication should not be administered to a student at school or when such student is involved in school activities. However, in order to provide for the critical health and well-being of students, under exceptional circumstances, medication may be administered during school hours by a certified school nurse, a registered nurse, administrative personnel, administrative designee, or self-administered by a student. I further release my child's school district, its Board of Education, and individual members thereof, and its employees shall be indemnified and held harmless from any and all claims arising out of the administration of said medication.

Medication must be brought to the school in a container, labeled appropriately by the pharmacist or licensed prescriber.

I request that my child be assisted in taking the medications(s) described below at school by authorized persons or be permitted to medicate herself/himself as also authorized by me and my physician (see below). I further consent to the sharing of relevant medical information between the school and the physician's office.

Date	Parent/Guardian Signature	Home Phone	Emergency Phone
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For parent(s)/guardian(s) of students who need to carry asthma medication or an EpiPen:

I authorize the School District and its employees and agents, to allow my child or ward to possess and use his or her asthma medication and/or epinephrine auto-injector while in school, at a school-sponsored activity, under the supervision of school personnel, or before or after normal school activities, such as while in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property. Illinois law requires the School District to inform parent(s)/guardian(s) that it, and its employees and agents, incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self administration of medication (105 ILCS 5/22-30).

If you agree please initial: _____

PRINTED PHYSICIAN'S NAME:	
PHYSICIAN'S ADDRESS:	PHONE:
Medication:	
Purpose of Medication/Diagnosis:	
Form: (i.e. tab, injection, etc.)	
Dose:	
Time of Administration:	
If medicine to be given "when needed." Describe indications:	
How soon can it be repeated?	
Is child authorized to medicate herself/himself?	
List significant side effects:	
Length of time this treatment is recommended:	
Must this medication be administered during the school day in order to allow the child to attend school or to address the student's medical condition that may arise at school?	Yes No

Date	Physician's Signature Only	Physician's Telephone
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Nurse's Initials _____

_____ High School
Athletic Permission Record and Student Information
2023-2024

This box is for office use only

All Sport	Physical Date
Winter Sport	
Spring Sport	_Obligation

Please Print Legibly

_____ 9 10 11 12 _____ / / _____
Student Name *Circle School Year:* *Birth Date (mm-dd-year)*

_____ _____ _____
Address *City* *Zip*

_____ _____ _____
Mailing Address *City* *Zip*

_____ _____ _____
Parent/Guardian Name *Phone #* *Email Address*

_____ _____ _____
Emergency Contact *Relationship* *Phone #*

_____ _____ _____
Family Doctor *Phone #* *Hospital Choice*

Any Current or Recurring Medical Conditions? Explain: _____

List Medication(s) Being Taken: _____

Surgeries, Injuries, Physical Activity Restrictions (brief description and dates): _____

- Heart condition Diabetes Asthma *Requires child to self-administer medication*
- Epilepsy Allergies: *Requires student to carry EpiPen®*
- Other _____

Board policy 7.300 requires each student provide proof of accident insurance coverage. Please provide the following information:

Name of Insurance Company: _____ Policy # _____

Expiration Date: _____

Does this student reside full time with parent, custodial parent or court appointed legal guardian?

Yes _____ No _____

Is this student new to Unit 5 this year? Yes _____ No _____

To Be Read and Signed By The Student:

1. I acknowledge reading the eligibility rules of any group or association sponsoring any athletic activity in which I want to participate and I agree to abide by them.
2. Before I am allowed to participate, I must: (a) provide the District with a certificate of physical fitness [the ***Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form*** from the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) or Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) serves this purpose], (b) show proof of accident insurance coverage, and (c) complete all forms required by any association sponsoring the interscholastic athletic activity, including when applicable and without limitation, ***IHSA Sports Medicine Acknowledgment and Consent Form, Acknowledgement and Consent***.
3. I agree to abide by all conduct rules and will behave in a sportsmanlike manner. I agree to follow the coaches' instructions, playing techniques, and training schedule as well as all safety rules.
4. I understand that *Board policy 7.305*, requires, among other things, that a student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or head injury must be removed from practice or competition at that time and that the student will not be allowed to return to play or practice until he or she has successfully completed return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols, including having been cleared to return by the treating physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches or a certified athletic trainer under the supervision of a physician.
5. I am aware that with participation in sports comes the risk of injury, and I understand that the degree of danger and seriousness of risk vary significantly from one sport to another with contact sports carrying the highest risk. I am aware that participating in sports involves travel with the team. I acknowledge and accept the risks inherent in the sport(s) or athletics in which I will be participating and in all travel involved. I agree to hold the School District, its employees, agents, coaches, School Board members, and volunteers harmless from any and all liability, actions, claims, or demands of any kind and nature whatsoever that may arise by or in connection with my participating in the school-sponsored interscholastic sport(s) or intramural athletics. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk for my heirs, estate, executor, administrator, assignees, and for all members of my family.
6. I wish to participate in co-curricular athletics that are **circled**:

Sports Offered: Please circle all that apply		
<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Cheerleading	Basketball	Baseball- <i>b</i>
Cross Country	Swim- <i>b</i>	Tennis- <i>b</i>
Golf	Cheerleading	Soccer- <i>g</i>
Football	Wrestling	Track
Soccer- <i>b</i>	Dance	Softball- <i>g</i>
Swim- <i>g</i>		
Tennis- <i>g</i>		
Volleyball- <i>g</i>		

 Student Signature

 Date

To Be Read and Signed By The Parent/Guardian of The Student:**School Activity Transportation and Athlete Code**

Students must utilize school transportation to and from all school activities for which transportation is provided. For these events, parents of the student may transport their student only if specific arrangements are made in advance with the activity sponsor. Transportation may not be provided in some instances. These instances would include, but not be limited to: practices, athletic contests, music events or club activities held within the Bloomington-Normal area when it is deemed more practical for the students to meet the coach or sponsor at the site. In these cases, it will be the responsibility of the parent to arrange safe transportation.

As the parent/legal guardian of the above-named student, I give permission for him/her to practice and compete in any of the IHSA interscholastic sports or activities offered. By signing below, I grant my permission for my child to receive treatment at my expense from a physician, nurse, or other professional medical personnel including transfer to any hospital reasonably accessible, which may be needed, in my absence due to injuries sustained while participating in athletics for a Unit 5 school. Furthermore, my son/daughter and I have read and understand the Athletic Code as set forth by _____ High School of Unit District No. 5, and agree to abide by it.

IHSA Steroid Random Testing Policy Consent

As a prerequisite to participation in IHSA athletic activities, we agree that the undersigned student will not use performance-enhancing substances as defined in the IHSA Performance-Enhancing Substance Testing Program Protocol. We have read this form and understand that the student may be asked to submit to testing for the presence of performance-enhancing substances in his/her body, and the student does hereby agree to submit to such testing and analysis by a certified laboratory.

We further understand and agree that the results of the performance-enhancing substance testing may be provided to certain individuals in the student's high school as specified in the IHSA Performance-Enhancing Substance Testing Program Protocol that is available on the IHSA website at www.IHSA.org. We understand and agree that the results of the performance-enhancing substance testing will be held confidential to the extent required by law. We understand that failure to provide accurate and truthful information could subject the student to penalties as determined by IHSA. No student-athlete may participate in IHSA competitions unless the student and the student's parent/guardian consent to random testing.

1. I am the parent/guardian of the above named student and give my permission for my child or ward to participate in the interscholastic sport(s) or intramural athletics indicated. I have read the above *Agreement to Participate* and understand its terms.
2. I understand that all sports can involve many **risks of injury**, and I understand that the degree of danger and seriousness of risk vary significantly from one sport to another with contact sports carrying the higher risk. I am aware that participating in sports involves travel with the team. In consideration of the School District permitting my child to participate, I agree to hold the District, its employees, agents, coaches, Board members and volunteers harmless from any and all liability, actions, claims or demands of any kind and nature whatsoever that may arise by or in connection with the participation of my child in the sport(s) or athletics. I assume all responsibility and certify that my child is in good physical health and is capable of participation in the above indicated sport or athletics.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Concussion Information

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works.

Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** In other words, even a “ding” or a bump on the head can be serious.

You cannot see a concussion and most sports concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to appear fully. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away.

Symptoms may include one or more of the following:

- Headaches
- “Pressure in head”
- Nausea or vomiting
- Neck pain
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Blurred, double, or fuzzy vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Feeling sluggish, hazy or slowed down
- Feeling foggy or groggy
- Drowsiness
- Change in sleep patterns
- Amnesia
- “Don’t feel right”
- Fatigue or low energy
- Sadness
- Nervousness or anxiety
- Irritability
- More emotional
- Confusion
- Concentration or memory problems (forgetting game plays)
- Repeating the same question/comment

Signs observed by teammates, parents and coaches include:

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Vacant facial expression
- Confused about assignment or position
- Forgets sports plays
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily or is uncoordinated
- Answers questions slowly
- Slurred speech
- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Can’t recall events prior to hit
- Can’t recall events after hit
- Seizures or convulsions
- Any change in typical behavior or personality
- Loses consciousness

What can happen if my child keeps on playing with a concussion or returns too soon?

Athletes with the signs and symptoms of a concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to greater injury.

There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period after that concussion occurs, particularly if the athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recovery, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences.

It is well known that adolescent or teenage athletes will often fail to report symptoms of injuries. Concussions are no different. As a result, education of administrators, coaches, parents and students is the key to student athlete’s safety.

If You Think Your Child Has Suffered a Concussion

Any student even suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the game or practice immediately.

No student may return to activity after an apparent head injury or concussion, regardless of how mild it seems or how quickly symptoms clear, without medical clearance. Close observation of the student should continue for several hours.

IHSA Policy requires students to provide their school with written clearance from either a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches

prior to returning to play or practice following a concussion, or after being removed from an interscholastic contest due to a possible head injury or concussion and not cleared to return to that same contest.

In accordance with State law, all IHSA member schools are required to follow this policy.

You should also inform your child's coach if you think that your child may have a concussion. Remember it is better to miss one game than miss the whole season. And when in doubt, the student sits out.

Insist that safety comes first.

For current and up-to-date information on concussions, you can go to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/index.html>

Printed Name of Student Athlete

Signature of Student Athlete

Date

Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

Board Policy 7.305, *Student Concussions and Head Injuries*
Board Policy 7.305-E1, *Exhibit – Concussion Information*