The board recognizes that online instruction is a valuable tool for affording students extended educational options. The board will provide opportunities for students to participate in online instruction to the extent that it is academically and financially prudent.

School guidance counselors shall advise students on North Carolina Virtual Public School courses and other online courses available for credit. Enrollment in an online for credit course will count toward satisfying board requirements related to minimum instructional days, seat time policies, student attendance and athletic and/or extracurricular obligations.

A student, with the principal's prior approval, may enroll in an online course with assistance from the school e-learning advisor. The principal shall designate a guidance counselor at the school to serve as the e-learning advisor, who will be responsible for coordinating the enrollment of students in online courses, monitoring students' progress in those courses and supervising any required testing. In addition, the principal shall ensure that the e-learning advisor implements a plan for supporting credit recovery students throughout the semester.

The superintendent shall develop regulations consistent with State Board of Education requirements and this policy for students enrolling in online instruction.

Legal References: State Board of Education Policy GCS-M-001

Cross References: Dual Enrollment (policy 3101)

Adopted:

## A. INTRODUCTION

It is the policy of the board to: (a) prevent user access via its technological resources to, or transmission of, inappropriate material on the Internet or through electronic mail or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access to the Internet and devices or programs connected to or accessible through the Internet; (c) prevent other unlawful online activity; (d) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (e) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act.

## B. DEFINITIONS

1. Technology Protection Measure

   The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or harmful to minors.

2. Harmful to Minors

   The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file or other visual depiction that:

   a. taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex or excretion;

   b. depicts, describes or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and

   c. taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors.

3. Child Pornography

   The term "child pornography" means any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video picture or computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical or other means, of sexually explicit conduct, where:

a. the production of such visual depiction involves the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct;

b. such visual depiction is a digital image, computer image or computer-generated image that is, or is indistinguishable from, that of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct; or

c. such visual depiction has been created, adapted or modified to appear that an identifiable minor is engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

4. Sexual Act; Sexual Contact

The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

5. Minor

For purposes of this policy, the term "minor" means any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years.

## C. ACCESS TO INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") will be used to block or filter access to inappropriate information on the Internet and World Wide Web. Specifically, blocking will be applied to audio and visual depictions deemed obscene or to be child pornography or harmful to minors. Student access to other materials that are inappropriate to minors will also be restricted. The board has determined that audio or visual materials that depict violence, nudity or graphic language that does not serve a legitimate pedagogical purpose are inappropriate for minors. The superintendent, in conjunction with a school technology and media advisory committee (see policy 3200, Selection of Instructional Materials), shall make a determination regarding what other matter or materials are inappropriate for minors. School system personnel may not restrict Internet access to ideas, perspectives or viewpoints if the restriction is motivated solely by disapproval of the viewpoints involved.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled during use by an adult for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

## D. INAPPROPRIATE NETWORK USAGE

All users of school system technological resources are expected to comply with the requirements established in policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use. In particular, users are prohibited from: (a) attempting to gain unauthorized access, including "hacking", and engaging in other similar unlawful activities; and

(b) engaging in the unauthorized disclosure, use or dissemination of personal identifying information regarding minors.

**E. EDUCATION, SUPERVISION AND MONITORING**

To the extent practical, steps will be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the school system's online computer network, especially when they are using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging and other forms of direct electronic communications. It is the responsibility of all school personnel to educate, supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures are the responsibility of the technology director or designated representatives.

The technology director or designated representatives shall provide age-appropriate training for students who use the school system's Internet services. The training provided will be designed to promote the school system's commitment to educating students in digital literacy and citizenship, including:

1. the standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use;

2. student safety with regard to safety on the Internet, appropriate behavior while online, including behavior on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response; and

3. compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Following receipt of this training, the student must acknowledge that he or she received the training, understood it and will follow the provisions of policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use.

The superintendent shall develop any regulations needed to implement this policy and shall submit any certifications necessary to demonstrate compliance with this policy.

Legal References: Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. 254(h); Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. 254(l); Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, 47, U.S.C. 254(h)

Cross References: Professional and Staff Development (policy 1610/7800), Technology in the Educational Program (policy 3220), Technology Responsible Use

(policy 3225/4312/7320), School Improvement Plan (policy 3430), Use of Equipment, Materials and Supplies (policy 6520), Network Security (policy 6524)

Adopted:

~~The board is committed to providing a quality education to all students in the school system, regardless of the particular school the student attends. Although all schools in the system strive for academic excellence, the board recognizes that some schools may need to improve to meet such standards. The board encourages parents to support and work with these schools to improve the educational opportunities provided.~~

~~The board believes that in most cases, a student should attend the school that serves his or her domicile. Under certain circumstances or conditions, however, the board provides parents the opportunity to request that their child attend a school outside of his or her attendance area (see policy 4150, School Assignment). Pursuant to federal and State Board of Education requirements, the board will offer school improvement choice transfers to eligible students as provided in this policy.~~

## ~~A. ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT CHOICE TRANSFERS~~

~~Students enrolled in a Title I school that has not made adequate yearly progress for at least two consecutive years, under the No Child Left Behind Act, may transfer to an eligible transfer school. If it is not possible to offer school improvement choice to all students, then priority will be provided to the lowest achieving students from low income families.~~

## ~~B. SCHOOLS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE TRANSFERS~~

~~Eligible transfer schools are those schools that:~~

~~1. have not been identified for school improvement, corrective action or restructuring (as defined in the No Child Left Behind Act and State Board of Education policy);~~

~~2. are not considered persistently dangerous;~~

~~3. have a higher academic performance than the original schools; and~~

~~4. have been designated by the superintendent to receive school improvement choice transfers.~~

## ~~C. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT CHOICE TRANSFER PROCEDURES~~

~~The superintendent shall establish procedures to facilitate the transfer of students when a Title I school has been identified for school improvement. Such procedures will include the elements outlined below.~~

~~1. Notice must be provided to parents of the determination that their child~~

attends a Title I school that has been identified for school improvement. Such notice must be provided before the first day of the next school year in a reasonable time for parents to make informed decisions and, whenever practicable, should be provided before the end of July. The notice must be provided by personal letters as well as by other means, including newspapers, posters and the Internet. The notice also must be in a comprehensive, easy-to-understand format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

2. Notice must be provided to parents that their student has the opportunity to transfer to an eligible transfer school that serves the student's instructional level.

3. The notification must identify those schools within the system that are eligible to receive school improvement choice transfers and will describe the performance and quality of the schools of choice. The school system has flexibility to determine which schools will comprise the range of alternatives for students eligible to transfer; however, the superintendent shall ensure that such alternatives provide students with the opportunity to obtain a better education. If the choices of eligible transfer schools available to parents have been limited, the notice also will include an explanation of why such limitations have been made.

4. If no schools in the school system are eligible to receive transfers, the notification must identify any other available options for school improvement choice transfers.

5. The notification must describe the process for parents to request transfers within 15 days of receiving notification of the school improvement choice transfer option, including the opportunity for parents to submit their preferences among the choices provided. Within five days, parents will be notified of the final transfer school option. Parents will have five days to accept or reject this option.

6. The notification must include information about what happens if the parent declines the offer to transfer.

7. The superintendent or designee shall create a process to ensure that transfers are completed in no more than 30 days from the date that the school is identified for school improvement.

8. The superintendent or designee shall ensure that a report of each student transfer made pursuant to this policy is provided to the local school board and the State Board of Education.

**D. TRANSPORTATION**

The school system shall provide transportation for students who decide to accept school improvement choice transfers. If funds available are insufficient to provide transportation to all students requesting transfer, the school system shall give priority to the lowest-achieving eligible students from low-income families. The school system will not provide transportation for students who remain at a school after the end of the school year in which a student's original school is no longer identified for Title I school improvement.

**E. LENGTH OF TRANSFERS**

Students who transfer to an eligible transfer school will be permitted to remain in the choice school until the students have completed the highest grade in the school. If the new school is placed in Title I school improvement, the student will have the option to move again to another school in the subsequent school year.

**F. RESPONSIBILITIES OF RECEIVING SCHOOLS**

Schools that receive students eligible for transfer shall ensure that students are enrolled in classes and other school activities in the same manner as all other students in the school. However, any board policies or other rules (such as North Carolina High School Athletic Association rules) that restrict the activities of students who transfer under other board policies also will be applied to students who receive school improvement choice transfers under this policy.

Legal References: No Child Left Behind Act, 20 U.S.C. 6316, 34 C.F.R. 200.44; *Public School Choice Draft Non-Regulatory Guidance*, U.S. Department of Education (February 6, 2004); G.S. 115C-36, -366, -367

Cross References: School Assignment (policy 4150), Unsafe School Choice Transfer (policy 4152)

Other Resources: *Giving Parents Options: Strategies for Informing Parents and Implementing Public School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services Under No Child Left Behind*, U.S. Department of Education Office of Innovation and Improvement (September 2007)

Adopted: May 4, 2009
Updated:

## UNIFORM DESCRIPTION

### A. SHIRTS

1. Must be golf/polo style with a collar. Shirts may have one plain pocket.
2. Must have buttons or snaps only (two to four on Polo style shirts)
3. Must be a solid school color (see below for individual school color selections)

| East Middle School shirt colors | West Middle School shirt colors |
|---|---|
| Black | Black |
| Blue | Purple |
| Gray | Teal |
| White | White |

4. May be long or short sleeve (sleeveless shirts are not permitted)
5. Must be free of labels and graphics of any kind
6. Must be tucked in at all times with the exception of approved sweaters and sweatshirts

### B. OTHER APPROVED TOPS

1. Button down collar dress shirt (school colors) or collared blouses. Blouses cannot be transparent.
2. Mock turtlenecks/turtlenecks
3. Crew neck sweaters/sweatshirts (solid school colors) cannot hang past straddle of the pants.
4. Pullover and jacket style hooded sweatshirts. Hoods may not be worn inside or outside the school building. Hoods may only be worn while going to and from cars or buses during inclement weather.
5. T-shirt can only be worn as under clothing if it matches the school colors. T-shirts are not allowed to be worn as the primary shirt unless they are spirit wear shirts. Writing or graphics must not show through the top garment.

### C. PANTS, SHORTS, SKIRTS, JUMPERS, DRESSES, SKORTS, OVERALLS

1. At East Middle School, all bottom garments must be black, khaki or navy blue in color. At West Middle School, all bottom garments must be khaki, navy blue or black in color. No other colors may be visible. (Examples: pockets, buttons, and zippers)
2. Bottom garments must be free of labels and graphics of any kind.
3. Garments cannot have frays or holes and must be hemmed and not

dragging the floor.

4. Boys' pants must be worn at the waist at all times. Girls will be allowed to wear low rider pants as long as they are not to an extreme and their shirts are totally tucked inside the pants.
5. Garments that do not fit properly will not be tolerated including oversized, undersized, and skin tight garments.
6. Pants must have zippers, buttons or snaps.
7. ~~Pants are limited to no more than two front and two rear pockets. The small watch pocket as a fifth pocket will be allowed.~~
8. Form fitting spandex (or stretch) material, nylon, blue jeans, sweatpants*, and pajama type pants are prohibited. *Sweatpants will be allowed if they are part of an athletic uniform or spirit wear outfit.
9. ~~Skirts are limited to no more than four pockets. The small watch pocket as a fifth pocket will be allowed.~~
10. Garments may not have more than two slits and the slits cannot exceed mid-thigh or four inches, whichever is the least.
10. Shorts cannot be shorter than mid-thigh.
12. Skirts/skorts/jumpers/dresses cannot be shorter than mid-thigh.
13. Capri pants are allowed but cannot be hip huggers, skin tight or undersized. The manufactured slit at the bottom of the Capri pant cannot be above the knee.

## D. BELTS

1. Students must wear belts if the garment was manufactured with belt loops.
2. Belts or waistbands must be visible with shirts tucked in except when approved sweaters or sweatshirts are worn.
3. Belts must be black, brown, khaki, or school colors.
4. Graphics, labels or designs are unacceptable on all belts and belt buckles.
5. Belts must be an appropriate length and not hang below the straddle.

## E. SHOES

1. Some type of footwear must be worn at all times.
2. Shoe laces must be tied at all times. Only one set of shoelaces may be worn.
3. Shoes must match and be the appropriate size
4. No flip flops, rubber soccer style sandals, or bedroom shoes may be worn.

## F. OVERCOATS

1. Overcoats may be worn to school and placed in the student's locker for

the entire day.

## G. LIGHT WEIGHT JACKETS

1. The jacket must be in school colors and be one solid color.
2. The jacket cannot have any labels, artwork, or graphics with the exception of school pride wear and may be worn during the day during cold weather.
3. Windbreakers in solid school colors are acceptable. Only spirit wear graphics are allowed.

## H. HATS/SUNGLASSES

1. Hats, sunglasses, do-rags, sweat bands and headbands or other items that may be seen as a disruption to the school setting are prohibited during the school day or extended school day.
2. Students whose religious tenets require the wearing of headgear will not be prohibited from wearing those items.

## I. SOCKS

1. Both socks must match and be the same color
2. Socks must be worn in a manner that does not undermine the integrity of the uniform.
3. Socks must be plain with no graphics or designs.

## J. PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Combs and other hair grooming items cannot be visible in the hair.
2. All necklaces/medallions must be worn under clothing.
3. Piercing cannot present a health hazard or cause a disruption to the school environment.
4. Simple jewelry is appropriate and must be worn in a manner that does not undermine the integrity of the uniform policy. No heavy or spiked jewelry may be worn.

## K. MISCELLANEOUS

1. *School Pride Apparel* may be worn as a part of the approved uniform.
2. Students who fail to wear the approved uniform in a manner that disrupts the classroom environment on a given day will be placed in In-School Suspension (ISS) until parents provide the uniform.
3. Repeat offenders will be dealt with at the discretion of the principal.

4. Parents who need financial assistance may submit their request on the appropriate form to the principal and the School Uniform Committee. A decision will be made and provided to the parent in writing. A deadline for applying will be given each year.
5. School uniform information, the dress code policy and vendor list will be provided for parents when the new school year begins, when a student enrolls or when revisions are made to the uniform policy.
6. Any item that is worn to school must not undermine the integrity of the *School Uniform Policy*, serve as a disruption to the educational process or present a health hazard to an individual or their peers.

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