



**STUDENT
HANDBOOK
2024-2025**

Principal

Mr. John Beltrante

Assistant Principals

Mr. Donald Tabar, Mrs. Stefanie McDevitt, Mr. Christian Jaspersen

*120 Media Line Road,
Newtown Square, PA 19073
610-359-4215*

MARPLE NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Mission Statement

To provide state of the art educational opportunities for all students in a safe, healthy and effective learning environment through a collaborative commitment involving students, families, staff and community.

 **Be Responsible**

 **Apply Yourself**

 **Get Involved**

TIGER  PRIDE

Marple Newtown School District is committed to equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment for all persons. It is the policy of the district to maintain an environment free of harassment and free of discrimination against any person because of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, marital or family status, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, physical or mental disability, gender, perceived gender, gender identity, including transgender status, genetic information or political ideas. Discriminatory conduct and harassment, as well as sexual misconduct and relationship violence, violates the dignity of individuals, impedes the realization of the district's educational mission, and will not be tolerated. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to:

Jenn Canavan, Title IX Coordinator
Human Resources Office
40 Media Line Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073
Email: jcanavan@mnsd.org
Tel 610-359-4380

All policies and procedures are subject to change. Please refer to the district and high school webpages for the most up-to-date information.

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Marple Newtown School District Administration

Superintendent of Schools	Dr. Tina Kane
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning	Dr. Kevin Fagan
Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources	Dr. Joel DiBartolomeo
Director of Pupil Services	Dr. Kerri McGinley
Director of Operations	Mr. Jake Gallagher
Director of Dining Services	Mrs. Tina Stiles
Director of Technology	Mr. Chris Lee
Supervisor of Transportation	Mr. Joseph Sheehan
Business Administrator	Mr. Joseph Driscoll

Board of School Directors

Matthew J. Bilker, *President*; Nicholas Siano, *Vice President*
Dana Altobelli; Dave Dezzi; Barbara Harvey
Anthony A. Maalouf; John McKenzie;
Lisa S. Pacell; Nick Reynolds

Marple Newtown School District has a long tradition of excellence in education. There are approximately 3,500 students enrolled in Grades K through 12. The academic curriculum reflects the strength of traditional programs while meeting the changing needs of a technological society. The district is a clear leader in the county in the development of academic standards. There are Advanced Placement and accelerated courses in all disciplines and a comprehensive Special Education program. A variety of opportunities are available to students through elective courses, independent study programs, and a wide range of extra-curricular activities and athletics.

PRINCIPAL’S GREETING AND IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

MNHS Tigers,
It is my pleasure to serve as your principal at MNHS. I am looking forward to working with you to ensure you a successful high school experience. I was once told that an educated person may not know all the answers but knows where to find them and uses the resources that are available to them. I encourage every student to become familiar with this student handbook. Get involved and make the most of your time at MNHS and reach out to the faculty and administration for guidance. Tiger Pride!

John Beltrante
Principal

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

<i>MNHS Main Office</i>	610-359-4215
<i>Mr. John Beltrante, Principal</i>	610-359-4218
<i>Mr. Donald Tabar, Asst. Principal</i>	610-359-4293
<i>Mrs. Stefanie McDevitt, Asst. Principal</i>	610-359-4244
<i>Mr. Christian Jaspersen, Asst. Principal</i>	610-359-4232
<i>Mr. Christopher Gicking, Athletic Director</i>	610-359-4232
<i>Attendance (24 hr. line)</i>	610-359-4219
<i>Email: <u>hsattendance@mnsd.org</u></i>	
<i>Guidance Office</i>	610-359-4240
<i>Nurse</i>	610-359-4221
<i>FAX</i>	610-356-2194
<i>District Website</i>	www.mnsd.org
<i>School Closing number</i>	454

MNHS FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

Principal	World Language	Social Studies
John Beltrante	Barbara O'Neill*	Douglas Killough*
Assistant Principals	Carmen Bilc	Matthew Baker
Christian Jaspersen	Kerri Confora	Courtney Gibbons
Stefanie McDevitt	Jamie Kneafsey	Collin Hannan
Donald Tabar	Nikki Wagner	Michael Karpyn
Athletic Director	Marie Yeoh	Heather Molyneaux
Christopher Gicking	Librarian	Michael O'Shea
Family and Consumer Sciences	Erin Daley	William Powell
Mary Dolenti	Health and Physical Ed.	Robert Smythe
Karen Pantle	Sean Spratt*	Keli Tull
Business and Technology Ed.	Ronnie Braverman	Scott Wanner
Anita Stum*	Kelsey Garraty	Special Education
Andrew Butler	Andrew Kane	Cheri McMonagle*
Tyler Mertens	Jacqueline Vilmerding	David Beatty
Michael Pagliara	Eleanor Woolery	Stephanie Borowski
Tyler Roth	Mathematics	Kevin Creeley
Counseling	Michael Clancy*	Kristen DeNucci
Tracy Jacobson*	Doug Black	Jill Gill
Victoria Carrell	Shannon Blessington	Leah Graeff
Jennifer Cipollone	Jennifer Irvine	John Jacobs
Shane Elison	Claire Kennedy	Laura Jones
Kathrine Froschle	Elizabeth Knowlton	John Kneafsey
Dan Lang	Tara Lauria-Wark	Susan Salerno
Nicole McCarthy	Steven Smilk	Nicole Shoch
Kelly McCool	Michael Snow	Cassie Thomas
English	Kevin Sudall	Jamie Zampier
Galen Carboni*	David Vosheski	Gifted Support
Bill Cawley	Nurse	Kitty Kohout
Sierra Coakley	Jessica Shearman	Visual and Performing Arts
Sarah Crowley	Science	Jake Olimpi*
Jennie DeLuca	Dennis Andrews*	Rachel Basescu
Gerald Doemling	Chris Carson	Karen Can
Lorisa Friedman	Rodger Claar	Michael Massimo
Amy Gallagher	Moira DiTrolio	Rebekah Myers
Linda Johnson	Amber Dunkel	Michael Winterbottom
Helene White	Jennifer Finley	Secretaries
Sarah Winterbottom	Elizabeth Landes	Kayla Amoroso
Speech	Regina Leardi	Susan Becker
Christine Miehle	Nicole Pica	Dana Chirico
Catherine Sullivan (through Jan 2025)	Christine Roy	Taylor Erdman
	Dalia Stephenson	Cathy Salvino
	Donald Sloat	Amy Townsend
*-denotes Department Leader		Teresa Werner

Marple Newtown High School is an accredited high school of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Following their Accreditation for Growth (AFG) model, a committee of faculty, parents, and students determined a plan of action for our school. Specifically, this plan envisions that our students will demonstrate an increase in personal responsibility, an increase in academic achievement, and an increased awareness of and response to the needs of others. This student agenda seeks to present content in a manner that is in alignment with these objectives.



BE RESPONSIBLE

re·spon·si·ble

- 1: able to answer for one's conduct and obligations
- 2: able to choose for oneself between right and wrong

MNHS students are responsible citizens who generally do the right thing and make the most of every opportunity. They come to school, do their best, and respect themselves and others.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND SAFETY

Student Conduct

Courtesy, cooperation, and consideration of others are personal characteristics, which we desire in all of our students. Therefore, students should:

- ❖ show respect for themselves, their peers, their teachers, staff members, and all school property.
- ❖ think before they act in order that their choices may reflect positively on themselves and their families.
- ❖ assist the faculty and administration in maintaining a safe and productive educational climate.

Student Safety

The safety of all persons within our building is of primary importance. Students share responsibility with the faculty and administration in maintaining a safe learning environment. Specifically, students are to:

- ❖ remain within the school building at all times.
- ❖ enter and exit through the front doors once school has begun.
- ❖ follow all sign-in and sign-out procedures.
- ❖ keep all exterior doors closed.
- ❖ report any suspicious activity to faculty or administration.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Student Rights

All students in the Marple Newtown School District have the right to:

- ❖ a free and appropriate education.
- ❖ a learning environment which is safe and enhances individual growth, a positive self-image, self-respect, and respect from others.
- ❖ express ideas and opinions freely and respectfully, provided that the exercise of this right does not interfere with the rights of other students, encourage unlawful activity, threaten immediate harm to the school or community, or interfere with the educational process.
- ❖ be graded primarily on the basis of achievement.
- ❖ participate fully in the curricular and co-curricular activities of the school.

Student Responsibilities

- ❖ Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work, and conformance to school rules and regulations.
- ❖ Students share with the faculty and administration a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.
- ❖ No student has the right to interfere with the education of his fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of all who are involved in the educational process.

**As stated in MNSD School Board Policy #235,
it is the responsibility of each student to:**

1. Become a self-sufficient contributing member of society.
2. Secure training sufficient to carry out a meaningful life's work.
3. Develop within himself/herself respect for the rights and ideas of others, and a concern for the well-being of the total group.
4. Respect and obey existing regulations, recognizing that should changes in policy be necessary, proper channels should be followed in effecting such changes.
5. Voice his/her own views while at the same time listening to and respecting the opinions of others.
6. Respect other people and their possessions.
7. Grant the professional staff respect and deference due its position and academic preparation.
8. Furnish truthful information concerning school-related matters to the professional staff, upon request.
9. Refrain from abusing school property and recognize that because school property is publicly owned each citizen bears the responsibility for the preservation of its utility and beauty. It is therefore incumbent upon each student to aid in the apprehension of any individual who would destroy school property through acts of vandalism, or abuse of any kind.
10. Refrain from any actions that would disrupt the learning process for others.
11. Attend school on a regular basis and make a conscientious effort in all classes.
12. Dress and groom themselves so as to meet fair standards of safety, health, and common decency.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Daily attendance is essential to maintaining good scholastic standing. Students are required, by law, to be in attendance at school.

Absence

Parents or guardians must email the Attendance Office at hsattendance@mnsd.org or call at 610-359-4219 prior to 7:30am in the event that a student is absent.

Students, regardless of age, must turn in absence notes signed by a parent/guardian.

Excused Absences

*An absent student must be called out for each day of absence from school. This helps to ensure the safety of your children. **All absences require that a written excuse be submitted to the school within three (3) days of the student's return to school.** If a written excuse is not submitted to the office within that time period, the absence is recorded as unexcused and is deemed by the state to be an illegal absence. A written excuse documenting an absence is required under the state's compulsory attendance laws.

- A written excuse must contain the following information: (1) name of the student and student number; (2) student grade level; (3) the date(s) of the absence; (4) the reason for the absence; and (5) a parent or guardian's signature.
- **We are able to accept excuse notes sent via email to hsattendance@mnsd.org**
- In the case of an absence of three (3) or more consecutive days, the child must return to school accompanied with a note from a licensed health care provider within **three(3) calendar days**.
- **Administration reserves the right to request an original doctor's note at any time the school deems it necessary.** Students who have been absent from school because of a communicable disease must present a doctor's certificate before they may be readmitted to school.
- Juniors and Seniors are permitted 3 college visits per academic year. An official school form is required and must include signature, email and phone number of a collegiate official.

Unexcused/Unlawful Absences – In cases where a student has **accumulated ten (10) or more days of absence**, parents/guardians may be notified that future absences will require an excuse signed by a health care professional treating the student. **Only 10 days will be excused with a parent note per year- after this a doctor, court, or educational visit (Juniors and Seniors only) note will be required.**

Unlawful Absences –When a student accumulates a third unlawful absence, the state law requires that we send a document “Official Notice of Child’s Unlawful Absence” explaining that future unlawful absences will result in a petition to the local District Justice. Included in the Official Notice will be an invitation to a School Attendance Improvement Conference. A School Attendance Improvement Plan will be created during this conference.

The school district does not recognize any day as a “cut day.” Absences on such days are considered unexcused/illegal.

*** Unexcused absences are classified as illegal if the student is under the age of 17.

Any student that accrues more than 4 unexcused/illegal absences per marking period will be excluded from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the marking period.

Any student that exceeds 10 unexcused/illegal absences during the school year will be excluded from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

CLASS CUTS

Regular attendance and participation in classroom activities is an integral part of every subject in our curriculum. Absences from class can interfere with the continuity of the instructional process for the student and the class. Recognizing that regular attendance in class is essential for success in school, it is expected that students will assume the responsibility of attending every assigned class and study hall.

A class “cut” is defined as an absence from a scheduled class or class activity that is not excused by the classroom teacher or school administration. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the classroom teacher with written documentation explaining his/her absence by the next school day; failure to do so will result in the absence being listed as unexcused.

A student having an unexcused absence (“cut”) will not be permitted to make up the day’s work, including any tests or quizzes. The student will not be given credit for class participation, thereby affecting his/her overall grade. Additionally, the unexcused absence shall be referred to the school administration for disciplinary action.

securlypass

Marple Newtown High School uses **securlypass** (a cloud-based contactless digital hall pass system) to enhance school security and simplify classroom management. Teachers, office staff, counselors, and administrators can log into their system dashboard to monitor and approve passes. Students must use the securlypass system anytime they will be in the hallways during the school day.

NOTIFICATION FOR ABSENCES. PERFECT ATTENDANCE, LATENESS TO SCHOOL

Notification

The automated phone system will be used to notify parents of all unexcused absences. In keeping parents and guardians informed of possible non-compliance with the attendance policy, notification letters will be sent by the school administration and/or home and school visitor.

Perfect Attendance

Perfect attendance means that a student has missed no days, has not been tardy for any reason, and has not been dismissed early for reasons other than school related activities. Family trips, even if excused, still disqualify a student from achieving perfect attendance.

Lateness to School

All students must be in class at or before 7:40 am. School attendance will be taken during each period. Any student not present at the beginning of period 1 will be considered late to school.

2 categories:

1. Excused tardy – arrive with the original doctor, court note, or official school form to designate a collegiate visit (for juniors and seniors only and must include signature, email and phone number of a collegiate official).

2. Unexcused Tardy – this covers all other tardies.

Levels of discipline and consequences:

- 2 unexcused tardies per marking period = none
- 3rd tardy = 1 detention
- 4th tardy = Saturday school
- 5th tardy = Saturday school, loss of campus privileges for 1 week, and a parent conference to set up a plan for improved attendance
- Loss of campus privileges means students must leave school grounds at the conclusion of the school day, unless attending a help class or detention.
- Parking permit is revoked for this period of time.
- Students in this situation are not permitted to attend or participate in any extracurricular activities during this time.
- 6th tardy = Saturday school + removal from extracurriculars for the marking period.

LATENESS TO CLASS/ EARLY DISMISSAL

Lateness to Class

As a general rule, students are required to be in the classroom by the end of the “bell tone” that signals the start of the class period. Students have four minutes to pass between classes. Lateness to class will be unexcused if a student fails to present a written pass from a teacher or administrator. Teachers are empowered to take measures deemed necessary to enforce the late to class standard.

Disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to:

- Student verbally warned by teacher
- Loss of privileges, parents contacted
- 3 unexcused lates to class.....Teacher Detention
- 6 unexcused lates to class.....2 Teacher Detentions
- 9 unexcused lates to class.....3 Administrative Detentions
- 12 unexcused lates to class.....Saturday School
- 13 or more lates to class will result in out-of-school suspension and/or additional assignment to Saturday School.

Early Dismissal

Attendance in all classes is considered an important part of the educational process. Therefore, it is recommended that students do not schedule appointments during the school day. Students may pick up their approved Early Dismissal from the Attendance Office. Upon returning to school, students are to sign in at the Attendance Office. **Students who leave school early must follow**

proper sign-out procedures (and sign-in procedures, if student returns) to avoid disciplinary action.

There are two types of early dismissals:

- 1. Early Dismissal:** Parent written notification needs to be submitted 24 hours prior to dismissal. It is recommended to email: hsattendance@mnsd.org.
- 2. Excused Early Dismissal:** upon return, student brings an original note from a doctor, court, or official school form to designate a collegiate visit (for juniors and seniors only and must include signature, email and phone number of a collegiate official).

For all early dismissal notes, students must submit the original doctor or court note upon return to school. Without such note, student may not be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities at the conclusion of the school day.

Early dismissals follow same procedure as tardies in terms of consequences. Students are allowed 2 early dismissal notes per marking period. On the 3rd early dismissal, students begin to receive consequences in the same manner as being late to school.

- 3rd ED = 1 detention
- 4th ED = Saturday school
- 5th ED = Saturday school, loss of privileges for 1 week, and parent conference to set up a plan for improved attendance
- Loss of privileges means students must leave school grounds at the conclusion of the school day, unless attending a help class.
- Students in this situation are not permitted to attend or participate in any extracurricular activities during this time.
- 6th ED = Saturday school + removal from extracurricular for the marking period.

PARENTAL REQUEST FOR STUDENT EXCUSED ABSENCE


Pre-planned Trip

The Marple Newtown School District strongly discourages student absence from school except when illness or other urgent reasons prevent the child from attending. School district officials are aware that it is not always possible to schedule family trips and vacations while school is not in session. In keeping with our guiding philosophy, but also recognizing the importance of the family unit, the school district will approve pre-planned trips up to a **maximum of five school days per student per year**.

The following provisions must be met for approval of a pre-planned trip:

- A. A “Parental Request for Student Excused Absence” form has been designed for pre-planned trips. This form can be found on the district website or in the main office. A copy of this form can be found at the end of the district handbook.
- B. A “Parental Request for Student Excused Absence” form must be submitted to the child’s building principal or designee for consideration at least **one week prior to** the date of the intended trip. The request must include a statement detailing the educational value of the trip and the name of the person responsible for supervision. Any questionable requests will be submitted to the Superintendent for final determination.

- C. The building principal will evaluate the request in terms of its educational value, duration, and adequateness of the supervision. **Anything above 5 cumulative days in an academic year will be unexcused.** Prior to leaving on the trip, it is the responsibility of the student to seek assignments. It will be the responsibility of the student to make up all work missed during the absence within one week after the student returns to school.
- D. The absence of a student taking a trip which has not received prior approval from the building principal as being educational in nature will be considered unlawful (unexcused) and subject to the provisions of the Compulsory Attendance Laws (Section 1327 of the School Code).
- E. Any trip scheduled during state standardized testing will not be excused and be marked as an unexcused absence.
- F. If more than one child in a family will be absent and the children attend different schools, a separate request for each child shall be made to each child's principal



APPLY YOURSELF

ap·ply
1: to put to use for some practical purpose
2: to work diligently or with close attention

MNHS students take their studies seriously and apply themselves to learning. They prepare and try their best.

ACADEMICS, MNHS GRADING SCALE

ACADEMICS

MNHS offers a vast curriculum to all students. In each class, a variety of activities and assessments (formal, authentic, and professional) are used to determine a student's overall grade.

Grading Scale and GPA Scale

Grade	Range	GPA	Grade	Range	GPA
A+	100-98	4.3	C+	79-77	2.3
A	97-94	4.0	C	76-73	2.0
A-	90-93	3.7	C-	72-70	1.7
B+	89-87	3.3	D+	69-67	1.3
B	86-83	3.0	D	66-63	1.0
B-	82-80	2.7	D-	62-60	0.7
			F	59 or below	0.0

Other Grades

P = Pass, F = Fail, I = Incomplete,
M = Medical, WP = Withdraw Passing, WF = Withdraw Failing,
N = No Grade

Technical School Grades

The technical school grades are equal with the exception of an “F.” An “F” from technical school is 62 or lower and is recorded as a 59.

FINAL GRADES AND EXAMS

Final Exams are given at the end of each course and are calculated into a student’s grade, as follows:

Grades for semester courses are calculated as follows:

First Marking Period.....	45%
Second Marking Period.....	45%
Examination.....	10%

INFINITE CAMPUS, SCHOOLGY, AND EDMENTUM

Infinite Campus

Infinite Campus is a web-based portal which is designed to further promote educational excellence by enhancing our program of communication between parents, students, and teachers. Students and parents use a secure activation code to gain access to current, confidential, and secure information regarding grades, class assignments, school attendance, and more.

Schoology

Schoology is a Learning Management System which complements Infinite Campus and allows users to share academic content in-person and virtually. Teachers are able to post daily objectives, email students, manage various assignments and assessments, and sync grades with Infinite Campus.

Edmentum

Marple Newtown School District’s goal is to provide a high-quality education to every student in our traditional face-to-face school environment and those in a virtual environment. We understand that some of our students need an education that is flexible enough to meet their unique situations, while maintaining the integrity of quality teaching and learning. We are proud to offer our K-12 students will have the option to attend MNSD’s full time cyber school, MN ConnectEd, which is delivered through Edmentum™. Additional information can be found on the district website, under Departments → Teaching and Learning.

STANDARDIZED TESTING, SR. PROJECT, JR. INITIATIVE

Standardized Testing

Students take standardized tests each year. These tests serve as predictors of performance and assist with scheduling and assessment.

Keystone Exams in Algebra 1, Literature, and Biology. These tests will be given during the state testing window once a student completes the course.

10 th Grade	PSAT
11 th Grade	PSAT, SAT recommended
12 th Grade	SAT recommended

Senior Project

The **Senior Project** provides the student with a practical learning situation and an opportunity to utilize skills and knowledge acquired over the course of their education in a “real world” application. The project is an individual project, which the student chooses, plans and develops. The student ensures the project’s success by piloting the project and taking charge of the educational experience. **Students are required to pass the Senior Project in order to graduate.**

Junior Initiative

Business is the foundation of our economy. The **Junior Initiative** program is an interdisciplinary program that introduces MNHS Juniors to the thousands of different careers. The insights gained about the world of work as a result of participating in the **Junior Initiative** program aid students in determining their future career path.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, PROMOTION, KEYSTONE EXAMS

		Credits
Health/Physical Education		2.5
Health	1.0	
Phys Ed	1.5	
English		4.0
Social Studies		4.0
Mathematics	3.0 min	
Science	3.0 min	
Math/Sci Combined		7.0
World Language		1.0
Electives		6.5
Applied Arts	1.0	
Arts	1.0	
Other Electives	4.5	
Senior Project		1.0
Total		26.0
Suggested Goal toward graduation		Credits
9 th		6.5
10 th		13
11 th		18.5

Students are required to attain a score of Proficient or higher, as defined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education, on the Algebra I, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams. Any student who does not achieve a score of Proficient or higher shall participate in a District-based remediation program prior to graduation.

TECHNICAL SCHOOL, GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

TECHNICAL SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Technical School Program is offered to tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students at one of two Intermediate Unit run Technical Schools: Aston or Folcroft. The training available at these schools is extensive and demanding and provides a graduate with an excellent background for technical jobs, 2-4 year technical colleges, or 4-year colleges.

Students interested in this program should see their guidance counselor during the course selection process to apply for the following school year.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Guidance Department is to promote and enhance the learning process. To this end, the counseling staff offers a wide range of programs and services designed to facilitate student growth in the areas of academic, career, and personal/social development.

Students meet with counselors to discuss concerns in an atmosphere of confidentiality. Appointments are scheduled at a time convenient for students and least disruptive to the educational program. Appointments can be requested by the student, parent, and/or counselor and are scheduled by the Guidance Secretaries.

Student Services Center

A-Gj	Mrs. Nicole McCarthy	610-359-4225
Gk-N	Ms. Kathrine Froschle	610-359-4227
O-Z	Dr. Kelly McCool	610-359-4241
School Psychologist	Ms. Victoria Carrell	610-359-4242
Behavioral Health Worker	Mr. Dan Lang	610-359-5591
Secretary	Mrs. Teresa Werner	610-359-4279

College and Career Access Center (CCAC) Counselors

A-Gj	Mrs. Jennifer Cipollone	610-359-4233
Gk-N	Mr. Shane Elison	610-359-4229
O-Z	Ms. Tracy Jacobson	610-359-4246
Secretary	Ms. Taylor Erdman	610-359-4240

The MNHS Guidance Department offers a variety of programs:

- ❖ Academic counseling, course planning and course selection
- ❖ Individual and group counseling
- ❖ Parent and teacher communication and conferences
- ❖ Achievement and college admissions testing
- ❖ Vocational interests
- ❖ Referral services to outside agencies

Four Year Guidance Curriculum

- ❖ Seniors: Finalize post-high school plan, college/technical school/ job applications, Senior Project
- ❖ Juniors: Career initiative, post-high school planning, interviews
- ❖ Sophomores: Career Pathways and College Board online access
- ❖ Freshmen: High school orientation and 4-year high school plan



GET INVOLVED

in·volved

- 1: engaged as a participant
- 2: committed to a program or activity

Most MNHS students choose to get involved in one or more of the many clubs, activities, and sports teams that we offer. Students can also get involved by attending school events.

STUDENT COUNCIL, CLUBS, AND ACTIVITIES

STUDENT COUNCIL- channan@mnsd.org; bisselmann@mnsd.org

The Student Council supports the mission of the school through sponsorship of all student clubs and activities. The goal of Student Council is to involve the student body in a variety of activities that foster school spirit. Student Council sponsors dances, charity drives, Spirit Week activities, homecoming ceremonies, and other school and community programs.

Student Council Executive Board Positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer/PTO Representative, Recording Secretary, School Board Representatives (2), Junior Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Junior Representative, Sophomore Representative, Sophomore Sergeant at Arms.

Class Officer Positions: Each class elects four officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

A variety of clubs and activities are available to our students. Visit our High School webpage for an updated and detailed list of current clubs and activities. Listen to the morning announcements and watch the bulletin boards for meeting information.

New Club or Activity

The MNHS Student Council charters all school clubs and activities. To start a new club or activity, see a Student Council Advisor for the required forms. Each club or activity is required to have at least one faculty sponsor. Administrative and School Board approval are required.

ATHLETICS

Athletic Director: Christopher Gicking, cgicking@mnsd.org

The interscholastic athletic program is designed to promote cooperation and sportsmanship while fostering wholesome interscholastic athletic competition. Our athletic program is extensive and seeks to promote the health and physical welfare of our student-athletes. Students are encouraged to participate in one or more of the many sports that are a part of our interscholastic athletic program.

Eligibility

Marple Newtown High School is a member of the P.I.A.A.. For a student to be eligible to participate in our sports program, he/she must be a student-athlete who evidences regular school attendance, passing grades, and good citizenship. Student-athletes are expected to serve as positive role models for others. Students who are failing 2 or more subjects or those who are passing less than 4 credits at any point during a marking period would be deemed ineligible. Athletic academic eligibility is enforced:

Weekly Eligibility – students may not participate in games if they are academically ineligible; loss of privileges runs from Sunday through the following Saturday.

Marking Period Eligibility – Loss of participation privileges for 15 *school days* from the date the report cards are issued.

End of School Year Eligibility – Loss of participation privileges for 15 *school days* upon the beginning of the new school year, unless the class credit is made up through summer school.

Each season, the team with the highest academic average wins the coveted **ROAR** (Recognizing our Academic Responsibility) **Award**.

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
Cross Country	Basketball	Baseball
Field Hockey	Indoor Track	Lacrosse
Football	Swimming & Diving	Softball
Golf	Wrestling	Tennis, Boys
Soccer	Cheerleading	Track and Field
Tennis, Girls		
Volleyball		
Cheerleading		

For more specific information regarding the MNHS athletic program, eligibility requirements, and expectation of our student-athletes, please see the **MNHS Athletic Handbook** or contact Mr. Gicking, Athletic Director.

HONOR SOCIETIES

For complete information, see our webpage: <https://mnhs.mnsd.org/activities/honor-societies>

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society is a service organization that promotes recognition for students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of academic achievement, character, leadership, and service.

Advisor: Dr. Doug Killough

Active members will be selected during their junior/senior year(s), providing they meet required standards:

At the end of the second marking period, a preliminary list is compiled of all sophomores and juniors with a weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 or above. Academically eligible sophomores and juniors will be invited to a meeting to discuss the process for fulfilling the service and leadership requirements.

Candidates will continue the application process for admission by completing an Activity Verification Form for each activity the student participated in during his/her time in high school. Students will be assigned points for service/participation and leadership. If students have a reason for failing to achieve the necessary points required for National Honor Society induction, they should provide a written explanation as part of their application. In order for an activity to count toward membership the candidate must have completed the athletic season for sports, or the duration of the club or organization. The Faculty Advisory Board will determine which activities meet the requirements for service/participation and leadership.

Sophomore candidates must accumulate at least 40 points in service/participation/leadership. Junior candidates need at least 60 points.

The character requirement is determined through a review of each candidate's discipline record. Violations of the school's discipline code are reviewed by the Faculty Advisory Board. Students with serious or repeated discipline violations may be excluded from the NHS.

When all requirements are met, the Faculty Advisory Board votes to approve the list of candidates. Once the list of candidates is approved by the Faculty Advisory Board, candidates are notified through their homerooms.

Induction into the National Honor Society will take place in the spring of each year.

Tri-M Music Society, Chapter 764

Tri-M Music Honor Society is a program of the National Association for Music Education (NAME) which focuses on creating future leaders in music education and music advocacy. Tri-M recognizes students that have gone above and beyond both academically and musically. Advisor: Mr. Jake Olimpi

Requirements - Candidates for active student membership shall be chosen by the chapter advisor(s). Candidates for active student membership shall be chosen from those students enrolled in the music department at Marple Newtown High School. Candidates, at the time of their selection, shall meet the following requirements:

1. They must be a sophomore, junior, or senior in the current school year.
2. They must have enrolled in a music ensemble and/or class for at least one semester the current school year at Marple Newtown High School;
3. They must have a minimum of 4 points in music activities (cumulative).
 - A. Full year ensemble/classes, marching band and musical – 1 point
 - B. Half year ensemble/classes - .5 point

4. They must exhibit leadership, service, and character in their activities while at Marple Newtown High School; and
5. They must have maintained for the previous semester at least a 3.70 average grade or equivalent in music with at least a 3.00 average grade or equivalent in other academic subjects.
6. They must have a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer music service.

World Language Honor Society

World Language Honor Society provides an opportunity to recognize outstanding achievement in French and Spanish and to promote interest in Francophone and Hispanic studies.

Advisor: Mrs. Kerri Confora

World Language Honor Society students must:

- A. Be actively engaged in a language course until graduation (continuous enrollment) or complete the highest level offered.
- B. Be currently enrolled in Spanish III or French III or higher during the year of application.
- C. Be in the 10th, 11th or 12th grade at time of application; 9th graders who have gone through the Honors Program at the middle school are also eligible.
- D. Have maintained an A- average or higher in all language courses throughout their secondary school study, including the semester of selection and all previous work awarded secondary school credit.
- E. Have maintained an overall B- average or higher in all other secondary school subjects prior to the semester of selection.
- F. Have never failed a course in his/her high school studies.
- G. Have a behavioral record free from suspension, instances of academic dishonesty (i.e. plagiarism), and/or a pattern of inappropriate behavior, attendance issues.

Science National Honor Society

The purpose of this organization shall be to encourage participation in and recognition of scientific and intellectual thought. It is to advance the students' knowledge of classical and modern science, to communicate with the scientific community, and to aid the civic community with its comprehension of science. It is to encourage students to participate in community service and, in turn, encourage dedication to the pursuit of scientific knowledge that benefits all mankind.

Advisor: Mrs. Christine Roy

Requirements:

- Must be a junior or senior
- Must have & maintain a 3.0 GPA
- Must maintain a 3.5 GPA in **Science** class
- Must be currently enrolled in a **Science** class
- Must have been and currently enrolled in only **Honors/AP** level science classes
- Must be enrolled in at least one upper-level science class (AP or dual enrollment) during or prior to the twelfth grade year

- Must complete at least 10 hours of science related community service each year

Social Studies National Honor Society

This honor society acknowledges students who exemplify excellence in their social studies courses and promotes active civic and community engagement for its members.

Advisor: Dr. Doug Killough

To become a member, students must:

- Have attended MNHS for at least one semester
- Have completed two core social studies courses and be prepared to complete at least three courses (*inducting juniors and seniors, only*)
- Have an overall GPA of 3.5 (unweighted and cumulative)
- Have an average of a 90 or above in all previous core social studies courses (unweighted and cumulative)
- Have completed at least two (2) honors-level social studies courses and/or one (1) Advanced Placement (AP) social studies course since their freshman year

English National Honor Society, *Spiritus Mundi*

This organization connects our school with a national network of English teachers and students who share a special interest in language, literature, and writing.

Advisors: Mrs. Amy Gallagher, Mrs. Linda Johnson, Mrs. Carboni

Requirements for membership:

- Overall unweighted GPA 3.0
- 90 cumulative Average in ALL ENGLISH CLASSES
- No suspensions or expulsions in high school

Once a member:

- Complete one “in house” and one “out of house” point per semester.
- Members must submit points to the secretary.
- Maintain a 90 in English
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA
- No suspensions or expulsions

Math Honor Society

Math Honor Society provides an opportunity to recognize and encourage students who enjoy and excel in mathematics.

Advisor: Mr. Mike Clancy

Math Honor Society students must:

- Must have completed two college prep level math courses
- Must have a 3.0 math grade point average
- Must attend weekly Math Club meetings beginning in September

RENAISSANCE

The Renaissance Program was established to empower students, educators, administrators, parents, businesses, and community organizations in promoting student achievement, increasing community involvement, and recognizing success among our students and faculty. It is an incentive-based program that provides privileges to those students who demonstrate achievement in the areas of academic achievement, school attendance, and citizenship.

Membership Requirements

1. No more than 2 excused absences per quarter (zero unexcused)
2. No more than 2 latenesses per quarter
3. No more than 2 early dismissals per quarter
4. No discipline referrals
5. No failures
6. Minimum GPA of 80.00 for Orange Card, 90.00 for Black Card
7. Active participation in eligible school sponsored club or activity each quarter.

Membership Privileges

1. 'Recognition Events' (trips, assemblies, celebrations)
2. Reduced ticket prices at selected school events
3. Discount to sponsoring businesses
4. Arrive late/Leave early - if period 1 or 9 study hall with parent permission on file (**Juniors and Seniors Black Card only**)

**Current quarter performance determines next quarter membership. Administration or faculty sponsors may revoke a student's membership, if necessary, at any time.*

MARPLE NEWTOWN A-Z

Acceptable Use of Networks Policy (AUP)

Inappropriate computer use or violation of any of the AUP regulations may result in suspension or loss of computer access, as well as other disciplinary or legal action. (See AUP Policy, p. 38)

Assembly Guidelines

Assemblies, class meetings, and pep rallies will be held periodically throughout the school year. Such programs are intended to be educational, informative, and entertaining. No assemblies will be scheduled during study weeks.

Bullying

Bullying is unacceptable at MNHS and is subject to disciplinary action. Bullying occurs when a student is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more students. (See Bullying, p. 40)

Cafeteria

The cafeteria is located on the first floor of the high school and provides a variety of meal options for students. MNSD recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The School Breakfast Program is free to all MNSD students for the 2024-2025 school year. Students and their food must remain inside the cafeteria.

Cell Phones

(See Electronic Communication Devices Policy, p. 49)

Cheating/Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism, defined as the taking and use of another person's ideas, writings, or inventions as one's own, will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action will be taken for violations against the cheating/plagiarism policy.

Cheating/plagiarism includes:

- ❖ turning in someone else's work (including homework) as your own.
- ❖ copying another's lab report or similar assignment.
- ❖ copying something word for word without putting it within quotation marks and citing the author.
- ❖ paraphrasing another work without giving credit to the original author.
- ❖ extensive paraphrasing, even when credit is given.
- ❖ failing to indicate where borrowing begins and ends.
- ❖ cheating on any assignment by using another person's work or allowing another person to use your work.

Dances

Many times during the school year organizations sponsor informal and semi-formal dances for students. The regulations for school dances are:

- ❖ All tickets will be sold in advance, and no ticket will be sold at the door or on the day of the dance. One ticket per person. One guest per person (with administration approval on guest form prior to 10:00am the day before the dance).
- ❖ Guests must be under 21 years of age on the day of the dance. The guest must present identification at the dance that includes birthdate.
- ❖ All attendees must submit to a breathalyzer test prior to entering the dance. (See Breathalyzer, p. 39)
- ❖ Students may be required to show their MNHS ID when attending the dance.
- ❖ Proper attire is required. Failure to dress appropriately will result in non-admittance to the dance.
- ❖ No student will be re-admitted to a dance once he/she leaves.
- ❖ School rules and regulations apply to all those who attend a Marple Newtown dance. Failure to comply with these rules will result in removal from the dance and may result in additional disciplinary action.
- ❖ No outside food or drinks may be brought into the dance.

- ❖ The administration, teachers, sponsors and chaperones are not responsible for personal property that is lost, stolen, or damaged while in attendance at a school dance.

Detention

Detention is assigned when student conduct is inappropriate or unacceptable. (See Administrative Detention, p. 30)

Dress Code (see Board Policy #221)

The Marple Newtown School Board wants to provide a climate of student individuality and freedom of choice within a framework that provides safety and reflects dignity and respect upon the school and community. Appropriate grooming is an essential ingredient of the total educational experience and is a shared responsibility among parents/guardians, students, and school authorities.

School authorities, parents/guardians and students should work together to provide a dress standard which is logical, tasteful, discourages displays of extremes, and promotes personal cleanliness and neatness of clothing. Students should dress for an educational setting, not a recreational one.

If, in the opinion of the teachers and administration, a student's attire is inappropriate, the student will be given the opportunity to correct the dress code violation(s) on their own or by contacting a parent to provide appropriate items. The violation must be corrected. Students will be withheld from class(es) until properly attired. Disciplinary action will result for repeat offenders.

The following are specific interpretations of the dress standard policy:

- ❖ All clothing must be neat, clean, and in proper repair.
- ❖ Clothing must cover undergarments.
- ❖ Shirts and blouses must cover the chest and mid-section at all times (must be long enough that they could be worn tucked in). Form-fitting attire may not be worn. No midriffs, spaghetti straps, tube tops, or halter-tops. Tank top straps must be at least 1" wide.
- ❖ Shorts/skirts/skorts should be fingertip length when arms are in a natural, relaxed manner. Inside pockets should not be visible at any time.
- ❖ Protective footwear is required at all times. Hats, hoods, outerwear, bandanas, visors, or sunglasses may not be worn inside the school building, unless warranted by a medical, safety or religious circumstance.
- ❖ Message apparel, chains, spiked jewelry, and other jewelry/ equipment which presents a safety concern and/or encourages the use of drugs or alcohol, cites inappropriate language, words or expressions, or displays sexually inappropriate gestures, or has an inappropriate or double meaning, are prohibited.
- ❖ Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health and safety of the student. This includes the wearing of any clothing, such as, for example, a face covering which the district is obligated to require students to wear pursuant to state or local law, unless an exemption has been granted to the student.

- ❖ The building principal or designee shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming, and to enforce Board policy and school rules governing student dress and grooming.
- ❖ Dress must not disrupt or endanger student health and must comply with all safety rules, or state or local orders or applicable laws.

Electronic Devices

(See Electronic Communication Devices Policy, p. 49)

Emergency Cards

Each year, students must submit completed emergency cards to the school nurse. Students who do not provide this information are not allowed to participate in school field trips and other activities. Students are also subject to further disciplinary action.

Emergency Closing

In the event that the schools must be closed because of an emergency, an announcement of the closing will be made over the radio and television stations. The automated phone system will also be activated, and information can be acquired from the district's website, *www.mnsd.net*, and the Inform-a-Phone 610-359-4280.

Marple Newtown School District's school closing number is 454.

If no announcement is made, assume school is in session. In order to keep telephone lines clear, please do not call the school office or local police authorities.

Field Trips

Opportunities to visit places of educational interest are offered to students throughout the course of the school year. To be allowed to participate in a field trip, a student must have a completed emergency card on file with the nurse and have his/her teachers and parent complete a permission slip. This permission slip must be given to the classroom teacher at least one day before the field trip. Students on field trips are ambassadors of our school. As such, they are expected to dress and to conduct themselves in a courteous and appropriate manner.

Fire Drills/Emergency/Lock Down Procedures

During a Fire Drill, or an emergency or lock down situation, students are to follow the directions given by their teacher and/or the administration. If moving to an outside location, students should proceed quietly and in an orderly fashion.

General Housekeeping

The care of school property is everyone's concern. It is our desire to keep our school as pleasant, clean, and orderly as possible. Students are not permitted to take food or beverages from the cafeteria. Students are encouraged clean up after themselves at all times.

Hall Pass

Students are to use the digital hall pass whenever they need to leave an assigned class.

Hallway Regulations

To maintain order in hallways and stairways, students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Specifically, students are to:

- ❖ keep to the right and keep moving.
- ❖ maintain cleanliness in the halls and stairways.
- ❖ have used the digital hall pass, except between classes.

Help Class

All faculty provide regular help classes. Check with your teachers for specific details.

Infinite Campus

Infinite Campus is a valuable tool for communicating academic information. (See Infinite Campus, p. 14)

Insurance

Student insurance information is given out in homeroom at the start of the school year.

Library

The library is for your benefit and convenience. The following rules are to be observed:

- ❖ The library is usually available for students between 7:25am and 2:55 pm.
- ❖ Computer use in the library must follow the guidelines of the school district's AUP Policy. (See AUP Policy, p. 38)

Lockers

At the beginning of each school year, students may request an assigned locker in which to keep books, lunch, and outdoor clothing. Each student will be provided a combination padlock for his/her locker. If the lock is lost or stolen, the cost to replace the lock is \$5.00.

The administration and teachers are not responsible for the loss of money or property, including school textbooks, kept in your locker. Valuables or large sums of money should not be brought to school. Any theft of money and/or property should be reported immediately to Security. Any locker that does not function properly should be reported promptly to the office of the Assistant Principal.

Students are required to always keep lockers clean and neat. Decals, stickers, or other markings on lockers are not permitted. Individual lockers may be opened without prior notice to the student for inspection and/or repair. Damage, vandalism or graffiti to lockers will result in a monetary fine for cleaning and repair. Sharing lockers with other students is prohibited.

Lost & Found

Lost and found items are turned into the Main Office.

Nurse

A nurse is on duty during the school day. Students should use the digital hall pass before seeing the nurse.

School Bus Behavior Guidelines

While waiting for or leaving the school bus, students:

1. may ride only those buses to which they are regularly assigned.
2. shall not board the bus until the driver is in attendance.
3. shall not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus.
4. may not deface property at bus stops. Pupils must remain off lawns, refrain from touching shrubbery, and stand on sidewalks where possible.
5. shall remain in line at least five feet from the bus when it stops to pick-up.
6. shall be at the bus stop at the designated time and be ready to board the bus with the least possible delay.
7. shall go home promptly after leaving the school bus.
8. who must cross the highway after disembarking from the bus, shall pass ten feet in front of the bus. They shall cross the highway only after the driver signals them to do so.

While on the school bus, students:

1. shall always obey the bus operator, while under his/her supervision.
2. shall sit in the assigned seat, if driver chooses to make such an assignment.
3. shall remain seated while bus is in motion.
4. shall keep aisles clear of book bags, musical instruments, etc.
5. shall refrain from smoking, vulgarity, and boisterous/other improper conduct.
6. may not eat or drink on the bus.
7. shall assist the driver in keeping the bus clean.
8. shall not damage or deface any part of the bus.
9. shall not play radios on the school bus.
10. may not operate the service door.
11. must surrender their identification cards, upon driver request.
12. may not tamper with any operating mechanisms.
13. shall not be allowed to leave the bus at any place other than his/her regular stop, without the written consent of the principal.

Safety Rules to be observed:

1. use crosswalk areas.
2. no smoking.
3. when walking along the highway, walk on the left facing oncoming traffic.
4. remain seated if the bus is delayed on the road.
5. use the emergency door only in case of emergency.
6. be of assistance to smaller children.

Signs

Hallway signs/posters that advertise upcoming events or elections may only be posted on the student bulletin boards located throughout the school. Items for posting must have the authorization of the Assistant Principal. Removal of the signs/posters after the advertised event is the responsibility of the sponsoring teacher, organization, and student. In accordance with School Board Policy, only student-approved organizations may post materials on the bulletin boards.

Smoking - Smoking is prohibited. (See Tobacco Policy, p. 47)

Student Assistance Program - SAP

In accordance with state provisions and in support of district educational goals, the high school offers a Student Assistance Program (SAP). The intent of the program is to enable the school to address barriers to learning among our students such as the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, social and emotional problems, etc. If an individual student's observable behavior warrants, a faculty member, friend, or parent may refer the student to our SAP team. The SAP team consists of trained teachers, guidance counselors, school nurse, school psychologist, Pupil Services personnel, external consultants, and a building administrator. The team works with the student and the parents to help resolve the issue. This may include referral of the student to an outside agency for assessment and related services, if necessary. Referral forms may be obtained from the school nurse, guidance counselor, or school psychologist.

Student Parking

Students who drive to school must register their vehicle and obtain a Parking Permit via the Main Office. **Student parking is limited and a privilege.** Any student exhibiting frequent poor school behavior may have his/her parking privileges revoked. Students are not permitted to leave the school building during the school day. Should an emergency arise, permission to leave is granted by either the high school Principal or Assistant Principal.

The following guidelines are in effect for students who drive to school:

- ❖ Students are not allowed to visit or drive their car during school hours.
- ❖ Students may only park where indicated. **The student parking lot is in the rear of the building.** Student parking is prohibited in the front parking lot or in the rear faculty lots.
- ❖ MNHS parking permits must always be visible. Failure to display a parking permit or parking in an unauthorized area will result in after-school detentions and/or a loss of parking privileges.
- ❖ Other specific regulations concerning student use of vehicles are listed on the Parking Permit Form.
- ❖ Lost permits may be replaced for \$5.

Student Identification

Photographs of all students will be taken during the school year. Students will be advised in advance as to when school pictures will be taken. Photo identification cards will be provided to all students. Students are expected to display their school identification cards when in the school building or on school property. The replacement cost is \$5.00. Replacement ID can be obtained in the Main Office.

Study Hall

Study hall is a place of learning. Students are expected to bring work to do for the entire period.

Student Visitor Policy

All visitors must register in the main office immediately upon arrival and be issued a visitor's pass. Loitering or trespassing on school property is not permitted.

We allow student visitors only if they are seriously considering attending Marple Newtown High School. Parents of these students should arrange permission to visit beforehand through the principal. Students attending other local schools, whether in session or not, are not permitted to visit.

DISCIPLINE CODE

The purposes of publishing the discipline code are to:

- ❖ encourage students to assume responsibility for their behavior.
- ❖ inform students, teachers, and parents of what is behaviorally unacceptable.
- ❖ develop an approach to discipline which embodies fairness, firmness, and consistency.
- ❖ prevent interference with the educational process by disruptive students.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

TEACHER DETENTION

Individual teachers may assign detention to be served in their classrooms on any school day. Teachers will give students a minimum of one day's advanced notice of a detention assignment. Students who do not report are subject to assignment of two detentions by an administrator for each unexcused absence from a Teacher Detention.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION

Administrative detention is held from **2:45 pm to 3:40 pm**, Monday through Thursday afternoons. The purpose of the detention is to provide guidance to those who fail to follow school guidelines and procedures. The following procedures will be in effect for Administrative Detention.

- ❖ One day's notice shall be given to the student assigned to detention. Students who are absent on the assigned date are **expected to report to the next scheduled administrative detention** beginning with the day they return from their absence.
- ❖ Students are expected to have work to complete during detention.
- ❖ The use of electronic devices is prohibited.
- ❖ Students will not be admitted to administrative detention after 2:45 pm, unless they have an administrative pass excusing the lateness.
- ❖ Failure to attend an assigned administrative detention will result in the assignment of two administrative detentions.
- ❖ Failure to serve either of these detentions will result in a Saturday School assignment.

SATURDAY SCHOOL

Saturday School is held most Saturdays and meets in Room A117, from 8:00-11:00 am. During Saturday School, the following conditions apply:

- ❖ Students enter through the rear entrance of the building. Students will report to Room A117 no later than 8:00 am and remain until 11:00 am. No one will be excused for any reason without prior admin approval.
- ❖ Students will be escorted to the lavatories at a designated time.
- ❖ The use of electronic devices is prohibited.
- ❖ No food or drink is allowed.
- ❖ Students must bring their books, assignments, and all necessary pens, pencils, and paper. Students must do schoolwork. Sleeping is not allowed.
- ❖ Failure to serve Saturday School will result in an additional Saturday School and/or out-of-school suspension.

BEHAVIOR AFFECTING PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL EVENTS

Participation in extra-curricular events and activities is a privilege that must be earned. Failure to comply with academic, behavioral or attendance guidelines will result in removal from the activity. The following guidelines, based on a code of conduct point system, will determine participation in school events. If a student accumulates **10 or more** disciplinary points, he/she will lose the privilege to participate in planned school sponsored events until his/her point total is reduced to 9 points or less. At the conclusion of each marking period, administration will review students' points and conduct to determine if points may be further reduced.

The following is the infraction breakdown system.

INFRACTIONS

Each Administrative Detention	1 point
Each Saturday School Detention	2 points
Suspension	3 Points per Day

Following each recorded offense, the parent will receive a point update form regarding the violation. A student shall have 1 point deducted by avoiding any administrative infractions for a period of 5 consecutive school days.

Behavior Affecting Participation in Extracurricular Activities

- Students who are absent from school for the entire day are not permitted to participate in any practices, competitions, or school-sponsored activities held after school or during the evening of the day(s) absence.
- **Please note that school detentions will not be moved from assigned dates due to rehearsals, practices or games.**
- **Also, note that students who are removed from extra-curricular activities will not receive a refund of their activity fee.**

Behavior Affecting Participation in Graduation

- Students who demonstrate consistent behavior problems during the year (e.g. excessive disciplinary referrals, suspensions, lateness, etc.) may be excluded from commencement at the discretion of the administration. **Any student suspended from school during the second semester may lose commencement privileges.**

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

Temporary Suspension – up to three school days

The principal may temporarily suspend a student for disobedience, misconduct, or infraction of school rules after the student has been given an opportunity to tell his/her side of the story and has been informed of the reason(s) for the out-of-school suspension.

Full Suspension - more than three school days

The principal may suspend a student for more than three days if the total number of days does not exceed ten school days. An informal hearing opportunity will be afforded students within the first five days of full suspension. This hearing is held in the presence of the principal and notice shall be provided by the principal to the parent/guardian requesting their presence.

Purpose of Hearing

The purpose of the informal hearing is to enable the student to explain circumstances and discuss the offense for which he/she is charged.

Due Process

Reasons for suspension, in writing, must be provided to the student and parent/guardian. The Principal shall make a reasonable attempt to accommodate the parent/guardian in scheduling the time of the hearing. The student may speak or present witnesses on his/her behalf and witnesses may be cross-examined.

Following the informal hearing, the principal may decline additional suspension, authorize return of student to school, return student to school on probation, restrict extra-curricular activity, continue suspension for full suspension period of ten days, or recommend to the Superintendent of Schools action to expel.

Student Rights During Out-of-School Suspension Period

Students are required to make up exams and work missed during temporary/ full suspension. Exams and missed work must be completed within no more than twice the number of school days of temporary/full suspension.

- ❖ Parents will be immediately notified that their child has been suspended, the reason for the suspension, and the length of the suspension. A parent conference may be scheduled, if requested. An informal hearing will be scheduled for all full suspensions.
- ❖ Credit will be given for all work missed. Work should be completed promptly after the student's return. It is the responsibility of the student to make up the work, including tests and quizzes. The regular classroom teacher is responsible for evaluation of the work.
- ❖ Students are not allowed on school grounds or district property while suspended. They may not attend or participate in extra-curricular activities or practices while suspended.
- ❖ If the conditions of suspension are violated, the pupil is subject to additional suspension.

STUDENT EXPULSION

The Board of School Directors shall conduct formal hearings, upon written notice from Superintendent of Schools, recommending student expulsion. The Board Solicitor shall be present at all hearings to advise the committee on matters pertaining to procedure and evidence. The Board shall be responsible for keeping a record of proceedings.

Upon receipt of written notice from the Superintendent of Schools recommending expulsion, the Board Secretary shall arrange, without unreasonable delay, the time, date, and place of the hearing. The Secretary shall give at least three (3) days' notice, in writing, by certified mail, to parents or person in loco parentis, and to student. Notice from the secretary shall include name of accuser, offense or offenses, names of witnesses, and an explanation of the student's right to offer testimony and present witnesses and evidence in his/her own behalf, as well as the right of student to be represented by counsel of individual choice, and referral to Delaware County Legal Assistance Association if he/she cannot afford legal counsel. Students shall have the right to demand that witnesses appear in person to answer questions or be cross-examined. If requested by a student or parent, a private hearing shall be held. Board shall not be bound to technical rules of evidence but may hear all relevant probative evidence pursuant to Local Agency Act PA C.S.A. Section 551.

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE –
MNSD School Board Policy # 218**

The MNSD School Board acknowledges that conduct is closely related to learning. An effective instructional program requires a wholesome and orderly school environment, and the efficacy of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students and employees.

The Board shall require each student of this district to adhere to the rules and regulations promulgated by the administration and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. The rules govern student conduct in school and during the time spent travelling to and from school. Such rules shall require that students:

1. Conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior.
2. Respect the rights, person, and property of others.
3. Preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged.
4. Obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

According to Title 22 of the Pennsylvania School Code:

- ❖ Corporal punishment shall not be imposed upon a student.
- ❖ Reasonable force may still be used by teachers and school authorities under any of the following circumstances: (1) to quell a disturbance, (2) to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects, (3) for the purpose of self-defense, or (4) for the protection of persons or property.

The discipline policy is in effect for all students during any and all school hours, school activities and/or school-sponsored events, and/or whenever a student is in school, on school property and nearby properties, and/or in school vehicle, including, but not limited to, school buses.

LEVEL I - Misbehaviors classified in this level represent relatively minor infractions of established procedures which regulate the orderly operation of the school and the educational process. The frequency of the occurrence of the infraction may impact the disciplinary response, including, but not limited to, reclassification to a higher level. This level of misbehavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ❖ Abuse of hall, locker or lavatory privileges
- ❖ Disruptive/Disrespectful behavior
- ❖ Dress Code violations
- ❖ Unauthorized visits – being present on school district property without approval of building administration
- ❖ Unexcused absence or excessive lateness to school or class
- ❖ Other minor infractions of acceptable school behavior

Disciplinary Options (any one or more of the following):

- ❖ Verbal reprimand
- ❖ Restriction of privileges
- ❖ Notification of parent/guardian
- ❖ Detention
- ❖ Referral to building administrator or building administrator’s designee
- ❖ Assign to work detail
- ❖ Special assignments
- ❖ Behavior contract
- ❖ Counseling
- ❖ Saturday school

LEVEL II – This level includes misbehavior which by its frequency and/or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school and/or seriously affects the student’s own education. Some of these infractions may be the result of a continuation of misbehaviors which remain unchanged by disciplinary actions under Level I. This level of misbehavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ❖ Bullying
- ❖ Cheating/Plagiarism
- ❖ Cutting class
- ❖ Defacing school property
- ❖ Fighting
- ❖ Forging/Changing official documents
- ❖ Insubordination/Disrespect
- ❖ Offensive language or gestures
- ❖ Petty theft/Gambling
- ❖ Possession of tobacco and/or smoking paraphernalia
- ❖ Refusing teacher/administrative detention
- ❖ Smoking
- ❖ Truancy
- ❖ Unauthorized use of cell phones or other electronic devices
- ❖ Verbal assault
- ❖ Other more serious infractions of acceptable school behavior
- ❖ Violation of Acceptable Use of Networks Policy
- ❖ Violation of District Bus Policy
- ❖ Violation of Motor Vehicle Code or school regulations

Disciplinary Options (any one or more of the following):

- ❖ Verbal reprimand
- ❖ Detention
- ❖ Restriction of privileges
- ❖ Notification of parent/guardian
- ❖ Suspension/Removal of school bus privileges
- ❖ External suspension*
- ❖ Citation and fine
- ❖ Restitution of damages
- ❖ Removal from class/Placement in study hall
- ❖ Schedule modification
- ❖ Saturday school

LEVEL III – Infractions in Level III are more serious because their consequences may have a lasting effect on the student and/or may pose a threat to the health and safety of others. While some of these infractions may also be criminal acts, for the most part their remediation may be undertaken through the disciplinary actions of the school. However, in some cases, law enforcement officials may be contacted or notified. This level of misbehavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ❖ Continuation of Level II behavior
- ❖ Chronic truancy
- ❖ Commission of any acts punishable under Pennsylvania Crimes Code
- ❖ Fighting
- ❖ Harassment
- ❖ Assault and battery
- ❖ Verbal assault
- ❖ Possessing, using, or being under the influence of unauthorized substances
- ❖ Publishing/Distributing libelous material
- ❖ Racial/Ethnic intimidation
- ❖ Tampering with safety equipment or school buses
- ❖ Theft
- ❖ Vandalism

Disciplinary Options (any one or more of the following):

- ❖ External suspension *
- ❖ Restitution of damages
- ❖ Restriction of privileges
- ❖ Referral to an outside agency
- ❖ Notification of parent/guardian
- ❖ Notification of school police and/or local law enforcement
- ❖ Expulsion

LEVEL IV – Misbehavior which presents a direct and immediate threat to the welfare of others or may result in violence to persons and/or damage to property. So serious are the infractions that in most cases they require administrative action which calls for the immediate removal of the student from school and/or the intervention of police. This level of misbehavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ❖ Continuation of Level III behavior
- ❖ Arson
- ❖ Assault and battery
- ❖ Bomb threats
- ❖ Burglary
- ❖ Breaking and entering
- ❖ Commission of any acts punishable under Pennsylvania Crimes Code
- ❖ Extortion
- ❖ Grand theft
- ❖ Indecent exposure
- ❖ Major vandalism
- ❖ Possessing, using, or being under the influence of unauthorized substances
- ❖ Possession and/or sale of stolen property
- ❖ Possession and/or use of firecrackers or explosives
- ❖ Possession of a weapon
- ❖ Tampering with fire alarm or pulling false alarm

Disciplinary Options (any one or more of the following):

- ❖ Restitution of damages
- ❖ External suspension*
- ❖ Expulsion
- ❖ Referral to an outside agency
- ❖ Notification of parent/guardian
- ❖ Notification of school police and/or local law enforcement
- ❖ Prosecution in Juvenile or Criminal Court
- ❖ Restriction of privileges

*A student who is on suspension shall not participate in, nor attend any school sponsored extracurricular activity during the period of suspension, effective immediately upon notification of suspension. Suspension shall remain in effect until the start of the first day that the student is eligible to return to school.

MNSD SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Marple Newtown School Board Policies stipulate that the following types of behavior are unacceptable conduct:

1. Using, possessing, selling, giving, or being under the influence of illegal drugs, including alcohol, and/or possession of drug paraphernalia will result in suspension, expulsion, and legal action.
2. Smoking, use, or possession of any tobacco product or facsimile is prohibited on campus, including the parking lot.
3. Physical or verbal assault upon any student, visitor, or school employee will not be tolerated, nor will possession of any weapon or explosive (including fireworks). Violators will be subject to suspension, expulsion, and/or legal action.
4. Disobedience, disrespect, or open defiance of proper authority will not be permitted. Students who disrupt the learning environment will be referred to the administration for disciplinary action.
5. Vandalism, the willful destruction or defacing of school or personal property, will not be permitted. Theft of any kind will not be tolerated. Violators in these areas will be subject to suspension, expulsion, restitution, and/or legal action.
6. Tampering with the fire alarm system or fire safety equipment (fire extinguishers) is against the law, as is making false hazard reports. Violators in these areas will be subject to suspension, expulsion, restitution, and/or legal action.
7. Scholastic dishonesty, which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, or unauthorized collaboration with another person to prepare written work, can result in a student receiving a failing grade for the class and/or suspension from school.
8. Engaging in verbal abuse, i.e. bullying, name calling, ethnic or racial slurs, sexual harassment, or any derogatory statements addressed publicly to others that may precipitate disruption of the school program, or incite violence is not permitted. Profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward other students, school personnel, or visitors to the school will not be tolerated. Offenders will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion.
9. Loitering in the parking lot or in student areas during class time is not permitted.
10. Physical or verbal hazing is unacceptable behavior and is subject to disciplinary action.
11. Obscene, vulgar, or profane language or expression will not be permitted on school grounds or at any school sponsored activity.
12. Public displays of affection, i.e. kissing, are not allowed.

The school board also provides that the principal may suspend or recommend expulsion of a student who engages in any of the following activities while in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles, or during any school sponsored activity.

- A. Commission of any act which is a violation of criminal law.
- B. Committing extortion or forcing an individual to act through the threat of force.
- C. Behavior, which is detrimental to the welfare, safety, or morals of other students or school personnel.
- D. Lying or giving false information to a school employee.

During the school year it may become necessary to change or add to the guidelines. When this takes place you will be notified by announcements. If situations occur which are not covered in the above information, the school administration will make decisions based on the merits or the individual situation, and which are consistent with Board policy. It is the primary purpose of these rules and regulations to foster an atmosphere conducive to learning and increased student responsibility.

Acceptable Use of Networks Policy (AUP) - Policy #815

Marple Newtown School District provides computer equipment, services, and network access for educational purposes only, under supervision of appropriate District personnel. (Educational purposes are defined as those purposes directly related to a Marple Newtown School District assignment, project, job or function for which the user is responsible.) Access to District resources is a privilege that carries with it the responsibility for proper use of those resources and computing facilities. MNSD recognizes that most computer users are responsible; however, the actions of irresponsible users can disrupt and interfere with the privileges of other users and with the operation of the District Network. The full text of policy 815 is available online at http://www.psba.org/districts_policies/m/342/POLMARP815.pdf.

Use of the District Network and Internet provides great educational benefits to students. Unfortunately, some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, or potentially offensive to some people. MNSD provides filtering software on all computers which blocks certain visual depictions and other inappropriate Internet content, in compliance with current legal guidelines consistent with the Children's Internet Protection Act(CIPA).

In addition, the District may monitor the Network and Internet activity of any user. The regulations of CIPA and the District responsibility to monitor network activity prohibit the District from allowing users to connect personal devices (i.e. laptops, phones) to MNSD network resources. Access to the Network and Internet is given as a privilege to students and staff who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. We require that staff, students, and parents or guardians read, accept and sign the following rules for acceptable network behavior.

Users are responsible for good behavior on the Internet just as they are in a school building. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.

Network storage areas are District property and are available at the discretion of the District. Administrators may review files and any and all communications conducted on our network to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are using the system responsibly.

The following are examples of activities that are not permitted on computers located within our schools:

- ❖ participating in chat rooms, instant messaging, bulletin boards, or news groups, or accessing email for personal purposes.
- ❖ bypassing the district filtering services.

- ❖ sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures, using obscene language, or harassing, insulting or attacking others.
- ❖ damaging computers, computer systems, laptops, display systems, projections systems.
- ❖ using another person's password or giving your password to another person.
- ❖ trespassing in or damaging another person's folders, work, or files; or attempting unauthorized access to either District or Internet networks.
- ❖ intentionally wasting limited resources, including electronic chain letters; messages broadcast to mailing lists or individuals; and participating in networked games or activities.
- ❖ employing the network for commercial purposes.
- ❖ revealing any personal information, including personal address or phone number of yourself or any other person without permission from your supervisor.

Inappropriate computer use or violation of any of the above regulations may result in suspension or loss of computer access, as well as other disciplinary or legal action as determined appropriate by District Administration. Persons responsible for supervision of students are responsible for prevention and reporting any inappropriate use of District resources.

DISCRIMINATION/ TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT AFFECTING STUDENTS - Policy #103

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs offered in the schools regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, or handicap/disability.

The Board also declares it to be the policy of this district to comply with federal law and regulations under Title IX prohibiting sexual harassment, which is a form of unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex. Such discrimination shall be referred to throughout this policy as Title IX sexual harassment. Inquiries regarding the application of Title IX to the district may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or both.

The district is committed to the maintenance of a safe, positive learning environment for all students that is free from discrimination by providing all students course offerings, counseling, assistance, services, employment, athletics and extracurricular activities without any form of discrimination, including Title IX sexual harassment. Discrimination is inconsistent with the rights of students and the educational and programmatic goals of the district and is prohibited at or, in the course of, district-sponsored programs or activities, including transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities.

BREATHALYZER TEST - Policy #227

Breathalyzer test is defined as chemical testing of a sample of a person's expired breath, using breath test equipment designed for this purpose, in order to determine the concentration of alcohol in the person's blood. District administrators are authorized, under circumstances justifying such use, to require students under administrator's jurisdiction to submit to a

breathalyzer test. Further, district administrators are authorized to require attendees at school-sponsored events to submit to a breathalyzer test prior to admission or readmission to the event.

NONDISCRIMINATION-TRANSGENDER AND GENDER EXPANSIVE STUDENTS- Policy #248.1

The district is committed to creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students that is free from discrimination, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, Gender Identity, or Gender Expression and to ensuring that every student has equal access to all components of the educational program.

The purpose of this policy is to facilitate compliance with district policy and state and federal laws concerning bullying, harassment and discrimination. This policy covers conduct that takes place in the school, on school property, at school sponsored functions and activities, on school buses, or vehicles and at bus stops, and on school computers, school networks, school forums, and school mailing lists, as well as conduct covered under the district's policy regarding cyberbullying. This policy applies to the entire school community, including educators, school staff, students, parents/guardians, and volunteers.

(For the entire policy 248.1, please refer to the district website.)

BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING- Policy #249

Creating and maintaining a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students is a high priority in all school district schools. A safe school environment free from bullying is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Bullying behavior disrupts the educational or learning process, and may present an obstacle to the academic, vocational, social, emotional, and other development of students. Bullying and cyberbullying can also escalate into more serious violent or cyberspace crimes. Therefore, bullying and cyberbullying will not be tolerated.

Bullying - For the purposes of this policy, **bullying** means an intentional electronic, written, verbal or physical act, or a series of acts (a) directed at another student or students (b) that is severe, persistent or pervasive, and (c) that has the effect of doing any of the following:

- 1.Substantially interfering with a student's education;
- 2.Creating a threatening environment; or
- 3.Substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

The school district is not prohibited from defining bullying in such a way as to encompass acts that occur outside of the **school setting** if those acts (1) substantially interfere with a student's education; (2) create a threatening environment; or (3) substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school. For example, bullying could be cyberbullying, and/or a form of harassment in which the behavior is intended, or perceived to intend, to harm or cause distress to another.

It may include, but is not limited to, actions such as verbal taunts, physical aggression, extortion of money or possessions, including any discriminatory statements prohibited by and consistent with the school district's nondiscrimination and harassment policies.

The term cyberbullying shall not be interpreted to infringe upon a student's right to engage in legally protected speech or conduct.

The Board prohibits all forms of bullying. Any violation of this policy shall be considered an infraction of the Code of Student Conduct, with discipline implemented accordingly, and on a case-by-case basis. All bullying behavior that is believed to be a violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code will be reported to the police.

This policy shall be implemented through the cooperative efforts of the Board of School Directors, Superintendent, the Superintendent's Team, the building administrators, the school employees, the parents/guardians, the students, the school volunteers, law enforcement, and the school district's community.

Any person discovering bullying shall report the incident to a Marple Newtown School District teacher, counselor, or administrator. School employees will provide immediate interventions consistent with this policy. Students are also required to immediately report bullying.

Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of others and to ensure an atmosphere free from bullying.

The Superintendent or designee(s) must (a) ensure that this policy is reviewed annually with students, and (b) in cooperation with other appropriate school district administrators ensure that this policy is reviewed every three (3) years, then, if applicable, recommend necessary changes to the Board of School Directors.

The school district administrators must annually provide the following information with the Safe School Report:

1. The Board of School Director's Bullying Policy.
2. A report of the school district's bullying incidents.
3. Information on the development and implementation of bullying prevention, intervention, and education programs.

The Code of Student Conduct, which shall contain this policy, must be disseminated annually to students. This policy must be accessible in every classroom. The policy must be posted in a prominent location within each school building where notices are usually posted, and posted on the school district's website.

Bullying Prevention, Intervention, and Education Programs

The school district must educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. Bullying prevention, intervention, and education programs must also be provided that consists of school-wide actions, classroom-level activities, individual interventions, and community involvement.

1. School-wide actions include, but are not limited to, training for school staff and students and adoption of the following district-wide anti-bullying rules:

- a. We do not bully others.
- b. We help students who are bullied.
- c. We include students who are left out.
- d. We tell an adult at school and an adult at home when somebody is being bullied.

2. Classroom level activities include, but are not limited to, consistent interventions, use of rules, reinforcement of pro-social behavior and incorporation of bullying themes.

3. Individual interventions include, but are not limited to, follow up with both victims and bullies that may include consequences, provisions for making restitution, and counseling referrals, as appropriate.

4. Community involvement encourages partnerships with families, community organizations and agencies to implement the school district's bullying prevention, intervention, and education programs.

Complaint Procedure:

When a student believes that s/he is a victim of bullying, the student and/or parent(s)/guardian(s) shall promptly report a complaint of bullying, orally or in writing, to the building principal, counselor, teacher or another school employee. If the building principal is the subject of a bullying complaint, the student and/or parent(s)/guardian(s) shall promptly report the complaint directly to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee. All school employees are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the building principal or the principal's designee. An employee shall be subject to disciplinary procedures consistent with the current collective bargaining agreement (if applicable), school district policy, federal, state, and local laws for failure to report.

Complaints of bullying must be investigated by the principal/principal's designee, or Superintendent/Superintendent's designee, as applicable, promptly, and corrective action must be taken when allegations are verified. The confidentiality of all parties must be maintained, consistent with the school district's legal and investigative obligations. The incident must be maintained as a confidential record in the discipline file of both the victim and the bully. The building principal/principal's designee or Superintendent/Superintendent's designee will contact the parent/guardian of both the bully and the victim.

Consequences for Violations:

A founded charge against a school district employee shall subject such employee to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

A founded charge against a school district student shall subject such student to disciplinary action. Appropriate consequences and remedial actions range from positive behavioral interventions to and including suspension or expulsion, and may include counseling (within and/or outside of the school), parental conferences, detentions, separating the student(s) being bullied from the perpetrator(s), warnings, usage restrictions, loss of school privileges, reassignment (including but not limited to another school building, classroom, or school bus), exclusion from school-sponsored activities), oral or written reprimands, detentions, suspensions, expulsions, referral to law enforcement officials, and/or legal proceedings.

Any violation of this policy shall be considered an infraction of the Code of Student Conduct and any other applicable school district policy, with discipline implemented accordingly on a case-by-case basis. Any violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code will be reported to law enforcement. Victims and their parents/guardians shall be made aware of appropriate counseling, agency services and safety plan developments described in the school district's victimization procedures.

Retaliation:

The school district prohibits reprisal or retaliation against any person who in good faith reports an act of bullying. The principal/principal's designee, in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and/or other school district policy, will determine the consequences and remedial actions for students, and the Superintendent/Superintendent's designee for employees. Any violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code will be reported to law enforcement.

False Reports:

The principal, in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and/or other school district policy, will determine the consequences and remedial actions for a student found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation or bullying. The Superintendent will determine consequences and remedial actions for an employee found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation or bullying. Any violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code will be reported to law enforcement.

IDENTIFICATION AND REMEDIATION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE - Policy #227

The district recognizes that student use and abuse of various chemical agents is a serious problem with profound social, legal, physical, emotional and spiritual implications for those involved and the entire school community.

Therefore, it is the Board's policy to employ appropriate and consistent mechanisms including: counseling; education; extracurricular activities; community resources; and law enforcement to prevent, intervene with, and rehabilitate students who are involved in the inappropriate use of chemical substances as defined in this policy.

The district must address substance abuse and other social issues that emerge in the purview of school activities. However, parents/guardians are ultimately responsible for the behavior of their children. To assist families in this important task, parent/guardian workshops are offered throughout the school year.

Although there are clear social, medical and legal distinctions between substance use (e.g., social alcohol consumption) and substance abuse (e.g., problem drinking) among adults, the distinctions for underage users/abusers are more ambiguous because of legal restrictions and greater medical and psychological sensitivities among youth. Therefore, all student use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs shall be deemed a form of **substance abuse**, requiring appropriate intervention.

For the scope of this policy, **school premises and purview** are defined as school district property and any other arena in which the school district holds primary jurisdiction. This includes, but is not limited to, travel to and from school (e.g., walking, bus stops, school buses) and sanctioned off-campus events (e.g., field trips, sports/club activities, dances, etc.).

Student searches must be justified at their inception by reasonable suspicion that policy or law has been violated or is being violated and that evidence of the violation will be disclosed by the search; and the search actually conducted must be reasonably related in scope to the circumstances which justified the search at its inception.

District administrators are authorized, under circumstances justifying such a search as described above, to require students under administrator's jurisdiction to submit to thorough search of clothing; handbags; wallets; lockers; desks; vehicles on school property; and to seize any materials in violation of Board policy. Such searches shall be conducted with an appropriate witness, who may be the parent/guardian or staff member, and must not be conducted without reasonable suspicion. A pat down search will be made by persons who are the same sex as the student suspected of violating this policy.

Prevention/Support

The district incorporates awareness programs and specific instructional strategies within its K-12 curricula to promote positive health behaviors.

Support groups and other resources are available through:

1. Guidance office of each school.
2. School nurse.
3. Student Assistance Team (STAR).
4. Outside community agencies (e.g., Alanon, Alateen, etc.).

Each guidance office shall maintain an updated file of all known prevention and support resources. Students may volunteer information regarding their personal substance abuse problem and seek confidential help.

Each school shall involve itself with regular, age-appropriate alcohol awareness and education programs (e.g., classroom curriculum, guest speakers, special group presentations, etc.).

There is to be annual teacher in-service updating diagnostic, intervention techniques, and treatment choices.

The Marple Newtown High School Athletic Handbook and athletic program staff may offer additional support and discipline to students involved in athletics.

A student who is suspected of being under the influence of a controlled substance will be referred to the school nurse for nursing assessment.

Any student using, distributing, or in possession of alcohol, prescription drugs (not prescribed for themselves), illegal drugs and chemical agents, drug paraphernalia, and/or tobacco products within school district premises and purview will be responsible for the consequences of such activity.

UNLAWFUL HARASSMENT - Policy #248

The Board strives to provide a safe, positive learning climate for students in the schools. Therefore, it shall be the policy of the district to maintain an educational environment in which harassment in any form is not tolerated.

The Board prohibits all forms of unlawful harassment of students and third parties by all district students and staff members, contracted individuals, vendors, volunteers, and third parties in the

schools. The Board encourages students and third parties who have been harassed to promptly report such incidents to the designated employees.

The Board directs that complaints of harassment shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action be taken when allegations are substantiated. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district's legal and investigative obligations.

No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith charges of harassment.

For purposes of this policy, **harassment** shall consist of verbal, written, graphic or physical conduct relating to an individual's race, color, national origin/ethnicity, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion when such conduct:

1. Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it affects an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity or creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment.
2. Has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic performance.
3. Otherwise adversely affects an individual's learning opportunities.

For purposes of this policy, **sexual harassment** shall consist of unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; and other inappropriate verbal, written, graphic or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's academic status.
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for academic or work decisions affecting the individual.
3. Such conduct deprives a student of educational aid, benefits, services or treatment.
4. Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with the student's school performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment.

Examples of conduct that may constitute **sexual harassment** include but are not limited to sexual flirtations, advances, touching or propositions; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; graphic or suggestive comments about an individual's dress or body; sexually degrading words to describe an individual; jokes; pin-ups; calendars; objects; graffiti; vulgar statements; abusive language; innuendoes; references to sexual activities; overt sexual conduct; or any conduct that has the effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's ability to work or learn or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning or working environment.

SEARCHES - Policy #226

The Board acknowledges the need for safe storage of books, clothing, school materials and personal property and may provide lockers for storage purposes.

It shall be the policy of the Board that all lockers are and shall remain the property of the school district. As such, students shall have only a limited expectation of privacy in their lockers.

No student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object that is prohibited by law, Board policy or district rules, or constitutes a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself.

The Board reserves the right to authorize its employees to inspect a student's locker at any time, based on reasonable suspicion, for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being used improperly for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material that poses a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the school population.

The Board authorizes the administration to conduct random general searches of lockers when the district has a compelling interest in protecting and preserving the health, safety or welfare of the school population.

Students, parents/guardians and staff shall be notified at least annually, or more often if deemed appropriate by administration, concerning the contents of this policy and district procedures.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy which shall require all requests or suggestions for the search of a student's locker be directed to the school building principal who shall notify the Superintendent.

The principal or designee shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected based on reasonable suspicion.

The principal shall open a student's locker for inspection on the request of an outside law enforcement officer only on presentation of a duly authorized search warrant or on the intelligently and voluntarily given consent of the student.

The principal shall be responsible for promptly recording in writing each locker inspection; such record shall include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.

The principal shall be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposal of any substance, object or material found in a student's locker in violation of law, Board policy or school rules.

School officials are authorized to search a student's personal possessions or motor vehicle parked on school property when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is violating law, Board policy or school rules, or poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the school population.

Students shall assume responsibility for maintaining the security of their lockers.

Prior to an individual locker search, the student shall be notified and be given an opportunity to be present. However, when school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that a locker contains materials which pose a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the school population, student lockers may be searched without prior warning.

Illegal and prohibited materials seized during a student search may be used as evidence against the student in school disciplinary proceedings.

Searches conducted by the administration may include but not be limited to utilization of certified drug dogs, metal detection units, or any device used to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the school population.

Reasonable Suspicion

Reasonable suspicion is defined as a conclusion arrived at by a reasonable, prudent, and conscientious mind, from the facts at hand. If the facts logically, rationally, and in the exercise of good common sense, lead a reasonable, prudent, and discreet person to conclude that a student has illegal material on school property, or on his or her person, this is a reasonable suspicion.

OPENING EXERCISES/FLAG DISPLAYS - Policy #807

The Board adopts this policy to ensure that all district schools comply with state and federal laws concerning flag displays and opening exercises while respecting the rights of individuals.

A United States flag shall be displayed in classrooms and on or near each school building during school hours, inclement weather and at other times determined by the Board.

District schools shall provide opening exercises that include a salute to the flag and/or recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance or the National Anthem.

Students may decline to recite the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem and to salute the flag on the basis of personal belief or religious conviction. Students who choose to refrain from such participation shall respect the rights and interests of classmates who do participate.

The Board shall direct professional employees to conduct a brief period of silent prayer or meditation as part of daily opening exercises. Silent prayer or meditation shall not be conducted as a religious service or exercise.

TOBACCO USE - Policy #222

The Board recognizes that tobacco use by students presents a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for both users and nonusers and the safety and environment of the schools.

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco use** shall be defined as use and/or possession of a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar and pipe; other lighted smoking product; smokeless tobacco in any form; and an electronic cigarette. An electronic cigarette includes any battery-operated product designed to deliver to the user a chemical such as nicotine; flavor; and/or any other substance, by turning the substance into a vapor that is then inhaled by the user.

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district.

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession by students at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.

The school district may initiate prosecution of a student who possesses or uses tobacco in violation of this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district's tobacco use policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, parent newsletters, posted notices, and other efficient methods.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Incidents of possession, use and sale of tobacco in violation of this policy by any person on school property shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.

A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in violation of this policy may be fined up to \$50 plus court costs or admitted to alternative adjudication in lieu of imposition of a fine.

In addition to the citation to authorities, students violating this policy will also be subject to school discipline procedures. Discipline procedures for violation of this policy are cumulative over the student's high school career and will be:

1. First Offense - three (3) days suspension, loss of privileges, to include parking and all extracurricular activities, for one (1) month.
2. Second Offense - five (5) days suspension, loss of privileges, as specified above, for one (1) semester.
3. Third Offense - up to ten (10) days suspension, loss of privileges, as specified above, for one (1) year, to include loss of privilege to participate in graduation ceremonies.
4. Fourth Offense - recommendation to the Board for expulsion.

WEAPONS - Policy #218.1

The Board recognizes the importance of a safe school environment relative to the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.

Weapon - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, replica of a weapon, and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.

Possessing - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; under the student's control while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is coming to or from school.

The Board prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any school district buildings, onto school property, to any school sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity.

The school district shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law. The Superintendent may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

In the case of a student with disabilities, the Superintendent shall take all necessary steps to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and follow Board policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to the student's parents/guardians and to local law enforcement officials.

The Superintendent or designee shall report all incidents relating to expulsion for possession of a weapon to the Department of Education.

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to develop a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials that sets forth procedures to be followed when an incident occurs involving an act of violence or possession of a weapon by any person on school property.

Acts of violence or possession of a weapon in violation of this policy shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.

Students, staff and parents/guardians shall be informed at least annually concerning this policy. An exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel are permitted.

Transfer Students

When the school district receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the district may assign that student to an alternative assignment or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY- Policy #237

The possession and Silent Use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, by School District students when in compliance with this Policy, other School District policies, regulations, rules, and procedures, ISP terms, and local,

state, and federal laws, and supportive of the educational program of the School District, is permitted. However, the possession and use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, by students that are found to be disruptive to the educational process and/or environment can be abusive in ways that negatively affect students, employees, and the School District's mission and environment, and is prohibited in accordance with this Policy, other School District policies, regulations, rules and procedures, ISP terms, and local, state, and federal laws.

Electronic Communication Devices – are communication devices with voice, data, text, and/or navigation capabilities that are able to access the Internet, transmit telephone calls, text messages, email messages, instant messages, video communications (such as iChat and Skype), perform word processing and other computer and online applications (apps), and provide location information. The devices are capable of electronically communicating, sending, receiving, storing, recording, reproducing, and/or displaying information and data.

Examples of Electronic Communication Devices include smartphones (iPhone, Blackberry), cellular phones, mobile phones (with recording and/or camera/video and other capabilities and configurations); traditional telephones; pagers; global positional system (GPS) instruments; computers; portable game units; graphic calculators; MP3, music, and media players; PDAs; digital cameras; tablet and laptop computers; and other similar devices. Electronic Communication Devices may also be referred to as electronic devices in other publications and School District policies.

Electronic Communication Devices could be devices that are not capable of transmitting telephone communications (such as iPads, radios), do not have Internet access (such as School District issued and student-owned Kindles), are lasers, and/or are radar communication devices.

Personal Electronic Communication Devices – are Electronic Communication Devices that are owned by the student.

Silent Use – is the use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, that make no sound, are inaudible, and are speechless. Examples of Silent Use include texting, electronic messaging, and the use of headphones with the volume not being audible to others. No device ringing, ringtones, or sound effects are permitted at any time. The Board permits Silent Use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, by School District students during the school day in School District buildings, on School District property, and while students are attending School-District-sponsored activities during regular school hours when they are in compliance with this Policy, other School District policies, regulations, rules, and procedures, and so long as such use does not interfere with the students' educational requirements, responsibilities/duties and performance, the rights and education of others, and the operation and services of the School District.

Students may use their Personal Electronic Communication Devices only if they have written consent from their parent(s)/guardian(s) on a form provided by the School District.

Building level administrators, in consultation with the Superintendent and in compliance with this Policy, other School District policies, regulations, rules, and procedures, are authorized to determine the extent of the use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, within their schools, on the school's property, and while students are attending that school's sponsored activities during regular school hours. For example, use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, at the elementary grade level may be different than that at the middle school, and/or high school grade levels.

Unless a teacher determines otherwise, Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, must be turned off upon entering any instructional area and remain off until the student leaves the instructional area. Instructional areas include, but are not limited to, classrooms, gymnasiums, practice fields, field trip locations, auditoriums, band rooms, and chorus rooms.

The School District shall have the right to restrict Electronic Communication Devices during school evacuations as necessary, for the safety and security of all individuals.

The School District shall not be liable for the theft, loss, damage, misuse, or unauthorized use of any Personal Electronic Communication Device brought to school by a student. Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of Personal Electronic Communication Devices brought to school, school events, or School District property. The School District will not be responsible for restricting, monitoring, or controlling the personal electronic communications of students; however, it reserves the right to do so.

If Personal Electronic Communication Devices are loaned to or borrowed and/or misused by non-owners, the owners of the Personal Electronic Communication Devices are jointly responsible with the non-owner for the misuse and/or violation of School District policy, regulations, rules, or procedures.

The Superintendent is granted the authority to create and enforce regulation(s), rules, procedures, and forms to accompany this Policy.

The Superintendent, and/or designee, shall annually notify students, parent(s)/guardian(s), employees, and Guests about the School District's Electronic Communication Device Policy by publishing the Policy in the student handbook, newsletter, posted notices, and/or any other methods.

The Superintendent, and/or designee, is responsible for training and retraining administrators and employees who are responsible for the use, supervision, discipline, investigation, confiscation, searching, and/or other matters involving students' Electronic Communication Device, including Personal Electronic Communication Device, use.

Students must comply with this Policy, other relevant School District policies, regulations, rules and procedures. Students must comply with the guidelines set by the classroom teacher and/or School District and Building officials for the use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices. Students will be held responsible for

their conduct in the use of the Devices and are subject to the consequences provided in the last section of this Policy.

a. In accordance with this Policy, Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, *may be used* in authorized areas or as determined by the school administration as follows:

- For educational or instructional purposes
- Before and after school, in the cafeteria at lunchtime, in the hallways during the passing of classes, on the School District's bus if authorized by the bus driver, and in the library and a study hall if authorized by the teacher.
- When the educational, safety, emergency, medical, or security use of the Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Communication Devices, by the student is approved by the building principal, or designee, or the student's IEP team. In such cases, the student's use must be supervised by a School District professional.

b. In accordance with this Policy, Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, *may not be used* in unauthorized areas or as determined by the school administration as follows:

- The Board strictly prohibits possession by students on school grounds, at School District-sponsored activities, and on buses or other vehicles provided by the School District any non-School District-owned laser pointers, or laser pointer attachments, and any Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, that are hazardous or harmful to students, employees, and the School District. These include, but not limited to, devices that control/interfere with the operation of the buildings' systems, facilities and infrastructure, or digital network. No exception or permission may be authorized by the principal, or designee, or anyone, for students to possess or use such devices.

- During tests, examinations, and/or assessments, unless the teacher authorizes such use. When Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, are not permitted to be used during tests, examinations, and/or assessments they must be stored in closed items such as pocketbooks and book bags, and may not be visible or turned on. For example, they may not be placed on the desktop, table or on an individual's lap.

- To cheat, engage in unethical conduct, and threaten academic integrity.
- To access and/or view Internet websites that are blocked by the School District. Examples include, but are not limited to, social media sites, and "inappropriate matter" as defined in the School District's Responsible Use Policy and Social Media Policy.

- To invade the privacy rights of any student or employee, violate the rights of any student or staff member, or harass, threaten, intimidate, bully or cyberbully any student, employee, or guest, or promote or engage in violence. Actions include, but are not limited to, taking an individual's photo without consent, recording an individual's voice or image without consent, or storing/accessing personal and/or academic information/data without consent.

- In locker rooms, bathrooms, dressing rooms, and swimming pool areas.
- To create, send, share, view, or disseminate sexually explicit, lewd images or video content, as such acts may be a crime under state and/or federal law.
- To disrupt the educational and learning environment.

c. Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices,

that violate this Policy, other relevant School District policies, regulations, rules, and procedures shall be confiscated.

d. If school officials have reasonable suspicion that this Policy, other relevant School District policies, regulations, rules, procedures, and laws are violated by the student's use of Electronic Communication Devices, including Personal Electronic Communication Devices, and that the use of these devices materially and substantially disrupt the school's atmosphere, the devices may be *lawfully searched in accordance with the law*, and/or the Electronic Communication Devices and Personal Electronic Communication Devices may be turned over to law enforcement, when warranted.

e. Students should have no expectation of privacy when using the School District-owned Electronic Communication Devices and when using the School District's Wi-Fi or other service(s). In addition, students should have no expectation of privacy when they use Personal Electronic Communication Devices on the School District's Wi-Fi or other service(s).

f. When legally required and/or when in the interest of the student, the student's parent/guardian shall be notified.

g. If an Electronic Communication Device, including a Personal Electronic Communication Device is suspected of being stolen, it shall be turned over to law enforcement.

h. Disciplinary consequences shall be in accordance with the School District's policies, regulations, rules, and procedures, including but not limited to Student Discipline, Responsible Use of Information Technology Resources, Bullying/Cyberbullying, Harassment, social media, and other policies.

i. Violations of this Policy should be reported to the Superintendent.

STUDENT WELLNESS – Policy #246

The Marple Newtown School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement.

The Board adopts the Student Wellness Policy based on the recommendations of the appointed Wellness Committee and in accordance with federal and state laws. The policy shall be included in the district's Strategic Plan.

To ensure the health and well-being of all students, the Board establishes that the district shall provide to the students:

1. A comprehensive nutrition program consistent with federal and state requirements.

2. Access at reasonable cost to foods and beverages that meet established nutritional guidelines.
3. Physical education courses and opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day.
4. Curriculum and programs for grades K-12 that are designed to educate students about proper nutrition and lifelong physical activity, in accordance with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and academic standards.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Directors of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be responsible to monitor district schools, programs, and curriculum to ensure compliance with this policy, related policies and established guidelines or administrative regulations.

Each building principal or designee shall report to the appropriate director regarding compliance in his/her school.

The appropriate director shall report by June 30 of each school year to the Board on the district's compliance with law and policies related to student wellness.

An assurance that district guidelines for reimbursable meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidelines issued for schools in accordance with federal law shall be provided by June 30 of each school year by the appropriate director.

Guidelines

Wellness Committee

The Board shall appoint a Wellness Committee composed of at least one (1) of each of the following: School Board member, district administrator, district food service representative, teacher, school nurse, students, parent/guardian, dietitian, member of the public or other individuals chosen by the Superintendent.

Each individual school will have a Wellness Committee to review, develop, monitor and as necessary, revise, school-wide nutrition and physical activity practices.

Each school Wellness Committee will include parents/guardians, students, teachers, a representative of the school food service, a school administrator, and the school nurse.

The Wellness Committees also will serve as resources to school sites for implementing building health and wellness practices.

The Wellness Committee may examine related research and laws, assess student needs and the current school environment, review existing Board policies and administrative regulations, and

raise awareness about student health issues. The Wellness Committee may make policy recommendations to the Board related to other health issues necessary to promote student wellness.

The Wellness Committee shall provide periodic reports to the Superintendent or designee regarding the status of its work, as required.

Nutrition Education

The goal of nutrition education is to teach, encourage and support healthy eating by students. Promoting student health and nutrition enhances readiness for learning and increases student achievement.

Nutrition education will be provided within the sequential, comprehensive health education program in accordance with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and the academic standards for Health, Safety and Physical Education and Family and Consumer Sciences.

Lifelong lifestyle balance shall be reinforced by linking nutrition education and physical activity.

Physical Activity

District schools shall strive to provide opportunities for physical activity and/or movement during the school day for all students. That time will include physical activity such as recess, physical activity during lunch, intramurals, clubs and interscholastic activities.

A sequential physical education program consistent with State Board of Education curriculum regulations for Health, Safety and Physical Education academic standards shall be developed and implemented.

Physical Education

A sequential physical education program consistent with curriculum regulations and Health, Safety and Physical Education academic standards shall be developed and implemented. All district students must participate in physical education.

Other School Based Activities

District schools shall provide adequate space, as defined by the district, for eating and serving school meals.

Nutrition professionals who meet criteria established by the district shall administer the school meals program. A dietitian shall be available and responsible for overseeing the nutrition of the district's meals.

Nutrition Guidelines

All foods available in district schools during the school day shall be offered to students with consideration for promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity, consistent with P.L. 108-265, Sec. 204.

Foods provided through the National School Lunch Program shall comply with federal nutrition standards under the School Meals Initiative.

Competitive foods are defined as foods offered at school other than through the National School Lunch Program and include a la carte foods, snacks and beverages; vending food, snacks and beverages; school store food, snacks and beverages; fundraisers; classroom parties; holiday celebrations; and food from home. All competitive foods will comply with the Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools as implemented in the three-year plan.

Exclusive competitive food and/or beverage contracts shall be approved by the Board, in accordance with the provisions of law.

Snacks Outside of Cafeteria –

Each school principal, with input from the school Wellness Committee, will assess if and when to offer snacks based on timing of school meals and children’s nutritional needs. Snacks served during the school day will make a positive contribution to children’s nutritional status and health. Emphasis is on serving fruits, vegetables and dairy products as the primary snacks, and water or milk as the primary beverage.

The district will disseminate a list of healthful snack items to teachers, after-school personnel and parents/guardians. All competitive foods will comply with the Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools.

Rewards –

Schools, teachers and after-school personnel will not use foods or beverages that do not meet the Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools as rewards for academic performance or good behavior and will not withhold snacks or meals as a punishment.

Food Marketing –

Marketing promotions for fundraising purposes will be consistent with the nutrition education, physical activity and nutrition and beverage standards as defined in the Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools. Promotions of healthy foods, including fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products, are encouraged.

All competitive foods available to students in district schools shall comply with the established nutrition guidelines, as listed in the Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods in Pennsylvania Schools.

**HOMELESS STUDENTS: McKinney Vento Act-
Policy #251**

The Board recognizes the need to promptly identify homeless children and youths within the district, facilitate their immediate enrollment, and eliminate existing barriers to their attendance and education, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations.

The Board shall ensure that homeless children and youths have equal access to the same educational programs and services provided to other district students.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to waive district policies, procedures and administrative regulations that create barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, transportation, school stability and success in school of homeless children and youths.

It is the policy of the Board that no student shall be discriminated against, segregated or stigmatized based on his/her homeless status.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act guarantees a free and appropriate public education for all homeless children and youth. B.E.C 42 U.S.C. 11431 outlines procedures for deciding school placement, enrolling students, and determining responsibility.

Homeless is defined as “anyone lacking a fixed, adequate, regular nighttime residence.”

McKinney Vento makes sure these students receive a free and suitable public education by removing barriers to school enrollment and full, basic, daily participation in school activities.

This includes:

- Immediate enrollment
- Free and Reduced School Lunch
- Setting up transportation (if the student qualifies)
- Help with basic clothing needs
- Help with school supplies
- Help with activity fees
- Other basic education needs

You can visit the [PA Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness](#) site.

Please contact Jacqueline Litz, LSW

Home and school Visitor and Homeless Liaison

610-359-4288

jlitz@mnsd.org

MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION

- can be found on the District Website at www.mnsd.org. Click on Departments and then Health Services.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. § 510, 1317.1

Electronic Communications Privacy Act – 18 U.S.C. § 2510 et seq.

Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Act – 18 Pa. C.S.A. § 5703

Federal Children’s Internet Protection Act - 47 U.S.C. § 254

Pennsylvania Child Internet Protection Act – 24 P.S. § 4601 et seq.

Bullying Act – 24 P.S. § 13-1303.1-A

School Board Policies, Regulations, Rules, and Procedures

A complete listing of all MNSD School Board Policies is available at www.mnsd.org.

ALMA MATER

*Lift your hearts to old MN High
for the service she has done for thee.*

*Hail! Oh, Hail! Alma Mater dear
with our songs of love and loyalty.*

*We survey with all pride and joy,
precious memories of the days gone by,
and instilled in our lives we find
ideals formed in MN High.*