
LeGrande School Handbook

2024-2025



LeGrande Elementary Faculty and Staff

-Preschool: Melissa Davis and Angie Michael
-Primary: Rachel Horton, Bianca Kinslow, and Katrina England
-Intermediate: Natalie Bishop, Kaytie Coomer, Marlie Gibbons, Rachael Hensley, and Megan McKinney
-Middle Grades: Dillon Avery, Carla Grindle, Justin Lindsey, and Amanda Wilt
-Intervention: Beth Spann and Logan Baker
-Special Education: Sherri Avery, Jill Edwards, Breanna Riffle, and Maegan Trent
-PE: Ryan Clemmons
-Music: Boyd Rexroat
-Library Media: Beth Atkins
-Speech: Beth Huff

-Family Resource: Laurie Myers and Melissa Poynter
-Custodians: Kenny Bratcher and Isaac Hensley
-Instructional Assistants: Tammy Corbin, Sarah Dennison, Melinda England, Amanda Mouser, Joann Myers, Devan Peterson, Veronica Ramsey, Melissa Rock, Delaney Taylor, and Abby Witham
-Counselor: Jeff Reed
-SRO: Joel Huff
-School Secretary: Crystal Cecil
-Nurse: Lauren Nunn
-Principal: Megan Crump
-Food Service Manager: Dana Overfelt

All staff can be reached via email in the following format: firstname.lastname@hartkyschools.us

SBDM Members

Parent Members: Kayla Rauntree and Bethany Morris
Teacher Members: Rachael Henesley, Bethann Neville, and Jeff Reed

Student Name: _____

HART COUNTY SCHOOLS

2024 - 2025 CALENDAR

HCHS Start/End Time: 8:00 am - 2:45 pm; K-8 Schools Start/End Time: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

HOLIDAYS	STUDENTS FIRST DAY	EARLY RELEASE	NO SCHOOL	OPEN/CLOSE DAY	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	MAKEUP	WEATHER DAY
					Staff Work Day	STUDENTS LAST DAY AND EARLY RELEASE	

July 2024							0
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

August 2024							14
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2024							20
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						

October 2024							18
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

November 2024							16
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2024							15
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

January 2025							18
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025							19
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025							20
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

April 2025							17
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

May 2025							16
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2025							0
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							

1st Nine Weeks = 38 days (Aug. 13 - Oct. 4)
 2nd Nine Weeks = 45 days (Oct. 14 - Dec. 20)
 Fall Term 83 days

3rd Nine Weeks = 42 days (Jan. 6 - Mar. 7)
 4th Nine Weeks = 48 days (Mar. 10 - May 22)
 Spring Term 90 days

173 INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS

LeGrande Elementary School

"Where every student has the opportunity to learn and grow."

Welcome back for an exciting year! We are more than ready to begin this journey with each and every one of our students, families, teachers, and staff. We can't wait to begin a new year with our LeGrande Family. We appreciate your patience while changes continue to occur and our beautiful school building gets even better.

Our theme for this school year is "Reach For the Stars" with a space theme as our decor. With each year, it is our goal to continue to improve and become better, individually and as a team. We hope that all students at LeGrande feel that the stars are within their reach. This summer, teachers have engaged in multiple opportunities for professional learning and we are confident that student learning will be at an all time high.

As in the past, student safety will be our number one priority. Please remember all visitors are required to show a state issued ID upon entering the building and all volunteers must have volunteer training, which is provided by FRYSC. It is my personal goal as principal to have more parent volunteers and more parent participation than ever this year. Please let me know if/when you are available to be part of your child's learning process, and any special skills you may possess that you would like to share with our school. If anyone has any questions at any time, please call the school office at 270-786-2746.

Sincerely,
Megan Crump
Principal

Mission And Vision Statements

We are the LeGrande Family!
As a LeGrande Cardinal... I devote myself to learning.
As a LeGrande Cardinal... I cooperate with others and show them respect.
As a LeGrande Cardinal... I am accountable for my actions and take responsibility.
As a LeGrande Cardinal... I am determined to be successful.

Fly Like a Cardinal- Mission Song

Cards keep on leading (leading) leading (leading)
Into the future

I want to fly like a cardinal and succeed
Fly like a cardinal with my LeGrande family
I want to fly like a cardinal watch and see
Fly like a cardinal become the best that I can be

We envision LeGrande Elementary as a school which:

- Focuses on working cooperatively to assist all students in reaching their maximum potential through high expectations in an authentic, interactive learning community.
- Values each individual as a whole person within an atmosphere of respect, accountability, responsibility, determination and tolerance for individual differences.
- Focuses on learning as a lifelong process for every member of the LeGrande Family.
- Is open and welcoming, and therefore is supported to the fullest in an interdependent relationship with the community.
- Utilizes all available resources to maximize the educational process.
- Focuses on healthy behaviors and the development of high self-esteem for each individual.
- Provides equal access to all children and families.
- Seeks to provide opportunities for students to develop their individual and unique talents.
- Respects and supports all members of the learning community while giving them a voice and maintaining dignity, regardless of differences, to foster success for all.

We Need You: Decision Making and Parent Involvement

Parent Teacher Association: Membership in this group is voluntary at the cost of \$10.00 per person or \$18 per couple. However, it is not necessary that you be a member in order to work closely with our school's PTA. Our PTA meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month unless otherwise scheduled. This organization does so much for our students that would not otherwise be done. To say that PTA helps us is an understatement and the projects they've helped with and led are too numerous to name. The next time your child brings home a fundraiser please take a minute to think about what PTA does that benefits every child in our school and consider becoming involved in events that are going on with PTA. If you are unable to contribute financially, do not count yourself out as a contributing member of our PTA. Your time and talents are valued resources. This year, we would like to see increased attendance at our PTA meetings by both teachers and parents.

Site-Based Decision making Council: Currently, the SBDM meets the second Tuesday of the month at 4:00 PM in the school library. Special called meetings are also held as needed. All meeting times are posted in the school office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting time. Meetings are open to the public unless otherwise noted as a closed session. The SBDM is composed of two parent representatives and three teacher representatives. Any parent having a child in our school is eligible to run for parent representative. Elections are carried out through our PTA. Parent/Teacher SBDM members are elected to a two year term beginning in July of the year they are elected. The principal is the chair of the council, but is not a voting member. This group sets policies, establishes committees when needed, and makes important decisions pertaining to the school's instructional practices. We encourage you to attend meetings when possible.

Rules and Procedures Safeguarding our Students

Your child's education and safety are our highest priorities. Please be assured that every policy developed by our SBDM Council and enforced by the staff and principal is designed to protect our students and their learning environment. For a complete copy of SBDM policies related to discipline, instruction, and other matters, please call the school at (270)786-2746.

Transportation and Safety Procedures

For the protection of all LeGrande students, school grounds are supervised beginning at 7:15 AM. **Please do not leave students unattended at the school prior to this time.** Other important reminders include...

Front doors of the building are open from 7:15 AM-3:15 PM.

Buses unload in front of the building one at a time.

- Buses may get here as early as 7:10 and parents should for no reason pass a bus that is waiting to unload. Parents should NEVER get in line behind a bus to drop off a child.

Parents should not drop children off in the front of the building. Parents wishing to come into the school for volunteer or meeting purposes should not come to the school until after buses have been unloaded, around 7:30.

The lane in front of the school is for bus use only from 7:10 AM-7:45 AM and 2:30 PM-3:15 PM. If you come to school during the school day, please be mindful of this when parking, as you should not back out of any parking space in the bus line area when buses are present.

In the mornings, parents should drop off students at the gym door. All students should enter the building and go directly to the gym, their classroom or the cafeteria. depending on their grade level, Students will be instructed where to go as they enter.

Every student is expected to be at a morning meeting and seated with their appropriate class. Morning meetings are part of our school day on Mondays and Thursdays.

- During the hours of 7:00 AM - 3:45 PM the front office will be locked. Anyone needing to enter in through the front door will need to **ring the bell** on the door at the secretary's office. Please be prepared to show identification and state the reason for your visit. Someone will unlock the door for you at that time. Along with the safety lock on the door to the office, other safety measures have been put in place. The cafeteria, office, gym and hallways are monitored with cameras.
- When picking up your child prior to 3:15 PM you must enter through the office and sign your child out. This will count your child as tardy for the day. Anyone picking your child up **must** be listed on your child's pickup list and be prepared to show ID. **Changes to pickup lists must now be made through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.**

All car riders will exit through the gym beginning at 2:50. Parents will not need to come in to pick up their child. All car rider parents will be provided with a car identification tag that must be displayed in your front windshield at pickup time. It is important that all parents line up in a double or triple circular fashion in order for this system to work, using the new portion of the parking lot to widen the lines beginning at the parking cones.

- Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to pick car riders up in the car rider line in the afternoon. If you do, however, choose to park and pick your child up from school, please let the secretary know, sign in, and due to confidentiality, please wait **in the foyer**. When students are released to go to the buses you may then go to the gym and pick up your child.

- While we understand that occasionally plans change and you will need to call the school in order for your child to be given different instructions, please do not make this a habit. Transportation changes will not be accepted after 1:00 PM unless there is an emergency.

Students will turn their bus notes in to their homeroom teacher first thing in the morning. The classroom teacher will be responsible for getting notes to the office in a timely fashion. If you wish to authorize any person other than parents/guardians to pick your child up from school, their name must be entered in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal as an authorized pick up. If someone new is picking up your student in the car rider line, they should be prepared to show ID and must have a car rider tag displayed. When a student who regularly rides a bus is riding home with a parent or authorized person, please send a note to the office that morning.

Please be on time to pick your child up from school. If you are going to be late please let the school know before 3:15 PM.

- No student will **knowingly** be permitted to leave with anyone other than an authorized person.

Students will be dismissed in the afternoon when called by the secretary. Students should be ready to exit the building by 3:00 PM each afternoon.

Transportation will differ for preschool students, as their procedures for entering and exiting the school are the responsibility of the director of preschool, and must be consistent throughout the district. Please see the district preschool handbook for preschool entry/release times and procedures. Preschool parents should avoid lining up for dropoff prior to 7:25am, as their dropoff line creates a hindrance to the buses entering and exiting the front parking lot between 7:10 and 7:25.

Further, in order to promote student responsibility, all students wishing to ride the activity bus must have a legitimate reason for riding the activity bus (a Hart Co. Schools sponsored activity), and must sign the bus sheet for that day upon arrival at school. Coaches will provide the principal/secretary with a list of dates/times that practices and activities will take place at the high school. Students who are found to be riding or attempting to ride the activity bus, but do not have a sport/activity sponsored by Hart County Schools will be subject to the loss of the privilege of riding the activity bus for a period determined by the principal/coach/sponsor. Students who live outside of the LeGrande school area are not permitted to use the activity bus as a means of transportation to ride the bus in the school area in which they live.

LeGrande School Discipline Policy

ASD= After School Detention=1-2 hours after school

ISS= In School Suspension

Written discipline notices will be sent home with the student. Please note that the severe clause may be applied at any level. Any infraction beyond prescribed action is up to the principal's discretion or board policy. Additionally, consequences for some behaviors are outlined in the district elementary handbook. Please refer to both documents for a clear explanation of rules and consequences.

Offense	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
Cell Phone Violation	Phone taken for the day/Written Warning	Cell phone taken and parent/guardian must pick it up/Written Warning	Cell phone taken and parent/guardian must pick up and 1 hour of ASD	Cell phone taken and parent/guardian must pick up and 1 day ISS
Tardy to Class	Verbal Warning	Written Warning	1 hour ASD	1 Day ISS
Cheating/Plagiarism	Discretion of Administrative Staff and/or teacher, Parents Notified and student receives a zero on assignment.			
Dress Code Violations	Written Warning, Parents Notified, Change Clothes	First Offense Consequences and AND 1 hour ISS	First Offense Consequence and 2 hours of ASD	First Offense Consequence and 1 day ISS
Defiance/Disrespect	1 Day ASD/ISS	1 Day Suspension*	2 Days Suspension*	Suspension*, Court Referral
Disrespect with profanity or aggression toward staff	Discretion of administrative staff, possible suspension and/or court referral			
Disruptive Behavior	Warning/Write Up	ISS (At the discretion of the administrator)	2 Hours ASD	ISS or Suspension*
Fighting or Instigating a Fight	3 Days ISS/ASD	Suspension*	Suspension*	Suspension* /Court Referral
Destruction of School Property/Vandalism	Restitution, Discretion of Administrative Staff, possible court referral			
Bullying, Intimidation, or Harassment	For each occurrence, Discretion of Administrative Staff, Possible Warning, Peer Mediation, Parent Conference, Referral to Counselor, Possible court referral, possible referral to Alternative School, Board hearing for possible expulsion			
Forgery	Administrative Staff Discretion			
Improper Display of Affection	Written warning AND parents notified	5 Day ISS	2 Hrs. ASD	ISS and Parent Conference
Obscene Gestures, Cursing, Profanity	Written Warning and parent notification and or ISS	1 Day ISS	2 Days ISS	Suspension*
Possession of Pornography	1 Day ISS and Parents Notified	2 Days ASD @ 2 Hours each day	Suspension*	Suspension*
Possession of a Dangerous Weapon	Suspension and/or Expulsion Hearing and/or referral to Alternative School/Court Referral			
Stealing, Possession of Stolen Property	Administrative Discretion, Parents Notified, Restitution and/or possible suspension*			
Possession, Sale transfer of Drugs and/or Alcohol	Suspension and/or Expulsion Hearing and/or referral to Alternative School/Court Referral			
Tobacco Violation (Possession or use of Tobacco and Related Products)	1 Day suspension* Tobacco product confiscated.	1 Day suspension* Tobacco product confiscated and cessation course	2-5 Day suspension* and parents notified Tobacco product confiscated and cessation course	3-5 day suspension* Tobacco product confiscated and cessation course
Vape Possession	1 day suspension* Product(s) confiscated	1 day suspension* Product(s) confiscated and cessation course	2-5 day suspension* Product(s) confiscated and cessation course	3-5 day suspension* Product(s) confiscated and demerit points
Vape Usage/Distribution	1 day suspension* and cessation course	1-3 day suspension* and cessation course	3-5 day suspension* and cessation course	5 day suspension* and demerit points

**Suspension can be in school or out of school suspension. Demerit points will be assigned to all major discipline referrals at the discretion of the principal.*

- Concerning cell phone usage: Any student who is referred to the office for disciplinary reasons and contacts his/her parent prior to being seen by an administrator is in violation of this policy and will face further consequences as outlined in the discipline policy in this handbook. The school also reserves the right to allow BYOD (bring your own device) situations for rewards or classroom use, as outlined by the teacher/administrator.

Definition of Terms:

Cheating-to act dishonestly; to deceive by trickery; to use someone else's answers; to give someone else answers.

Deface-to mar or spoil the appearance or surface

Instigating-to urge or incite

Plagiarism-to use and pass off as one's own ideas or writings

Pornography-pictures, writing, or other material that is sexually explicit

Stealing-to take without right or permission

Threat-an expression of an intention to inflict pain, injury or evil. A person regarded as a possible danger.

Vandalism-willful or malicious destruction or defacement of public property.

Student Dress and Appearance

Please see the district handbook for guidelines on student dress and appearance (dress code). Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to change. If our Family Resource has the needed clothing, the student will be given clothing to change into. If we do not have clothing available, the student will be assigned to office detention until a parent can bring them clothing to change. Please refer to the student discipline policy for subsequent consequences for dress code violations. Students in grades preschool-4th grade will be held to relaxed standards for dress code and handled on a case by case basis.

Extended School Services

Extended school services (ESS) is for students who need additional help or tutoring in a class or classes and is not intended for students who are being defiant or irresponsible in completing and turning in homework assignments. The ESS coordinator will be responsible for scheduling teachers and students to remain after school for ESS. Documentation is maintained on ESS referrals and/or attendance before a student is considered for retention. Tutoring will also be offered every morning from 7:20-7:45 in the library.

School Grounds Non-Smoking Policy

It is the goal of the faculty and staff of LeGrande School to have a safe environment for our students, families and community members. We have a policy that **prohibits smoking on school grounds**. This includes vaping. Asthma is one of several conditions that some of our students suffer from, and smoking is a known trigger. We are asking for the cooperation of all who visit LeGrande School to adhere to this policy. Failure to do so may result in the offender being asked to leave the school's property.

Board of Education Office

25 Quality Street, Munfordville, KY 42765
Phone: 270-524-2631 • Fax: 270-524-2634
www.hart.kyschools.us

Administration

Nathan Smith - Superintendent
Bo Chenoweth - Assistant Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer
Dana Barrett - Supervisor of Instruction K-3
Carri Goodman – Supervisor of Instruction/Literacy Coach
Matt Hawkins-Director of Finance
Kristin Froedje- Director of Special Education/ Federal Programs and Preschool
Allen Poynter - Director of Pupil Personnel/DAC

Hart County Board of Education

Sheryl Shirley- Chairperson
Tina Rutledge- Vice-Chairperson
Wesley Hodges
Tyler Holthouser
Sonya Gedda

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Bonnieville Elementary School

Kurtis Wright, Principal
7874 North Dixie Highway
Bonnieville, KY 42713
kurtis.wright@hart.kyschools.us
Phone: 270-531-1111
Fax: 270-531-3331

Memorial Elementary School

Joey Sexton, Principal
1400 North Jackson Highway
Hardyville, KY 42746
joey.sexton@hart.kyschools.us
Phone: 270-528-2271
Fax: 270-528-2273

Cub Run Elementary School

Daniel Hawkins, Principal
170 East Gap Hill Road
Cub Run, KY 42729
daniel.hawkins@hart.kyschools.us
Phone: 270-524-2925
Fax: 270-524-0531

Munfordville Elementary School

Christina Boone, Principal
505 W. Union Street
Munfordville, KY 42765
christina.boone@hart.kyschools.us
Phone: 270-524-4651
Fax: 270-524-4652

LeGrande Elementary School

Megan Crump, Principal
70 LeGrande School Road
Horse Cave, KY 42749
megan.jones@hart.kyschools.us
Phone: 270-786-2746
Fax: 270-786-5747

**Changes may occur within instruction, school-setting, and/or bus-setting at any time because of emergency situation(s).*

Hart County elementary schools and the Hart County School District reserve the right to set forth those rules and regulations that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution the educational program of the school(s), which are not specifically stated herein, as the needs arise. Each building administrator may interpret and enforce these guidelines on the age group and situation within his/her building for the purpose of maintaining/improving the overall education of the students. If a conflict exists between information in this handbook and Board policy or administrative procedures, the policies and procedures govern

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
HANDBOOK REVIEW COMMITTEE.....	4
HART COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.....	4
NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY.....	4
LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAY.....	4
KENTUCKY'S SIX GOALS FOR EDUCATION.....	4
KENTUCKY PRIMARY PROGRAM.....	4
LITERACY POLICY.....	5
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.....	6
GUIDANCE SERVICES.....	6
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY.....	6
EXTENDED SCHOOL SERVICES.....	7
GIFTED AND TALENTED SERVICES (GATS).....	7
TITLE I SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS.....	7
TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY/COMPACT.....	8
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.....	9
FAMILY RESOURCE/YOUTH SERVICE CENTERS.....	9
FOOD SERVICE.....	9
PARENT CONFERENCES.....	9
REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN-DISTRICT SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT.....	10
SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION.....	10
CLOSED CAMPUS.....	10
EARTHQUAKE, FIRE, TORNADO, AND INTRUDER DRILLS.....	10
LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS.....	10
LOST AND FOUND.....	10
MEDICATION.....	10
FIRST AID.....	11
RELEASE OF STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION AND PUBLICATION CONSENT.....	11
TELEPHONE.....	11
STUDENT ACTIVITIES.....	11
STUDENT INSURANCE.....	11
ATHLETIC/CHEERLEADER ELIGIBILITY.....	11
CONFIDENTIALITY AND RECORDS STATEMENT.....	12
TARDY POLICY.....	12
MISSING KENTUCKY SCHOOL CHILDREN PROGRAM.....	12
REPORTING ON STUDENT PERFORMANCE.....	12
PROMOTION AND RETENTION.....	13
DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES (GENERAL).....	13
BUS RULES/CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUS.....	13
DISCIPLINE FOR BUS PROBLEMS.....	15
REQUESTS FOR TRANSPORTATION CHANGE.....	15
DRESS CODE.....	15

BEHAVIORAL VIOLATIONS.....	15
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES.....	16
PROHIBITED ITEMS.....	17
FOOD/DRINK ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL.....	17
ANIMALS.....	17
ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM.....	17
ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.....	18
TOBACCO.....	18
CHEATING.....	18
DETENTION.....	18
HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION.....	18
HAZING AND BULLYING.....	18
LOWERING GRADES FOR MISCONDUCT.....	19
DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY.....	19
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE: STUDENT AND PARENT NON-DISCRIMINATION.....	19
INFORMAL NON-DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.....	20
FORMAL NON-DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE PROCESS.....	20
RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.....	20
CHECK ACCEPTANCE AND RETURN POLICY.....	23
ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN.....	23
NOTIFICATION OF FERPA RIGHTS.....	23
CHILD FIND FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN NEED OF SPECIAL EDUCATION.....	24
OR 504 SERVICES.....	24

HANDBOOK REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hart County Elementary Schools Parent-Student Handbook is reviewed annually with a committee having input into its contents. Committee members participating in the handbook review for the 2024-2025 school year included principals and central office personnel.

HART COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Hart County Elementary Schools do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, parental status, marital status, race, national origin, religion, sex, or veteran status in employment, educational programs, or activities as set forth in Title IX, Title VI, and Section 504.

LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAY

School will begin at 8:00 A.M. and end at 3:00 P.M. *A student who arrives after 8:00 A.M. or leaves before 3:00 P.M. is considered "tardy."*

KENTUCKY'S SIX GOALS FOR EDUCATION

1. Schools shall expect a high level of achievement.
2. Schools shall develop their students' ability to achieve the following six Learner Outcomes:
 - A. use basic communication and mathematics skills for the purposes and situations they will encounter throughout their lives;
 - B. apply core concepts and principles from mathematics, the sciences, the arts, the humanities, social studies, and practical living and vocational studies to situations they will encounter throughout their lives;
 - C. become a self-sufficient individual;
 - D. become responsible members of a family, work group, or community including demonstrating effectiveness in community service;
 - E. think and solve problems in school situations and in a variety of situations they will encounter in life; and
 - F. connect and integrate experiences and new knowledge from all subject matter fields with what they have previously learned and build on past experiences to acquire new information through various media sources.
3. Schools shall increase their students' rate of school attendance.
4. Schools shall reduce their students' dropout and retention rate.
5. Schools shall reduce physical and mental health barriers to learning.
6. Schools shall be measured on the proportion of students who make a successful transition to work post-secondary education, and the military.

KENTUCKY PRIMARY PROGRAM

The first four or five years of a student's early education is Primary School, which replaced what has traditionally been kindergarten, first, second and third grades. Students are now designated as P1 (kindergarten), P2 (first grade), P3 (second grade), and P4 (third grade).

Primary School is based upon the seven critical attributes of Kentucky Primary Schools: developmentally appropriate educational practices; multi-age, multi-ability classrooms; continuous progress at a student's own rate in a success oriented, non-competitive classroom without promotion or retention; authentic assessment which occurs continually in the context of classroom involvement; qualitative reporting methods including portfolios, journals, videotapes, narratives, and others; professional teamwork; and positive parent involvement.

The determination of successful completion of the Primary Program is made on an individual student basis. Ongoing evidence to support the determination includes teacher observations and anecdotal records, student products or performances, evidence of student self-reflection or assessment, and recording of skills mastery on the curriculum skills list.

Students exiting the Primary Program will exhibit performance expectations, which would support student success in the fourth grade. A school team, which includes the parent of the identified child, will consider and recommend the appropriate early or delayed exit for any student in the primary program. Such review will take place at least 30 days before the decision takes effect. Parents shall not veto the decision of the certified staff.

The following shall be the focus for determining student eligibility to exit the Primary Program.

The student:

- a. expresses himself/herself clearly and effectively in oral and written form;
- b. processes oral and written information as evidenced through listening and reading;
- c. demonstrates confidence in his/her ability to communicate;
- d. applies mathematical procedures to problem-solving;
- e. applies mathematical concepts including computation, measurement, estimation, and geometry;
- f. collects, displays, and interprets data;
- g. demonstrates use of monetary values in an economic system;
- h. demonstrates appropriate and relevant investigation skills to solve specific problems in real life;
- i. creatively expresses ideas and feelings;
- j. applies democratic principles in relationship with peers;
- k. identifies contributions of diverse individuals, groups, and cultures;
- l. demonstrates responsibility for personal belongings;
- m. shows respect for the property and rights of others;
- n. displays self-control and self-discipline;
- o. accesses appropriate resources for learning in school, at home, and in the community;
- p. participates in group activities cooperatively;
- q. chooses appropriate process and strategies to solve given problems; and
- r. applies previously learned knowledge and concepts to new situations.

LITERACY POLICY

Hart County Schools will provide a balanced reading program emphasizing the five components of reading identified by the National Reading Panel. The five components include: phonics, phonemic awareness, comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary. In addition to the National Reading Panel's five components of reading instruction, five important provisions have been identified by Richard L. Allington, PhD., University of Tennessee. Building on recent scientific, research-based evidence supporting the need for these additional components of effective reading instruction, Hart County Schools will also incorporate these components into a well-balanced approach to literacy instruction:

1. **Access to interesting texts and choice.** Students need easy access to a large supply of texts they can read and are interested in reading.
2. **Matching students with appropriate texts.** Students cannot learn from texts they cannot read. Teachers must find texts that match the reading level and conceptual levels of the students they are teaching.
3. **Writing and reading have reciprocal positive effects.** A curriculum plan that ensures reading and writing, composing and comprehension, decoding and spelling lessons are well-linked to take the advantage of the natural reciprocity between the various reading and language processes.
4. **Classroom organization.** Effective classroom reading instruction provides a balanced mixture of whole class, small group, and side-by-side instruction all day long.
5. **Availability of expert tutoring.** Some students need more intensive and expert instruction in order to maintain progress that is comparable to their peers.

Hart County Schools follows the following intervention process:

Identification: All classroom teachers need to continually assess students to monitor student progress using consistent measures across the district (e.g. Lexia, running records, daily observation during guided reading)

- Students experiencing difficulty in reading should be referred to the school Literacy Team for review.
- Intervention teachers will use diagnostic assessments to identify the lowest 20% of students who will be served for Tier 3 interventions.
- An intervention plan appropriate for each student experiencing difficulty in reading should be developed by the Literacy Team.

Instruction: All teachers need a variety of strategies, techniques and support in order to teach reading across the curriculum. To adjust instruction for individual students each teacher will utilize the literacy resource binders which have been created at each level (primary, middle, high) to provide support for implementing the strategies in the district literacy plan.

Interventions/Enrichment: In order to successfully reach our goal, schools will:

- Use ESS rigorously to raise the reading level of struggling students.
- Continue school-based literacy initiatives that support the district's goal of meeting individual literacy needs of students.
- Implement MTSS (Multi tiered systems of support) for all learners.

Improvement: Since reading is the basis for all other learning,

- Each school shall identify specific needs for professional development in literacy and develop a plan based on these needs.
- The district will continue refining curriculum alignment documents.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

All Hart County Elementary Schools provide curriculum based on the Kentucky Department of Education Program of Studies. Parents, who are interested in the highly qualified status of their child's teacher, as required by the No Child Left Behind act, should contact the principal.

GUIDANCE SERVICES

Each elementary school in the Hart County School System offers guidance and counseling services by an on-staff school counselor.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

All students in Hart County Schools are provided access to computer technology, including email at grades Primary-12. In addition to emphasizing technical knowledge, technology instruction focuses on research, application of software for authentic activities, and reinforcement and extension of core content curriculum. All students in Hart County Schools are held to a high level of accountability in regard to the use of technology. When using school equipment and accessing the Internet, all students will adhere to the requirements and be subject to the consequences outlined in the Hart County School Acceptable Use of Technology Policy (AUP). Student and parent/guardian signatures will be required on the district's AUP for student use of the Internet and email.

Students are expected to follow and abide by all rules that govern the appropriate use of their Chromebook and the technology is provided for them. All school and district rules apply in regard to inappropriate language, bullying, harassment, etc. Failure to follow and abide by the rules will result in referrals to the office and appropriate consequences. Finally, students are encouraged to use this technology opportunity to push themselves to new levels of learning and thinking facilitated by their teachers.

Chromebook/Computer Learning Procedure for Hart County Schools

- Chromebook/Computer use is for instructional purposes only unless otherwise directed by the classroom teacher.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that there is sufficient battery life, hard drive space, and memory available to engage in all educational requirements on a daily basis.
- The student computer filtering and security settings shall not be changed at any time.
- Students at no time will vandalize or deface computers (by using stickers, markers or other items or removing any manufacturer or district labeling).
- Students are prohibited from taking apart the computer or modifying the physical components in any way.
- Illegal use or transfer of copyrighted materials is prohibited at all times.
- Students are prohibited from using another student's login name and password. Every effort must be made by the student to keep his/her login name and password secure. All passwords must remain confidential and should not be shared among students.
- Additions, modifications or deletion of the base operating system must not occur without District approval.
- Obscene language and/or materials, including screensavers, backdrops, and/or pictures are prohibited.

- Students are prohibited from sending non-instructional related emails, instant messages, and/or hosting personal web pages with their computers unless otherwise directed by the classroom teacher.
- Downloading music, games, and videos from the Internet during school hours is prohibited unless otherwise directed by the classroom teacher.
- Copyrighted video materials shall not be downloaded, viewed, or accessed using the computer unless directed by the classroom teacher for instructional purposes.
- Chat rooms and social networking sites are not to be accessed unless directed by the classroom teacher.
- File sharing must be approved and directed by the teacher.
- The district is only responsible for original district loaded software. All personal software loaded is subject to removal anytime during routine upgrades, maintenance, repairs or as a result of Acceptable Use Policy violations.
- Unless authorized by the school/district administration, no software may be downloaded/installed in any language other than English.
- Chromebook/Laptop use and contents will be monitored on a regular basis. All Chromebooks/laptops are subject to physical inspection by school and district technical and administrative staff on a routine basis and must be available to staff immediately upon request. Machines not adhering to these guidelines may be reimaged at the discretion of the school/district technical staff; re-imaging for this reason will be at the expense of the student.
- The student and parent(s)/guardian(s) assume responsibility for the reasonable care of the Chromebook, including all supplementary materials, including but not limited to the laptop case, power supply, power cord, earbuds, network cable, and other devices.
- When applicable, Chromebooks should be secured in the district-provided case/sleeve when not in use; Chromebooks should not be subjected to unnecessary weight, torque, or pressure.

Chromebook Replacement/Repair Costs

Fees for repairs are the obvious result of intentional damage, neglect, or misplaced items shall be assessed as follows:

- Keyboard (\$30)
- Charger (\$25)
- General Defacement (stickers, graffiti, unusual war, removal/defacement of identifying labels, or physical damage, etc. (\$100)
- Screen (\$75)
- Total Unit Replacement (\$225)

EXTENDED SCHOOL SERVICES

ESS will be provided as determined by the school and school council for students who need additional time to achieve skills.

GIFTED AND TALENTED SERVICES (GATS)

A variety of services are provided to students with exceptionalities in five areas, through the G.A.T.S. (Gifted and Talented Services) program. The five areas mandated by the Kentucky Department of Education for services include general intellectual aptitude, specific academic aptitude, creativity, leadership, and visual and performing arts. Students in P-1 through P-4 are referred for participation in the Primary Talent Pool at each elementary school. Students in the Talent Pool are not labeled as gifted and talented. They are identified only as “possessing some of the characteristics of gifted and talented students.” While in the Talent Pool, they will be provided differentiated activities to foster and nurture the observed characteristics.

Students are not formally identified as Gifted and Talented until fourth grade. The G/T specialists and regular classroom teachers provide multiple services to students in grades 4-8 who are identified as Gifted and Talented.

TITLE I SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS

Each of the elementary schools has school wide Title I programs. Title I is a federally-funded program to help low-income schools and students reach the same challenging standards expected of all children. School wide programs are designed to upgrade the entire educational program in the school in order to raise academic achievement for all students. These programs are built on school wide reform strategies and focus on results.

Each school encourages parents to become partners in learning and to participate in school activities. Parent Involvement activities are planned at each school to assist parents in improving the performance of their children and participating in decision-making related to the education of their children. In addition, a District Title I Advisory Council and a school Title I Advisory Council meet quarterly to facilitate a partnership among schools, parents and the community in planning and implementing the Title I program. A written parent involvement policy is included in this handbook. Parents whose students attend Title I schools may contact the district coordinator for information regarding their child's certified and professional staff's qualifications.

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY/COMPACT

Contingent on confirmation of resources and other necessary information being provided by state and federal authorities, it is the intent of the Board that parents of participating students shall be provided with flexible opportunities for organized, on-going, and timely participation in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program, including opportunities to suggest modifications, based on changing needs of parents and the schools. All comments indicating parents' dissatisfaction with the Title I plan shall be collected and submitted along with the plan to the Department of Education. The Title I program shall be designed to assist students to acquire the capacities and achieve the goals established by law, as well as the goals and standards established by the Board. These goals and standards shall be shared with parents in a manner that will give them: (1) timely information about programs; (2) a description and explanation of the school's curriculum, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; the achievement level of their child on each of the state academic assessments; and (3) if requested, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.

If the District's Title I allocation is \$500,000 or more, the District shall reserve not less than one per cent (1%) of its allocation for the purpose of promoting parent involvement and shall distribute to Title I schools not less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the reserved funds. Parents of participating students shall be provided the opportunity to help decide how this portion of the Title I funds will be allotted for parental involvement activities. The District will provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance. These measures may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

1. Designation of resources to assist in communicating with parents, transporting them to meeting sites and/or implementing home visits, providing child-care for meetings, encouraging them to use available parent resource centers, and working with them to improve parenting skills, particularly those that will assist them in working with their child to improve his/her educational achievements. Resources may include individuals, agencies, materials, and services.
2. Sharing options for coordinating and integrating Title I program strategies with services of other community programs, businesses, and agencies.
3. Identification of ways in which parents can be involved in staff training activities to demonstrate the value of parent involvement and various techniques designed to successfully engage parents as equal partners in their child's education.
4. Making a good faith effort to convene an annual meeting at a convenient time to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend for informing parents of their school's participation in and requirements for Title I programs and of their rights to be involved.
5. Designing and conducting an effective annual evaluation process whereby parents can share their ideas about the content and effectiveness of this policy in improving the academic quality of schools receiving Title I funds, and the plan designed to implement it. The process shall focus on the following questions: Does this policy increase parent participation? What barriers to parent participation still exist, and how can they be reduced or removed? The findings produced by the annual evaluation shall be utilized to design strategies for school improvement and for revising this policy, if necessary.
6. In the design of activities and materials for parents, particular attention shall be given to reaching and involving those who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

A program of continuous health supervision is provided for all students enrolled in the district. Appropriate screening tests for vision, hearing and scoliosis are provided. Emergency care procedures include first aid facilities and provisions. At least two adult employees in each school are certified in a standard first aid course that includes CPR for children. Cumulative health records are on file for each student enrolled. A second physical examination is required within one year prior to entry into the sixth grade.

FAMILY RESOURCE/YOUTH SERVICE CENTERS

All Hart County Schools are served by Family Resource/Youth Service Centers. The centers are designed to assist students and their families to remove any barriers to the students' education. They can help families obtain health and social services, basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter, educational and employment needs, childcare, and other essential services. The centers are available to all students enrolled in the Hart County schools and their families.

For information or assistance call Helping Hands Family Resource/Youth Service Center (LeGrande and Memorial schools) at 270-528-7211; Pathways Family Resource/Youth Service Center (Bonnieville and Cub Run schools) at 270-218-0603; or Hope Family Resource/Youth Service Center (Munfordville) at 524-Hope (4673).

FOOD SERVICE

Hart County Schools believe that meeting the nutritional needs of every child is a vital part of the educational process. We strive to meet those needs by providing a variety of healthy meals so every student can realize his/her potential in all areas of education.

For the 2023-24 school year, **ALL** Hart County Schools will participate in the Community Eligibility Program. This program will allow all students in preschool thru the twelfth grade to receive a breakfast and lunch meal every day at no cost to the student. All students will be encouraged to participate in the program and take breakfast and lunch each day. There is no charge for the meal; however, students may purchase "extras" and other ala carte items at regular prices. Student lunch accounts remain active and will be maintained as in previous years.

Parents will not have to complete a Free/Reduced Lunch Form; however, students will receive a Household Income Form on the first day of school. Parents are to complete this form (only one form per household) and return it to your child's school.

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"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or if all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parents may make appointments for a conference with staff members by telephoning the school office as follows: Bonnieville School at 270-531-1111, Cub Run School at 270-524-2925, Hart County High School at 270-524-2332, LeGrande School at 270-786-2746, Memorial School at 270-528-2271 and Munfordville School at 270-524-4651. Attempts will be made to schedule conferences with teachers during their planning periods to avoid interrupting classroom instruction. Additional parent conference nights will be held in the fall and the spring at each school.

REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN-DISTRICT SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT

Any request for change in your child's school assignment within the Hart County School District must be based upon physical, psychological, or educational reasons. Family hardship may also be considered in changing school assignment. An application for change in school assignment, 09.11 AP.22, must be completed and submitted to the Principal. The Superintendent or designee must give final approval.

If a family moves from one attendance zone to another within the school system, the pupil may be permitted to finish the school year in the school in which he/she was last enrolled (at no cost or service by the Board). The pupil must enroll the following year in the school in the attendance zone of his/her legal residence.

Schools reserve the right to terminate services by transferring the students who are residents of Hart County back to their home school at any point during the school year if the student becomes disruptive and/or interferes with the educational process and/or safety of students, teachers and/or instructional assistants, or if the student: fails two (2) or more classes during a grading period, is suspended from school or expelled from school, or accumulates more than six (6) unexcused absences in a school year.

SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

During the school year when inclement weather (such as sleet, snow or freezing rain) or other emergencies occur, school delay or cancellation decisions must be made. In some instances, the District may elect to utilize Non-Traditional Instruction Days (Raider Days). Every effort will be made to make the decision as early as possible.

The Hart County Schools will notify radio stations WLOC (1150 AM and 101.7 FM) in Horse Cave, WKNK (99.1 FM) in Edmonton, and television stations WBKO Channel 13 and WNKY Channel 40 in Bowling Green and WHAS Channel 11, WAVE Channel 3, WDRB Channel 41 in Louisville.

When appropriate, notification of school closing and other information will be provided through an automated calling system (In Touch System) which contacts each student's household. If parents prefer not to be contacted via the In Touch System, please contact the district office.

CLOSED CAMPUS

All students are to be confined to the school grounds during the hours that school is in session.

EARTHQUAKE, FIRE, TORNADO, AND INTRUDER DRILLS

Earthquake, fire, tornado, and intruder drills are conducted during the school year. Each school has made plans in the event of any and all emergencies. Procedures are posted in the appropriate areas, and drills are conducted to ensure that all are knowledgeable and that equipment functions properly.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Students will be released from school prior to the time school is dismissed for the following reasons:

1. Picked up at school by their parents or guardians.
2. Family emergencies by a phone call to the principal or designee.

If students are to leave with an adult other than parent, guardian, or family member, the student must present a written request for an Early Dismissal. The request must include the name of the adult with whom the student is requesting to leave, the signature of a parent or guardian, and the telephone number at which the parent or guardian can be contacted for verbal verification, which must be given before the student will be allowed to leave.

LOST AND FOUND

Any article that is lost or found should be reported and turned in to the office.

MEDICATION

A trained staff member may administer a drug or other preparations (drops, ointment, inhaler, etc.) prescribed by a physician in its original container for health conditions that must be administered during the school day. The parent or guardian must first complete the "Medical Permission Request" before medication is administered. This is for prescription and non-prescription medications. We encourage morning medications to be given at home, if possible. A student may not be permitted to carry medication unless it has been prescribed and ordered by a physician to stay on or with the pupil due to a pressing medical need which may require emergency treatment, e.g., an asthma inhaler. Students shall not share any prescription or over-the-counter medication with another student.

Provisions may be available so that over-the-counter analgesics and antacids may be administered by school nursing staff; please contact your school for details.

FIRST AID

School nurses and other appropriate school staff shall provide basic first aid assistance to students on an as-needed basis. First aid services shall include, but not limited to, use of over-the-counter treatments for the relief of minor itching, burning, insect bites, skin or eye irritations, tooth pain, and throat irritation in addition to general antiseptic treatments, antacids, and cough lozenges. If parents prefer that any of these items not be administered as part of standard first aid services, they must provide written notification to the school principal each school year.

RELEASE OF STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION AND PUBLICATION CONSENT

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee is authorized to release board approved directory information. Approved directory information shall be: student names and addresses, telephone numbers, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and most recent educational institution attended by student. Under Board Policy 09.14 AP.12, the District has further designated student photographs as "directory information." Consistent with that annual notice, a photograph of an individual student may be released to others and/or reproduced in school yearbooks as long as the parent or adult student has not submitted written notice indicating that they do not wish photographs of the student to be released. The District also retains permission to record and use the recorded image, voice, or work of the student (photographed, filmed, taped, or digitally recorded) for public awareness purposes, including publication on the school and/or District's website. In addition, at some time during the school year, your child may be videotaped or photographed participating in activities or projects. On special occasions, a general audience on local cable television, the Internet, or other media may view the tape or photograph. Throughout the school year, various surveys may also be administered to students. The survey results would be used to determine needs and results of various programs. Student participation would be voluntary. Consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents or students 18 or older may direct the District not to disclose directory information. If you do not want your child to participate or be involved in any of the above activities and/or you prefer to withhold directory information, please contact the school your child attends within thirty (30) days of enrollment to obtain and complete the appropriate form(s).

TELEPHONE

Pupils must have a note from their teacher before receiving permission to use the office telephone. A valid reason must exist before permission will be given. Students who use cellphones without permission will receive consequences as outlined in the student handbook.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities are provided by all Hart County schools.

STUDENT INSURANCE

All students will be insured while participating in school-sponsored activities. The insurance provided is secondary to the existing policy you may have. This insurance will be provided at no cost to the student.

ATHLETIC/CHEERLEADER ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for participation in elementary athletic programs and/or cheerleading, any student must have completed the following requirements:

- (1) Maintain a C average for each nine weeks grading period.
- (2) Not be on suspension or probation from school.
- (3) Be in attendance for the day in order to practice or play in the game unless excused by the principal.
- (4) Provide the coach with a doctor's statement certifying doctor's approval of acceptable physical condition for participation.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND RECORDS STATEMENT

The Hart County Board of Education has a policy, which states that:

1. The Hart County School District will comply with the provision of KAR 704-1:050 through 1:060; Individuals with Disability Education Act (2004); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Sub Part D) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act for making available any and all information concerning Hart County Exceptional Children.
2. The Hart County School District will comply with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act in making available any and all information concerning any Hart County School Student.
3. Student records will be transferred to another school or school district upon the request of that school's appropriate personnel without parent's/guardian's signature unless the parents/ guardians of the affected child objects in writing.
4. When achievement test scores are received, all Hart County Schools shall notify all parents/guardians of their right to examine their child's score.

TARDY POLICY

It is the responsibility of all students to arrive at school on time. Classes begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Tardies are disruptive and are deterrents to the educational process. Students will NOT be allowed to enter class without obtaining an admit slip from the office. Excessive tardiness may result in a truancy referral. Habitual tardiness may result in court proceedings against the parent and/or the student depending on the student's age.

MISSING KENTUCKY SCHOOL CHILDREN PROGRAM

Forms are available, upon request, to the parents of missing Kentucky school children. Assistance shall be given in completing and forwarding these forms to the Kentucky Department of Education.

REPORTING ON STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Reporting to parents regarding students' performances shall be done five school days after the end of each nine weeks grading period (four times per school year). Report cards appropriate for subjects and grades shall be utilized with information included consistent by grade. Each report shall include attendance along with other expected information.

Pupil progress reports shall be provided to parents of students in grades P-8 after the mid-point of each grading period (four times per school year), which provide parents with a general indication of their children's performances in the major academic areas.

Homework, tests and other items are checked and returned to students promptly in order that they and their parents will be aware of their degree of progress. Daily work may be sent home by students with instructions for parents to sign work and return it to school.

Teachers may request conferences with parents as may parents with the teachers. Building principals encourage communications between home and school.

NOTE: In interpreting grades, parents and students should take care to note that a student's performance is assessed based upon the level of instruction. Scales and indicators are included on report cards to indicate if a student is functioning on grade level.

Primary - Reports will be made showing student continuous progress.

Grades 4-8

90-100	A	Excellent
80-89	B	Good
70-79	C	Average
60-69	D	Poor
Below 60	F	Failure

*To qualify for end of the year honor roll students must earn **A's/B's only** for all four nine weeks.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Student progression through the Hart County School System in grades 4-8 shall be determined on the basis of a two-step procedure.

1. All teachers shall provide an ongoing assessment of every student assigned to them. This assessment shall be based on grades as recorded in teachers' grade books, on curriculum skills list, participation and homework. The building principal shall notify the parents by letter and shall schedule a conference by mid-year or as soon as it becomes apparent that it may be in the best interests of a student to be retained. After contacting parents, the school shall make every effort to keep parents informed as to the progress of their child.
2. If inadequate student progress continues, the affected teacher or teachers and the building principal shall conduct a review of the child's achievement. Prior to the last day of the school year, the teacher or teachers involved and the building principal shall make a decision as to whether the affected student shall be retained. The decision shall be based on classroom performance, achievement of curriculum outcome standards and other available test scores. Prior to the last day of the school year, the building principal and the teacher or teachers shall schedule a conference with the child's parents to notify and explain the retention of their child. Parents **shall not** veto the decision of the certified staff to promote or retain.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES (GENERAL)

Good discipline consists of originality, common sense, and good judgment using acceptable techniques that deter inappropriate behavior.

Assertive Discipline: Assertive discipline is a procedural approach whereby student expectations and possible consequences are clearly defined. As a technique, assertive discipline would or could incorporate all the following acceptable procedures.

- A. The following are acceptable in-class discipline procedures:
 1. Verbal correction
 2. Parent conferences or contacts
 3. Behavioral contracts or other constructive corrective measures
 4. Isolation and/or separation
 5. Loss of classroom privileges
- B. In addition to the above, the following are acceptable administrative-initiated procedures:
 1. Out-of-school suspension
 2. In-school suspension
 3. Referral agencies
 4. Referral to board of education for possible expulsion
 5. After (or before) school detentions
 6. Referral to district discipline review committee

BUS RULES/CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUS

For the safety of all students, each teacher should spend a specific amount of time on rules and practices during the first part of the school year. They should also be reviewed periodically during the school year.

- A. Seats are assigned to all students.
- B. Students should be taught the following safety rules and practices:
 1. Students are to secure athletic and band equipment on the bus.
 2. Students are never to throw things from the bus.
 3. Students are never to take smoke producing or use flame-producing objects on the bus.
 4. Students are to open the windows only with driver permission.
 5. Students are never to tamper with the bus or equipment.
 6. Students are never to use vulgar language or actions while on the bus.
 7. The parents or guardians may be held responsible for restitution of any damages, beyond normal usage, inflicted by their child.

8. Students will obey and respect the request of the driver.
 9. No part of the body is to be extended outside the bus at any time.
 10. No pets or animals are allowed on the bus.
 11. Students should help the driver to keep the bus neat and clean.
 12. Students shall conduct themselves properly at all times and not do anything that would distract the driver.
 13. Objects that are large enough to take up seating space area are allowed on the bus only with permission from the principal or Director of Transportation.
 14. When students enter the bus, they shall proceed directly to their assigned seat. Students shall remain seated until the bus has come to a complete stop.
 15. Students shall wait at their assigned bus stop off the roadway and shall remain there until the driver has stopped the bus, opened the entrance door, and signaled the pupils to enter the bus.
 16. Students are not to change their regular pattern of riding and stops without a request from home and approval of the school principal.
 17. Students are never to leave the bus by the emergency (back) door except in case of emergency or emergency drills.
 18. Passengers shall not bring any item on the school bus that might block the center aisle, step well, emergency door, entrance door, or any windows; that would be dangerous in case of collision; that would present an additional fire hazard; or that would take up needed pupil seating space.
 19. Students shall not cross the roadway when entering the school bus until signaled to do so by the bus driver. When students are required to cross the roadway when entering or leaving the school bus, crossings shall be made in front of the bus. Students shall cross approximately ten (10) feet in front of the bus in order that they may be seen by the bus driver.
- C. Students wishing to ride a school bus other than the one they normally ride must provide the bus driver with a note from parents stating the request and signed by the principal. To allow time to notify students and make appropriate arrangements, it is requested that all notices of transportation changes must be submitted to the school office no later than 1PM each afternoon.
 - D. In the event that one or more pupils are behaving in such a way as to endanger the safety of other pupils on the bus, the driver is authorized to order the offending pupils from the bus. In the event a pupil is discharged for disciplinary reasons, the driver shall make every effort to do so near a house or open business establishment. At the first reasonable opportunity, the driver shall notify the Principal of the school where the pupil attends, the Director of Transportation, or the Superintendent, and the student's parent or legal guardian.
 - E. Video cameras may be installed in the District's school buses to record student behavior during transportation to and from school and school-related events. Evidence of student misbehavior recorded on video may be used to discipline students under provisions of governance authorities.
 - F. The Principal or Director of Transportation is authorized to withhold bus-riding privileges a minimum of 18 weeks per occurrence in the case of habitual or serious conduct violations. These violations may include, but are not limited to, the following acts: damage to bus property, fighting, use of tobacco, and profanity. The Principal shall notify the parents in cases where bus-riding privileges have been withheld. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee may withhold bus-riding privileges up to the remainder of the school year.
 - G. No balloons or glass objects are allowed on the bus.
 - H. No electronic device that is not controlled by the driver shall be allowed on the bus.
 - I. Food and drinks are not allowed on the bus.
 - J. Students with disabilities who exhibit inappropriate conduct shall be managed in accordance with their Individual Education Plan (IEP) and the legal obligations and standards adopted by the Board.
 - K. If a student must be returned to school during the bus route due to a parent or guardian not being present to accept the student more than three times during a semester, a conference will be requested to discuss consequences.

DISCIPLINE FOR BUS PROBLEMS

In the event that a bus problem occurs, the Director of Transportation, Principals and Bus Drivers shall follow district outlined procedures for bus discipline.

REQUESTS FOR TRANSPORTATION CHANGE

To allow time to notify students and make appropriate arrangements, it is requested that all notices of transportation changes—whether involving bus or car transportation-- be submitted to the school office no later than 1PM each afternoon. Students wishing to ride a school bus other than the one they normally ride must provide the bus driver with a note from parents stating the request and signed by the principal.

DRESS CODE

The wearing of any attire, cosmetics, presentation of extraordinary personal appearance, or any unsanitary body conditions which, in the judgment of the Principal, significantly disrupts school work, interrupts scholastic endeavors, or threatens the health of other pupils, is prohibited.

Principals shall enforce the dress code in their schools. Students whose appearance does not conform to these rules will be asked to change clothing to meet this code. Repeated violations will result in more severe punishment.

- 1) Clothing must be appropriate for school. Clothing with holes, frays, cuts, tears, etc. higher than fingertip length above the knee must be worn with a material other than the student's underwear under the hole.
- 2) Pants and shorts must be worn at waist level.
- 3) Clothing must fit properly and be non-revealing (no cleavage, midriffs, sheer or see through clothing including sheer or see through yoga pants, etc.)
- 4) Cleavage Self-Check — Students should place their hands horizontally across the upper chest. The top of the index finger should be placed just below the neck. If skin is visible between the bottom of the pinky finger and the top of the shirt, the shirt is cut too low and should not be worn.
- 5) Dresses, skirts, and shorts, must extend to fingertip length.
- 6) Hoodies may be worn. Hoods do not need to be worn inside the building.
- 7) Head coverings and sunglasses are not to be worn inside the school building unless it is a school appointed time or on designated school field trips. (Exceptions will be made for religious, safety, or medical reasons.)
- 8) Piercings are permitted. Facial piercings (nose, eyebrow, lip, cheek, etc.) must be some type other than a ring, loop, hook, or hoop.
- 9) School officials may limit or prohibit any extreme type or style of student dress, personal appearance, or use of wearing apparel which, in the reasonable judgment of the school officials, is deemed to create a disruption of learning, school discipline, or routine. This also prohibits shoes with wheels of any type.
- 10) No clothing, jewelry or accessories shall display offensive graphics or messages, which include writings, or logos promoting racism, intolerance, alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, vulgarity, violence, sexual suggestions or offensive wording in any language.
- 11) Athletic and other oversized bags brought to school may be subject to search at any time and kept at a school designated location.

This dress code will be strictly enforced.

Violators will be immediately asked to change, or they will be sent home.

BEHAVIORAL VIOLATIONS

The principal shall provide leadership for the total staff in enforcing this student conduct code. Teachers shall be responsible for the conduct of students in the classroom, on the playground, in the halls, or off school premises while under their supervision. All pupils admitted to the common schools shall comply with lawful regulations for the government of the schools. Willful disobedience or defiance of the authority of the teachers or administrators, use of profanity or vulgarity, force, or violence, the use or possession of alcohol or drugs, stealing or destruction or defacing of school property or personal property, the carrying or use of weapons or dangerous instruments, or other

incurable bad conduct on school property at school sponsored activities constitutes cause of suspension or expulsion from school. (KRS 158.150)

Assault

Any pupil who assaults another pupil shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.

Any pupil who assaults or verbally abuses a teacher or other school personnel shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and/or legal action.

Any District employee assigned to work directly with, or who comes in contact with, a student with a documented history of physical abuse of a school employee or of carrying a concealed weapon on school property or at a school function, shall be notified in writing of the student's history by the Principal or designee prior to the assignment or contact.

Disrupting the Educational Process

Behavior that is disruptive of the educational process shall not be tolerated and shall subject the offending pupil to appropriate disciplinary action. Behavior that disrupts the educational process shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Conduct that threatens the health, safety, or welfare of others;
2. Conduct that may potentially damage property;
3. Illegal activity; or
4. Conduct that interferes with or hinders the orderly administration of the school and school-related activities,
5. Objects (toys, games, music boxes, sports cards, cell phones etc.) that are disruptive to the educational process will be confiscated by school personnel. Such items may be returned to the parent/guardian.
6. Use of cell phones is limited in accordance with Board Policy 09.4261 as outlined below.

TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES

Hart County respects the feelings of our parents, who want their children to have a phone for safety and other reasons, but feel strongly that cell phones or other electronic devices shall not interfere with the instructional environment of the school day. The administration reserves the right to change this policy at any time.

While on school property or while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities, whether on or off school property, students shall be permitted to possess personal telecommunications devices as defined by law (*KRS 158.165 "Personal telecommunications device" means a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor, including, but not limited to, a paging device and a cellular telephone.*) and other related electronic devices, provided they observe the following conditions:

- All such devices shall not be used for any reason during the school day or while attending any school-sponsored activity such as ball games, field trips, etc., unless permitted by a school staff member. They should be turned off before entering the building and may only be used when the regular school day has ended. Any exceptions during the regular school day must be approved by an administrator and the telecommunication device may only be used in the presence of the administrator. Any exceptions while at any school-sponsored activity must be approved by the coach, director, or sponsor and the telecommunication device may only be used in the presence of the individual granting permission.
- Students are responsible for keeping up with devices if they choose to bring them to school. Hart County schools shall not be responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of devices brought onto school property.
- Students are not to communicate with other students or persons either inside or outside the building (including parents) using any function (verbal, text message, instant messaging, camera, or video) of a cell phone or electronic device during instructional time.
- Any student who is referred to the office for disciplinary reasons and contacts his/her parent prior to being seen by an administrator is in violation of this policy and may face further punishment.
- Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning appropriate use of telecommunication or other electronic device

Video recordings of students and adults in the building, on school grounds, or during a school activity is prohibited. Without prior permission from the individuals being recorded, with the exception being photography or video for school activities such as yearbook, clubs, sports, etc. Students should be aware that (video) recording of minors or school staff without permission is a violation of school policy. Any student who records other students or adults while on school premises or while riding the school bus without prior written consent will be subject to school discipline.

Consequences for telecommunication device offenses shall be based on the nature of the offense and may range from a warning, to confiscation of the device, to in-school suspension or other appropriate discipline as outlined in the District Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Students are expected to devote their full attention to classroom instruction and work. Therefore, items such as electronic devices, games, roller blades, skateboards, heelys, and any other items deemed disruptive and/or dangerous by building administrators are not permitted at school. Use of such electronic devices will result in disciplinary action (refer to section above, district policy, and the District Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline). These items are subject to confiscation until a parent/guardian can pick them up and disciplinary action for the student. Building staff will not be responsible or spend time trying to find/recover items that are lost or stolen at school. No form of card playing is permitted unless being used as an instructional device.

FOOD/DRINK ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Food: Any foods brought in for birthdays, or any other class event must be store bought items that are packaged by the store. Anything that has been removed from the store packaging will not be used. Foods for class parties must be approved by the teacher and/or the principal.

Drinks: Students will be allowed to have water during the day. Water must be in a clear, single-serving container and must be SEALED and unopened upon entering the building or students can bring an empty bottle to be filled in our water bottle filling stations located in the front hall and gym. Student sharing of drinks at any time will be prohibited. Sodas, drink boxes/ juices will be allowed during breakfast/lunch/break times only. These drinks must also be sealed and only opened during breakfast, lunch, and/or break. Monster or energy drinks are not allowed at any time. Students having “monster” or “energy” drinks will be asked to dispose of the drink. Parents may also be contacted if there are concerns of inappropriate food or drink.

ANIMALS

No pets allowed in school or on school grounds without principal approval. Service animals officially trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. School officials may request documentation of official training in the interest of safety of students and staff.

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM

A student may be assigned to the Alternative School Program for conduct that disrupts the education process. During this time opportunities are provided for pupils to continue their regular schoolwork under the supervision of school staff, and counseling services shall be provided to address school-related problems. Parents shall be notified by letter of their child’s assignment to this program.

The Alternative School operates independently from a regular school. Students who are assigned to Alternative School must successfully complete established goals before being released back into the regular school setting. Students who are assigned to the Alternative School will adhere to all Alternative School rules, regulations and procedures.

Upon accumulating 21 points during the school year, the student may be placed in the Alternative School Program the next school day. In the event that the Alternative School personnel cannot conduct the necessary

orientation on a particular day, the student shall remain in the in-school suspension setting until the transfer to the Alternative School can be arranged.

Upon being placed in the Alternative School Program, the student shall not be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or to be present at any school activity. When a student successfully completes the Alternative School Program, he/she may resume normal school activities.

ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Students shall not possess, use, be under the influence of, sell, or transfer alcoholic beverages, drug paraphernalia, controlled drug substances, or look-alike drugs:

1. On school property;
2. En route to or from school or a school-sponsored activity; or
3. At any location of a school-sponsored activity.

Use of a drug authorized by and administered in accordance with a prescription from a physician shall not be considered a violation of this policy.

Violation of any provision of this behavior code shall constitute reason for suspension or expulsion. Illicit drug use is wrong and harmful. K.R.S. 218A/990 Section 16 states "Any person who unlawfully traffics in a controlled substance classified in schedules I, II, III, IV, or V in any building used primarily for classroom instruction in a school or on any premises located within one thousand (1,000) yards of any school building used primarily for classroom instruction shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by confinement in the penitentiary for not less than one (1) year nor more than five (5) years, or by a fine of not less than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or both, unless a more severe penalty is set forth in this chapter, in which case the higher penalty shall apply. The measurement shall be taken in a straight line from the nearest wall of the school to the place of violation.

In addition, it is a felony violation of Federal Law. Title 21, USC section 845(a) (1) to distribute a controlled substance within one thousand (1,000) feet of a public school building.

Students who violate these provisions are subject to the Hart County Schools Discipline Code and may be subject to Criminal Court action under the Juvenile Code of K.R.S. Chapter 600.

TOBACCO

Students are not to possess, use, sell or distribute tobacco products (including e-cigarettes, vapor products, or lookalike items) on school property, including school buses, nor at school sponsored activities under the supervision and sponsorship of school personnel.

CHEATING

Any student caught cheating on an examination will receive a zero.

DETENTION

The Principal or his/her designee may establish detention as an alternative disciplinary method. A pupil's parent/guardian shall be notified prior to the detention so that the parent may arrange transportation.

HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION

Students who engage in harassment/discrimination of an employee or another student on the basis of race, color, national origin, age; religion, marital status, political beliefs, sex, or disability shall be subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension and expulsion.

HAZING AND BULLYING

Hazing, bullying, menacing, or abuse of students or staff members will not be tolerated. Any student who engages in an act that injures, degrades, or disgraces another student or staff member in any manner, disrupts the educational process, or interferes with a student's opportunity to obtain an education shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action as outlined in board policy whether the offense occurs via speech, action, or cyberbullying (such as but not limited to unsolicited email, disclosing personal information via a website or other forum, assuming another's identity, posting defamatory photographs or print material, transmitting inappropriate or unsolicited text messages, etc.).

BULLYING DEFINED

Per KRS 158.148, "bullying" is defined as any unwanted verbal, physical, or social behavior among students that involves a real or perceived power imbalance and is repeated or has the potential to be repeated:

1. That occurs on school premises, on school-sponsored transportation, or at a school-sponsored event; or
2. That disrupts the education process.

This definition shall not be interpreted to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate or cultural practices protected under the state or federal Constitution where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process.²

HAZING DEFINED

Per KRS 508.180, "hazing" is defined as a direct action which substantially endangers the physical health of a minor or student for the purpose of recruitment, initiation into, affiliation with, or enhancing or maintaining membership or status within any organization, including but not limited to actions which coerce or force a minor or a student to:

- a) Violate federal or state criminal law;
- b) Consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug, tobacco product, or other controlled substance which subjects the minor or student to a risk of serious physical injury;
- c) Endure brutality of a physical nature, including whipping, beating or paddling, branding, or exposure to the elements;
- d) Endure brutality of a sexual nature; or
- e) Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of serious physical injury to the minor or student.

*Per KRS 508.180, "organization" is defined as a number of persons who are associated with a school or postsecondary education institution and each other, including a student organization, fraternity, sorority, association, corporation, order, society, corps, club, or similar group and includes any student organization registered pursuant to policies of the school or postsecondary education institution at any time during the previous five (5) years. "Organization" also includes sports/athletic teams.

Instances of bullying or other behaviors related to student welfare may be reported to the school office, district office, or online via the Safety Tip Line Online Prevention (STOP) system at

[http://www.kycss.org/stop/stop.php?district=Hart County School District](http://www.kycss.org/stop/stop.php?district=Hart%20County%20School%20District)

Cyber bullying: Cyber bullying involves the use of information and communication technologies such as email, cell phone and text messaging, instant messaging, personal websites, blogs, online games, and online polling websites to support deliberate, repeated, and holistic behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others by communicating threats by revealing private or embarrassing information, by conveying false information which can be reasonably anticipated to cause embarrassment, or to accomplish any of the purposes of bullying. This can include the use of any device which records audio, video, or still images of another person for no legitimate purpose, or the use of audio, video, or still images of another person for the purpose prohibited by this code of conduct.

LOWERING GRADES FOR MISCONDUCT

The grade for a student in a subject area shall not be lowered because the student has created discipline problems.

DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY

Please refer to Hart County Special Education Policies and Procedures.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE: STUDENT AND PARENT NON-DISCRIMINATION

Students or parents who feel they have been discriminated against or denied an opportunity because of age, color, disability, parental status, marital status, race, national origin, religion, sex, or veteran status in an educational program and/or activities has the right to file an informal and/or formal grievance as follows. This process is

conducted through the Title IX Coordinator Bo Chenoweth at the Hart County Schools Central Office, 25 Quality Street, Munfordville, KY 42765, 270-524-2631, and Section 504 Coordinator Donna LeFevre, also at the central office, 25 Quality Street, Munfordville, KY 42765, 270-524-9345.

INFORMAL NON-DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Step 1:

If a student feels he/she has been discriminated against, the student should first bring the problem to the attention of the coordinator (listed above) within five (5) school days of the knowledge or alleged cause for grievance occurs.

Step 2:

The student, coordinator (and others involved) will work informally to negotiate a solution within five (5) school days.

Step 3:

If the grievance cannot be satisfactorily resolved working informally, the student may want to proceed to file a formal grievance.

FORMAL NON-DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE PROCESS

Step 1:

A grievance shall be filed in writing with the Title IX, Title VI, Section 504 Coordinator within fifteen (15) school days of the knowledge or alleged cause. The student shall set forth in the writing of the student the nature of the violation, the dates it occurred, and be signed by the student making the complaint.

Response:

The designated Title IX, Title VI, Section 504 Coordinator shall notify the complainant in writing within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the written notice what (if any) action was/or will be taken. **Note:** If the coordinator does not resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the student, the student may appeal to the next step.

Step 2:

The student (complainant) may appeal in writing to the school Principal within five (5) school days of the date of the coordinator's response in Step 1. This written notice must contain all written information from the student and the coordinator's response.

Response:

The Principal of the school will notify the complainant in writing within five (5) school days, from the date of the appeal, as to what action was/or will be taken.

Step 3:

If the student (complainant) is not satisfied with the action taken by the school principal in Step Two (2), the complainant may notify in writing within five (5) school days of response, the Hart County School Superintendent. This written notice must identify the grievance and dates and **all** written information and response from all previous steps.

Response:

The Superintendent of the local school will notify the complainant in writing within twenty (20) school days of the date of the appeal letter in Step Three (3) as to what action was/or will be taken.

Step 4:

In the event that the complainant is still not satisfied with the action taken, the complainant may write, within five (5) days of the last response, to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 101 Marietta Tower, Suite 280, Atlanta, GA 30323. **Note:** If appeals are not made, it is assumed the decision at that level is accepted. A student at any point in the grievance process has the right to call the Equal Educational Opportunities Coordinator in Frankfort. This person would only act as a consultant.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Participant Rights:

The United States Constitution provides for the protection and safeguard of all people. In this same vein, there is responsibility inherent in all rights. Therefore, all participants in the school process must exercise the self-discipline and care necessary to afford others the same rights and to guarantee that their own actions do not infringe upon the rights of others. Further, all participants have the right and responsibility to know and understand the basic code of conduct expected of them. The following paragraphs outline both the rights and responsibilities of all participants.

- A. Student rights. Students have the right:
 - 1. To an appropriate public education which maintains high educational standards and meets the needs of individual pupils.
 - 2. To notification of information pertaining to regulations and policies, which pertain to their public school experiences.
 - 3. To reasonable physical protection and safety of their personal property.
 - 4. To consult with teachers, counselors, administrators, and other school personnel.
 - 5. To free student elections for organizations within the school or their counterparts within the state and nation.
 - 6. To candidacy and to hold office in student organizations within the school or within the state or national student organizations.
 - 7. To examine their personal school records.
 - 8. To be involved in school activities without being subject to any form of discrimination.
 - 9. To participate in school activities that require competition on an equal basis.
 - 10. To receive respect from other students and school personnel.
 - 11. To present complaints and grievances to proper school authorities and to receive replies from school officials regarding the disposition of their complaints and grievances.
- B. Teacher Rights. Teachers have the right:
 - 1. To expect the support of their fellow teachers and administrators.
 - 2. To work in a positive school climate with a minimum of disruptions.
 - 3. To expect all student assignments to be completed as requested.
 - 4. To temporarily remove any student whose behavior significantly disrupts the positive school climate.
 - 5. To be safe from physical harm.
 - 6. To be free from verbal abuse.
 - 7. To provide input to committees designed with the responsibilities of drafting policies that relate to their relationships with students and school personnel.
 - 8. To take action necessary in emergencies pertaining to the protection of persons or property.
- C. Parent/Guardian Rights. Parents/Guardians have the right:
 - 1. To send their child to a school with a positive educational climate.
 - 2. To expect all disruptive behavior to be dealt with fairly, firmly, and quickly.
 - 3. To enroll their child in regularly scheduled classes with minimal interruptions.
 - 4. To expect their school to maintain high academic and accreditation standards.
 - 5. To examine the personal school record of their child as is allowable under appropriate laws and guidelines concerning records confidentiality.
 - 6. To address grievances to proper school authorities concerning their child and to receive a prompt reply pertaining to the specific grievances. Generally, the building principal is the proper school authority. At the central office level, grievances should be addressed to the head of the appropriate department.
- D. Principal/Designated Administrator. Principals/Designated Administrators have the right:
 - 1. To expect all participants in the schooling process to comply with school and Board of Education policies.
 - 2. To suspend any student who disrupts the educational environment.
 - 3. To expect respect from students, parents/guardians, and the school staff.

4. To administer disciplinary measures as outlined in the discipline code in order to maintain a safe and positive learning climate.

Participant Responsibilities

- A. Student Responsibilities. Students have the responsibilities:
 1. To maintain acceptable conduct at all times.
 2. To display consideration for the rights and property of others.
 3. To dress in a manner that is not a detriment to the normal school progress and orderly operation of the school.
 4. To maintain proper hygiene at all times.
 5. To abstain from the possession and/or use of illegal substances including alcohol.
 6. To abstain from the possession and/or use of weapons, dangerous instruments, fireworks, and other incendiary devices.
 7. To abstain from physically attacking any school employee.
 8. To abstain from physically attacking classmates.
 9. To refrain from persistent violation of school regulations.
 10. To be in attendance at all regularly scheduled classes.
 11. To refrain from acts of truancy such as being absent without permission from school and/or class.
 12. To show respect for school authority by avoiding all acts of defiance.
 13. To abstain from gambling, extortion, theft or any other unlawful activity.
 14. To abstain from smoking.
 15. To complete all homework and classwork in accordance with the teachers' instructions.
 16. To represent the truth in all school matters.
 17. To refrain from cheating on all academic and/or athletic activities.
 18. To avoid the use of verbal abuse with all persons within the school setting.
 19. To refrain from the harassment of fellow students and/or school personnel.
 20. To exhibit respect for other opinions by refraining from rudeness or inappropriate language.
 21. To abstain from willful disobedience by open rebellion to school regulations and/or school personnel.
 22. To practice proper safety procedures while using the building facilities.
 23. To show respect for the educational process by taking advantage of every opportunity to further their education.
 24. To refrain from habitual tardiness.
 25. To practice self-control in terms of voice and limbs.
 26. To refrain from leaving school grounds prior to dismissal for the day.
 27. To abstain from any form of disruptive classroom behavior.
- B. Teacher Responsibilities. Teachers have the responsibility:
 1. To present the educational materials and experience appropriate to their course or grade level.
 2. To inform students and parents/guardians of achievement and progress.
 3. To plan a flexible course of study which meets the needs of all students.
 4. To maintain high standards of academic achievement.
 5. To administer such disciplinary measures as outlined in their code in order to maintain a positive learning climate.
 6. To provide feedback on student assignments as soon as possible.
 7. To exhibit exemplary behavior in terms of dress, action and voice.
 8. To inform parents/guardians of their child's successes, problems, and failures.
 9. To reward exemplary student work and/or classroom behavior.
 10. To exhibit respect for all students.
 11. To maintain a classroom atmosphere conducive to good behavior.
 12. To follow the rules and regulations of the Hart County Board of Education and the local school.
- C. Parent/Guardian Responsibilities. Parents/Guardians have the responsibilities:
 1. To instill in their child the need for an education.
 2. To instill in their child a sense of responsibility.
 3. To assist their child in understanding the need for a positive school learning environment.

4. To become familiar with the educational policies and programs of the Hart County Board of Education.
 5. To aid their child in understanding the disciplinary procedures of the school.
 6. To encourage their child to follow all school policies.
 7. To see that their child attends school on a regular basis.
 8. To inform school officials of any long-term illness affecting their child.
 9. To demonstrate respect for all school personnel at school and related activities.
 10. To inform school officials of concerns pertaining to disciplinary procedures.
 11. To instill in their child the need for proper and appropriate student attire and hygiene.
 12. To exhibit concern for the progress and grades of their child.
- D. Principal/Designated Administrator Responsibilities. Principals/Designated Administrators have the responsibilities:
1. To help create and maintain an atmosphere which respects the rights of all participants in the schooling process.
 2. To administer discipline measures fairly and equally in accordance with this conduct code.
 3. To exhibit exemplary behavior in terms of action, dress, and speech.
 4. To direct the school staff in developing a program which communicates this code of conduct to the school community.

CHECK ACCEPTANCE AND RETURN POLICY

Your check is welcome. By paying for your purchase with your check, you are accepting our check acceptance policy. In the unlikely event your check is returned unpaid, you understand and agree that your check may be electronically redeposited or if necessary, redeposited by paper draft. You understand and agree that we may collect a returned check processing charge of \$25.00 by the same means and allowable by state law. Collections shall be made by the County Attorney's office.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Hart County School District meets both national and state regulations that relate to asbestos-containing building materials that were used in building construction in past years. An inspection for building materials that contain asbestos has been completed for all buildings owned, leased, or otherwise occupied by Hart County Schools. This inspection has been conducted by a certified inspector and the sampled materials were evaluated by an accredited laboratory. Building materials with as little as one percent (1%) asbestos content have been identified and have been made a part of an Asbestos Management Plan for the respective school(s). A complete Asbestos Management Plan is on file at the office of each respective school and is available for review. The district will continue to notify the public at least annually on the status of the Asbestos Management Plan. Should it be necessary, more frequent updates will be issued from additional inspections, normal surveillance practices, response actions or remodel work that might disturb building materials that contain asbestos. Every precaution will be used in order to protect the well-being of students and employees of Hart County Schools.

NOTIFICATION OF FERPA RIGHTS

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Acts

The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Kentucky Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (KY FERPA) afford parents and “eligible students” (students over 18 years of age or who are attending a postsecondary institution) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. They are:

1) The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within forty-five (45) days of the day the District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal/designee a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2) The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights.

Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of privacy or other rights. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their privacy or other rights.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA and/or KY FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District shall disclose education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or to other entities authorized by law.

4) The right to prohibit the disclosure of personally identifiable information concerning the student to recruiting representatives of the U.S. Armed Forces and its service academies, the Kentucky Air National Guard, and the Kentucky National Guard.

Unless the parent or eligible student requests in writing that the District not release information, the student’s name, address, and telephone number (if listed) shall be released to Armed Forces recruiters upon their request.

5) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

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

Hart County Schools are required to maintain special education records for three (3) years after the date of the last activity. Therefore, the school district will destroy all records three years after graduation or three years after a student has exited a special education program. If you have reason to believe you will need these records at a later date, you must notify the Hart County School District that you want the records prior to the designated time for destruction. You may request your records by contacting Donna LeFevre, Director of Special Education, at 270-524-9345.

CHILD FIND FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN NEED OF SPECIAL EDUCATION OR 504 SERVICES

The Hart County School District keeps educational records in a secure location in each school and Board office.

The Hart County School District obtains written consent from a parent or eligible student (age 18 or who is attending a postsecondary institution), before disclosing personally identifiable information to an entity or individual not authorized to receive it under FERPA.

For students who have been determined eligible for Special Education, educational records will be destroyed at the request of the parents when they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. The Hart County School District may destroy the educational records of a child without parent request three years after they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. Parents are advised that data contained in the records may later be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The Hart County School District may retain, for an indefinite period of time, a record of the student's name, address, telephone number, grades, attendance records, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Children eligible for Special Education include those children with disabilities who have autism, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, emotional-behavior disability, hearing impairment, mental disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment and who because of such an impairment need Special Education services.

Children eligible for 504 services include those children in a public elementary and secondary education program who have a current physical or mental impairment that currently substantially limits some major life activity which causes the student's ability to access the school environment or school activities to be substantially limited.

Children eligible for the State-Funded Preschool program include three- and four-year-old children identified with disabilities and four-year-old children who are at-risk, as defined by federal poverty levels up to 160%. Preschool children eligible for special education must have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) instead of a 504 plan to receive State-Funded Preschool program services.

The Hart County School District has an ongoing "*Child Find*" system, which is designed to locate, identify and evaluate any child residing in a home, facility, or residence within its geographical boundaries, age three (3) to twenty-one (21) years, who may have a disability and be in need of Special Education or 504 services. This includes children who are not in school; those who are in public, private, or home school; those who are highly mobile such as children who are migrant or homeless; and those who are advancing from grade to grade, who may need but are not receiving Special Education or 504 services.

The district's "*Child Find*" system **includes children with disabilities attending private or home schools within the school district boundaries who may need special education services.**

The Hart County School District will make sure any child enrolled in its district who qualifies for Special Education or 504 services, regardless of how severe the disability, is provided appropriate Special Education or 504 services at no cost to the parents of the child.

Parents, relatives, public and private agency employees, and concerned citizens are urged to help the Hart County School District find any child who may have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. The District

needs to know the name and age, or date of birth of the child; the name, address, and phone number(s) of the parents or guardian; the possible disability; and other information to determine if Special Education or 504 services are needed.

Letters and phone calls are some of the ways the Hart County School District collects the information needed. The information the school District collects will be used to contact the parents of the child and find out if the child needs to be evaluated or referred for Special Education or 504 services.

If you know of a child who lives within the boundaries of the Hart County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education or 504 services, please call 270-524-9345 or send the information to:

Dr. Kristin Froedge
Director of Special Education
Section 504 Coordinator
25 Quality Street
Munfordville, KY 42765
270-524-9345

If you know of a child who attends a private or homeschool within the boundaries of the Hart County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education services, please call 270-524-9345 or send the information to:

Dr. Kristin Froedge
Director of Special Education
Hart County Schools
25 Quality Street
Munfordville, KY 42765
270-524-9345

“*Child Find*” activities will continue throughout the school year. As part of these efforts the Hart County School District will use screening information, student records, and basic assessment information it collects on all children in the District to help locate those children who have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. Any information the District collects through “*Child Find*” is maintained confidentially.

Written *Policies and Procedures* have been developed which describe the District’s requirements regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information and “*Child Find*” activities. There are copies in the Principal’s office of each school, and in the Board of Education office. Copies of these *Policies and Procedures* may be obtained by contacting:

Nathan Smith
Superintendent
Hart County Schools
25 Quality Street
Munfordville, KY 42765
270-524-2631

The District office is open Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Hart School District provides a public notice in the native language or other mode of communication of the various populations in the geographical boundaries of the District to the extent feasible.

If you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner or mode of communication, please contact the *Director of Pupil Personnel*, the *Director of Special Education* or the *Section 504 Coordinator* at the address or phone number listed above for the Hart County Schools.

Hart County Schools

CODE OF ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE 2024-2025

Hart County Board of Education

25 Quality Street
Munfordville, KY 42765
(270) 524-2631

For questions and concerns:

Nathan T. Smith, Superintendent, Ext. 2003 or
Bo Chenoweth, Assistant Superintendent, Ext. 2004

This code is part of the Board's policy on student behavior and discipline. Please note that after this code is distributed for the school year, changes to Board policy, including those affecting provisions of this Code, may be necessary due to new/revised statutes and regulations and case law. A complete copy of the policy manual is available for inspection at each school, at the Central Office, and on the district website at www.hart.kyschools.us.

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2
District Mission	2
Statement of Nondiscrimination	2
Rights and Responsibilities	3
Required Standards.....	3
Compulsory Student Attendance	4
District Attendance Policy	4
Non-Resident Students	7
Reporting of Code Violations	7
Consequences of Violations	8
Search and Seizure	9
Physical Restraint/Corporal Punishment	9
Student Records.....	9
Reports to Law Enforcement Officials	9
Weapons	9
Suspension, Expulsion & Due Process	10
Grievances	10
Code Development.....	10
Student/Parent Form (Return signed form to school)	11

The school district reserves the right to set forth those rules and regulations that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution the educational program of the schools, which are not specifically stated therein, as needs arise. Each building administrator may interpret and enforce these guidelines on the age group and situation within his/her building for the purpose of maintaining/improving the overall education of the students. Changes may occur at any time in instruction, school setting, and bus transportation per county and/or state emergency situations.

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Education requires high standards of personal conduct from each student to promote respect for the rights of others and to accomplish the purposes of the schools. The Board also requires compliance with established standards and rules of the district and the laws of the community, state and nation.

The central purpose of the school system is to educate each student to the highest level possible. To support the success of the educational program, the Board directs employees to hold each student accountable to Code standards in a fair manner. Compliance with the standards is necessary to provide:

- Orderly operation of the schools;
- A safe environment for students, district employees, and visitors to the schools;
- Opportunities for students to achieve at a high academic level in a productive learning environment;
- Assistance for students at risk of failure or of engaging in disruptive behavior;
- Regular attendance of students; and,
- Protection of property.

This Code applies to **all** students in the District while at school, on their way to and from school, while on the bus or other District vehicle, and while they are participating in school-sponsored trips and activities. The Superintendent/designee is responsible for its implementation and application throughout the District. The Principal is responsible for administration and implementation of this Code within his/her school in a uniform and fair manner without partiality or discrimination.

Each school council must select and implement appropriate discipline and classroom management techniques necessary to carry out this Code and shall provide a list of the school's rules and discipline procedures in the school handbook. Teachers and other instructional personnel are responsible for administering Code standards in the classroom, halls, and other duty assignment locations.

This Code establishes minimum behavior standards. Recognizing that each school, grade, or class may require special provisions; school councils, administrators, and teachers have full authority to make rules to enforce these standards in keeping with their areas of responsibility.

DISTRICT MISSION

The mission of the Hart County Board of Education is for all students to achieve or exceed expectations of established levels of success in order to demonstrate the district exit outcomes in the following areas:

- Commitment to excellence
- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Collaboration
- Teachers/school officials should involve parents at the earliest stage when a student shows signs of serious behavior problems.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, parental status, marital status, race, national origin, religion, sex, or veteran status in the programs, activities and services it provides, as required by law. Individuals who have questions concerning compliance should contact Nathan Smith at the Central Office at 270-524-2631. **The following documents contain policies and procedures relating to this Code:**

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| ◆ Other Board of Education policies | ◆ Council policies |
| ◆ The District's Safety Plan | ◆ School handbooks |
| ◆ Student records information (FERPA) | ◆ KY Revised Statutes & Admin. Regs. |
| ◆ District Special Education Policy and Procedure Manual | |

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As citizens of the United States of America, students may participate in activities that do not (1) materially or substantially disrupt the educational process, (2) present a clear and present danger to the health and safety of others or property, or (3) infringe on the rights of others.

Specifically, students have the right to:

- An orderly educational atmosphere conducive to learning.
- Personal safety and security while at school and school-sponsored activities.
- Academic grades based on academic performance, not on conduct.

Students have the responsibility to:

- Comply with district, school, and classroom rules and follow directions given by teachers and other school personnel.
- *Immediately* report student threats to harm others to a teacher, counselor, or school administrator.
- Give their best effort to tasks assigned by their teacher, coach, or other person who works with them.

REQUIRED STANDARDS

The Board expects employees, students, parents/ guardians, and others associated with the schools to apply the following standards in a reasonable and fair manner.

1. To promote the full implementation of conduct standards and maximize safety in the school environment, the Board requires *all* employees to make supervision of *all* students at *all* school activities a top priority among their assigned duties. The younger the child, the greater the need for adult guidance and protection.
2. A professionally planned and positive school atmosphere is necessary for academic progress and a safe environment. Therefore, students shall not interfere with the orderly environment of the school or school activity. Examples of prohibited behavior include, but are not limited to:
 - Actions such as harassment of, or discrimination against, other students on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, political beliefs, sex, or disability.
 - Insubordination (disobedient or defiant behavior)
 - Sale of items without prior approval of the Superintendent or Principal
 - Wearing apparel, accessories, or hairstyles that disrupt the educational process or threaten health or safety.
 - Possession of prohibited items, such as laser lights and paging devices (except for members of a volunteer fire fighting or emergency medical organization).
3. Regular and punctual school attendance is both a privilege and a responsibility of the student. Good attendance is necessary for satisfactory progress and high academic achievement. Attendance violations include absence from school without valid excuse and/or tardy without valid excuse.
4. Students shall exercise self-control as required by the particular situation and in keeping with school and district rules or be subject to removal from the regular classroom setting or transportation system. In addition, a student may be barred from participating in extracurricular activities, pending investigation that s/he has violated either the District's behavior standards or the school council's criteria for participation. Furthermore, to ensure the safety of students, spectators, and guests, students shall not loiter in hallways, lobbies, or other areas during extracurricular or athletic events. Students in attendance at such events should remain in the seating areas of the gymnasium, stadium, or other designated areas unless under the direct supervision of a parent/guardian. *All elementary students shall be supervised by parents/guardians at any extracurricular activity other than team members when supervised by their coach/sponsor.*

Types of prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following examples listed below:

- Fighting and physical attacks
 - Possession of a weapon
 - Threats by verbal or written statements or gestures with intent to harm or demean others
 - Use of alcohol or prohibited drugs, including synthetic substances
 - Use of prohibited tobacco and/or vape products
5. School property belongs to the community and the state. It must be protected and preserved for educational and community use. Therefore, students shall respect school property and the property of others. Examples of prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Theft of school property or personal property of employees or other students
 - Abuse of school or personal property to include intentional or careless damage or destruction
 - Extortion of money or property
 - Prohibited use of electronic media and other District technological resources
 - Littering
6. Students shall work cooperatively and productively with each other and with school personnel in a manner that is consistent with standards of respect and courtesy. Examples of prohibited behaviors that would detract from a safe and orderly learning environment include, but are not limited to the following:
- Making abusive and harassing statements regarding race, gender, disability, religion, or nationality
 - Use of profanity
 - Lying
 - Cheating
 - Ignoring or breaking rules and procedures established to maintain order
 - Otherwise behaving in a manner disrespectful of others

COMPULSORY STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Students between the ages of six (6) and eighteen (18) shall enroll and be in regular attendance in the schools to which they are assigned and shall be subject to compulsory attendance.

DISTRICT ATTENDANCE POLICY

The progress of a student at school depends greatly on the punctuality and regularity of attendance. For this reason, Hart County students will be expected to be in class every day unless a personal or family emergency exists that would prevent them from attending school.

Compulsory Attendance: District policy requires, except as provided in KRS 159.030, that each parent, guardian, or other person residing in the district and having in custody or charge any child who has entered the primary school program or any child between the ages six (6) and eighteen (18) to send the child to a regular public school for the full term of the district in which the child resides or to the public school that the district makes provisions for the child to attend. All children residing in the district, except as provided in KRS 159.030, shall be subject to the local board's compulsory age policy. School counselors are required to conduct a one (1) hour counseling session with parents and child on potential problems for non-graduates.

Truancy: Kentucky law (KRS 159.150) states that any child who has been absent from school without valid excuse for three (3) days, or tardy on three (3) or more days is a truant. A student will now be considered a “habitual truant” if they have accumulated six (6) unexcused absences or is habitually truant as defined by the Hart County Board of Education. **This may result in court proceedings against the parent/guardian and/or the student depending on the student’s age.** These students may be ineligible for field trips at the discretion of the school principal.

Excused Absences: Absence from school shall be deemed valid and excused if the student is too ill to be in attendance and the student presents a doctor's statement upon his/her return to school. **The doctor's statement must be presented to the proper school officials within three (3) days of return to school (hand delivered, faxed by a provider on the provider's letterhead, or emailed directly to the school attendance clerk from the Doctor's office).**

An excused absence or tardy is one for which work may be made up. Students shall have the same number of days to make up their work as the number of days they missed when making up school work for excused absences. All grades will be final at the end of the school year on June 30. Changes will only be made if it is determined an accounting error was made in computing the student's grade.

Parents/Guardians should contact their child's school whenever their child will not be in attendance. All absences are unexcused until written verification is returned to the school. Unexcused absences in excess of three (3) days, and, in which schoolwork cannot be made up include: truancy, indifference of parents, poverty, working, vacations, missed bus, distance.

Absences from school shall also be deemed valid and excused if any of the following apply:

1. Death in the student's immediate family (consists of the following for all Hart County students: Mother, Father, Son, Daughter, Grandfather, Grandmother, Sister, Brother, Aunt, Uncle, Niece, Nephew, Father-in-Law, Mother-in-Law, Guardian, Spouse),
2. Illness of the pupil, including mental or behavioral health (a doctor's written verification of an office visit/examination for illness/injury/therapy shall be required in order for the absence to be excused; the doctor's verification may be hand delivered by parent/guardian, faxed from a medical provider on the provider's letterhead including the doctor's signature, or emailed directly to the school attendance clerk from the Doctor's office; altered doctor/medical notes will not be accepted;
3. Court appearance (written, faxed, or emailed verification of attendance from Court Designated Worker [CDW] or Court Clerk must be submitted),
4. Counseling appointments (written, faxed, or emailed verification of attendance from provider must be submitted),
5. Religious holidays and practices,
6. One (1) day attendance at the Kentucky State Fair (Admission ticket must be submitted),
7. Documented military leave,
8. One (1) day prior to departure of parent/guardian called to active military duty,
9. One (1) day upon return of parent/guardian from active military duty,
10. Visitation for up to ten (10) days with the student's parent, de facto custodian, or person with legal custody who, while on active military duty stationed outside of the country, is granted rest and recuperation leave,
11. Ten (10) days for students attending basic training required by a branch of the United States Armed Forces;
12. Students participating in any of the page programs of the General Assembly; or
13. Trips qualifying as educational enhancement opportunities, as determined by the principal/designee.

After ten (10) absences, the Medical Excuse Form must be filled out by a doctor and returned to the school each time or the absence will not be excused.

Notes from parents/guardians shall be accepted, and absences shall be excused for up to two (2) days per semester only for the valid reasons listed as acceptable excused absences. Illness accompanied by a health professional's statement will not be counted as one of the two (2) days.

School Activities: Students are not absent when they are participating in school activities that have been authorized by the Hart County Board of Education and are a definite part of the instructional program of the school. Participation of a pupil in 4-H activities that are regularly scheduled and under the supervision of a county extension agent or the designated 4-H club leader shall be considered school attendance. Students who attend classes for moral instruction at the time specified and for the period fixed shall be credited with the time spent as if they had been in an actual attendance in school, and the time shall be calculated as part of the actual school work required by law. Students shall not be penalized for any school work missed during the specified moral instruction time.

School Work: School work missed for club activities, college days (seniors only), field trips or any other school-related activity must be completed in a time equitable to the time missed in class. For example, 1 day missed equals 1 day to complete and turn in the missed school work; 2 days missed equals 2 days to complete and turn in the missed school work, etc. School work may be made up for all excused absences and for up to three (3) unexcused absences each semester. It is always the student's responsibility to request and complete the missed school work whether the absence is an excused absence or for club activities, college days, field trips, EHO opportunities, etc.

Unexcused Absences: After three (3) unexcused absences have accumulated, the principal/designee shall make a second contact with the parent/guardian to ascertain the cause(s) for the student's absences. In addition, the Director of Pupil Personnel shall then be notified and shall make contact with the student's parent/guardian to inform them of the consequences for violating the Compulsory School Attendance Law (K.R.S 159.010).

When a student accumulates six (6) days of unexcused absences, the Director of Pupil Personnel shall be notified and shall then issue a "Final Notice" to the parent/guardian that the student should attend school regularly. In the event that a student accumulates nine (9) days of unexcused absences, the Director of Pupil Personnel will make a referral to the juvenile court designated worker against the student and parent/guardian.

Those students who are beyond the compulsory school age (18 and above) will be treated as previously mentioned, with these exceptions:

1. When the 3rd day of unexcused absenteeism has occurred, the student will be asked to meet with the principal and/or assistant principal to determine means of improving attendance. The results of this meeting shall be documented and a copy given to the parent/guardian with explanation of the possibility of failing grades, being retained, or possible expulsion from school if attendance is not improved.
2. After the 6th day of unexcused absenteeism has occurred, the Director of Pupil Personnel shall issue a Final Notice to the student.
3. When the 9th day of unexcused absenteeism has occurred, the Principal shall notify the Director of Pupil Personnel who will contact the Superintendent to arrange a board hearing.

Perfect Attendance: Students shall be recognized for perfect attendance when they have accumulated no absences from school. Perfect attendance will not be considered for students with excused absences, unexcused tardies, or unexcused absences. A school day for elementary students shall be from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and for high school students from 8:00 am to 2:45 pm.

Truancy Defined: Any public school student, who has not reached his or her twenty-first birthday, who has been absent from school without valid excuse for three (3) days or more, or tardy without valid excuse on three (3) days or more, is a truant. A pupil who has been reported as a truant two (2) or more times is a habitual truant. In addition, a student will now be considered a "habitual truant" if they have accumulated six (6) unexcused absences or is habitually tardy as defined by the Hart County Board of Education. This may result in court proceedings against the parent and/or the student depending on the student's age.

Educational Enhancement Opportunities (EHO's): To request an absence to participate in an educational enhancement activity, an application must be completed and returned to the school's principal at least two (2) days prior to the anticipated event. The activity must have significant educational value. If activities are approved by both the principal and superintendent/designee, the absence(s) will not count against perfect attendance. The EHO application forms (09.123 AP.2) are available in each school's office.

Suspension: Absences resulting from suspensions shall always be considered unexcused. Projects or homework assigned prior to suspension shall be accepted for credit. Students shall be responsible for submitting assignments that were assigned prior to and were due during the time of the suspension. Long-term projects assigned during the suspension but due after the suspension time shall be accepted. Work assigned and due during suspension shall not be accepted.

NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

Any student not residing in the Hart County School District and desiring to attend school in Hart County shall complete a Nonresident Student Application, 09.12 AP.21, for approval by the Principal and Superintendent/designee. In the event this procedure is not followed, then the enrollment of said student shall be null and void.

- A. Any student not residing in the Hart County School District, who wishes to enroll in the Hart County School District, shall apply after July 1. Enrollment will be granted by Superintendent/designee approval provided that capacity as defined by board policy is not met (see Board Policies 09.12, 09.1222)
- B. Any student who is under suspension or expulsion from any school district and changes his/her residence to the Hart County School District shall be denied enrollment in the Hart County School District until the period of time of the suspension or expulsion has elapsed.
- C. Any student not residing in the Hart County School District but was enrolled in the District shall only be enrolled for the school year in which s/he applied. A request to re-enroll the following school year shall be considered after July 1. Hart County reserves the right to terminate services by transferring the student back to his/her home district at the conclusion of the school year if the student becomes disruptive and/or interferes with the educational and/or safety of students, teachers and/or instructional assistants who reside within the Hart County School District; if the student accumulates more than six (6) unexcused absences; or if the student fails more than two (2) classes.
- D. Any student enrolling in the Hart County School District while residing in another school district shall clear all financial obligations to the Hart County School System at the end of the school year in order to be reconsidered for enrollment as a student the following school year.

REPORTING OF CODE VIOLATIONS

As provided in KRS 158.148 and 158.444, students wishing to report a violation of the Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline may report it to a classroom teacher, who shall take appropriate action as defined by the code, and/or the student may report anonymously on the Stop Tip Line. The teacher shall refer the report to the Principal/designee for further action when the report involves an offense that may warrant suspension or expulsion of a student, any felony offense, or a report that may be required by law, including reports to law enforcement. In applicable cases, employees will report bullying and hazing to appropriate law enforcement authorities and complete documentation as required by the District's harassment/discrimination policies covering federally protected areas.

CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATIONS

Please note that state and federal laws require special consideration and possible designation of alternative consequences when dealing with behavior and disciplinary issues involving students with disabilities.

VIOLATION OF STANDARD	RESPONSE OPTIONS		
	Scope	1st Time	Repeat Offenses
Tardiness/Unexcused Absence	Minimal	Conference	Parent Involvement
	Excessive	Suspension*	Court Proceedings
Insubordination (defiance of authority)	Minimal	Conference	Parent Involvement
	Excessive	Suspension*	Alternative School/Expulsion
Disrupting the educational process (verbal abuse, profanity / vulgarity, unauthorized rallies, etc.)	Minimal	Conference	Parent Involvement
	Excessive	Suspension*	Alternative School/Expulsion
Dress Code	Minimal	Conference	Parent Involvement
	Excessive	Alternative School/Suspension*	
Forgery / Lying / Cheating	Minimal	Parent Involvement	
	Excessive	Alternative School/Suspension*	
Stealing	Minimal	Parent Involvement	
	Excessive	Suspension*	Alternative School/Expulsion
Tobacco Violation/Including Vapes and Vapor Products according to board policy	Minimal	Parent Involvement	Cessation Classes
	Excessive	Suspension*	Alternative School/Expulsion
Telecommunication Device Violation	Minimal	Warning; device confiscated for day	Detention, ISS, etc.; Device Confiscated for remainder of school year
	Excessive	Warning and other appropriate discipline; device confiscated for 1 day or more	Detention, ISS, etc.; Device Confiscated for remainder of school year
Distribution of Inappropriate Material (including electronic distribution)	Confiscation of device(s) for remainder of school year and Alternative School/Suspension*		
Distribution of Inappropriate Products (including vapes/vapor products)	Confiscation of product(s) for remainder of school year and Alternative School/Suspension*		
Alcohol & Drug Violation (including synthetic substances)	Alternative School/Suspension*/Expulsion		
Fighting/Assault	Alternative School/Suspension*/Expulsion		
Threats to the safety of other students or school staff	Alternative School/Suspension*/Expulsion		
Continued pattern of disruptive behavior	Alternative School		

**Suspension may be in-school or out-of-school. Students who are suspended out-of-school may not attend or participate in extracurricular activities.*

Behavioral violations of a minor nature should be handled by the classroom teacher, who may choose from a variety of response options to include, but not be limited to . . .

- ♦ Verbal warning
- ♦ Teacher-student conference
- ♦ Notification of parents
- ♦ Alternative assignment
- ♦ Classroom isolation
- ♦ Behavior contract
- ♦ Referral for counseling/mediation
- ♦ Other techniques established by council policy
- ♦ Loss of privileges
- ♦ Detention

The response options above supersede guidelines which may have been developed at the school level. For repeat or more serious violations, administrators may also use these options: Suspension (up to 10 days), Expulsion, Police Referral, Juvenile Court Petition, Court-Designated Worker Referral, In-School Suspension, referral to the Disciplinary Review Committee, or other techniques established by council policy.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Students have the right to be secure from unreasonable searches of their person and property. However, school authorities are authorized to search a student if they have reasonable suspicion that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated, or is violating, this Code, a school rule, or the law. Also, school authorities may conduct general inspections of jointly held property on a regular basis. All searches will be conducted in accordance with Board policy. Students cannot expect to have complete privacy in their use of school property or resources assigned for their use, such as desks, lockers, computers, email, and network accounts, etc.

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Employees are authorized by law to physically restrain students as necessary as specified in board policy and state regulation. The Board does not permit use of corporal punishment as a disciplinary technique.

STUDENT RECORDS

Records containing student information shall be made available to the parent of the student, guardian, or eligible student upon written request. Eligible students include those 18 years of age or older or those enrolled in a post-secondary school program.

For information concerning access or corrections to student records, contact the Principal or the Superintendent at the Central Office address and telephone number listed on the front cover.

REPORTS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

When principals have reasonable belief that certain violations have taken place, they are required by law to immediately report those violations to law enforcement officials. Violations on school property or at a school-sponsored function requiring a report to law enforcement officials include:

- assault resulting in serious physical injury
- a sexual offense;
- kidnapping;
- assault involving the use of a weapon;
- possession of a firearm in violation of the law;
- possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law; or
- damage to school property.

In addition to violations of this Code, students may also be charged with criminal violations.

WEAPONS

Students are *never* allowed to bring a weapon to school. The Board urges parents and other citizens to make sure that students do not have inappropriate access to weapons. Both Board policy and the law prohibit the carrying, bringing, using, or possessing of any weapon or dangerous instrument in any school building, on school grounds, in any school or student vehicle, or at any school-sponsored activity. Except for authorized law enforcement officials, the Board specifically prohibits the carrying of concealed weapons on school property.

When a student violates the prohibition on weapons, the Principal shall immediately make a report to the Superintendent, who shall determine if charges for expulsion are to be brought before the Board. The penalty for students bringing a firearm or other deadly weapon, destructive device, or booby trap device to school or onto the school campus/property under jurisdiction of the District shall be **expulsion for a minimum of twelve (12) months**. (The Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 and KRS 158.150)

District employees must also report to law enforcement officials if they know or have reasonable cause to believe that conduct has occurred that constitutes the carrying, possession, or use of a deadly weapon on the school premises, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored or sanctioned event.

SUSPENSION, EXPULSION & DUE PROCESS

For certain violations, administrators, such as the Superintendent and Principal, may remove (suspend) a student from school for up to ten (10) days per incident.

Unless immediate suspension is necessary to protect persons or property or to avoid disruption of the educational process, students shall not be suspended until they have been given due process (required by law). Due process must be given before educational benefits are taken away and shall include the following:

1. Oral or written notice of the charge(s) against them,
2. An explanation of the evidence, if the student denies the charge(s).
3. An opportunity to present their own version of the facts concerning the charge(s).

A report of the suspension shall be made in writing to the Superintendent and to the parent of the student being suspended. Suspension of primary school students shall be considered only in exceptional cases where there are safety issues for the child or others.

Following legally required due process, the Board may expel any pupil from the regular school setting for misconduct as defined by law for periods longer than ten (10) days. In cases of expulsion, provision of educational services will be required unless the Board determines, on the record and supported by clear and convincing evidence, that the expelled student poses a threat to the safety of other students or school staff and cannot be placed in a state-funded agency program. Action to expel a pupil shall not be taken until the parent of the pupil has had an opportunity for a hearing before the Board.

GRIEVANCES

Students and parents wishing to express an educational concern or grievance shall observe the following order of appeal:

1. Teacher;
2. Principal;
3. School council, where appropriate;
4. Superintendent;
5. Board.

Information on filing a formal complaint or grievance is available at each school and at the Central Office.

CODE DEVELOPMENT

This Code was developed by a committee representing schools, the Central Office, the Board of Education, students, and parents. The Hart County Board of Education adopted this code on April 15, 1999, and reviewed it on June 20, 2024. Schools have distributed copies of the Code to all students and employees of the district and to parents of students, including those who enroll after the beginning of the school year. The Superintendent has directed that the Code be posted in each school, with the Principal being responsible for seeing that guidance counselors and other personnel discuss its contents with students in a timely and age-appropriate manner. In addition, each school will reference the Code in the school's handbook(s). On request, the Principal shall provide help for limited-English speaking, sight-impaired, hearing-impaired, or non-reading students and parents so that they can have access to the information contained in this Code.

Each year, the code will be reviewed in preparation for the coming school year. Suggestions as to how to improve this document are welcome. Individuals may send written comments to the contact person(s) listed on the front cover.

Hart County Schools

Where Students Come First

July 2, 2024

To Whom it may Concern:

According to KRS 508.078, the superintendent of each local district shall require the principal of each school to provide written notice to all students, parents, and guardians of students within 10 days of the first instructional day of each school year of the provisions of KRS 508.078 and potential penalties under KRS 532.060 and 534.030. Please consider this letter as your notice of these statutes. Below is a synopsis of the statutes:

KRS 508.078

- A person is guilty of terroristic threatening—makes false statements by any means for the purpose of:
 - Causing evacuation of a school building, property, or school activity
 - Causing cancellation of classes, activities
 - Creating fear of serious bodily harm among students, parents, or school personnel
- By July 1, 2019, KY Office of Homeland Security (collaboration with KCSS, KDE, COCIT, and KSP), shall make available to each local school district an anonymous reporting tool that allows students, parents, and community members to anonymously supply information concerning unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, to appropriate public safety agencies and school officials
- Information reported shall immediately be sent to the administration of each school district affected and law enforcement agencies responsible for protection of those districts
- Law enforcement dispatch centers school districts and schools shall be made aware of the reporting tool
- KOHS shall develop and provide a comprehensive training and awareness program on the use of the anonymous reporting tool

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve Caven, Hart County Schools Safety Coordinator, at 270-524-2631.

Thank you,



Nathan T. Smith
Superintendent