

Madison Elementary School

Student & Parent Handbook



2024-25

Developing individual excellence through rigor, innovation, and personal attention

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FORWARD

This student handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that you and your parents may have during the school year and to provide specific information about certain Board policies and procedures. This handbook contains valuable information that you should know. Become familiar with the following information and keep the handbook available for frequent reference by you and your parents. If you have questions not addressed in this handbook, talk to your teachers or the building principal.

This handbook summarizes many of the official policies and administrative guidelines of the Board of Education and the District. To the extent that the handbook is ambiguous or conflicts with these policies and guidelines, the policies and guidelines shall control. This handbook is effective immediately and supersedes any prior handbook and other written material on the same subject.

This handbook reflects current Board policies and School rules as of June 1, 2017. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised after June 1, 2017, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails.

MISSION OF THE SCHOOL

Madison School District, in cooperation with our community, will empower each student to develop his or her full potential to be successful in an ever-changing world.

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

It is the policy of this District to provide an equal education opportunity for all students. Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against based on his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national origin, while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the School District's Compliance Officer listed below:

Nick Steinmetz
Superintendent
517-263-0741 Ext. 120

Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the procedures as described in Board Policy 2260. Any student making a complaint or participating in a school investigation will be protected from any threat or retaliation. The Compliance Officer can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

It is the policy of Madison School District to include parents, as appropriate, in decision-making, planning, advising, and implementing activities to improve academic quality and student performance. Parent and family involvement means parents and families participate in regular meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. The Madison School District Parent Engagement Policy is consistent with state and federal law.

We welcome parent volunteers and chaperones. To provide optimum safety for our students, a criminal background check must be completed for volunteers and chaperones before they can work with Madison students. <https://www.madisonk12.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Volunteer-Mentor-Application.pdf> It takes one week to process the background check. Be sure to get your paperwork in at least two weeks before the event you plan on attending.

Chaperones must:

1. Be 21 years of age
2. Be on the student's emergency form in the office
3. Not bring young children/siblings
4. Pay their way into any field trip or event

SCHOOL DAY

School begins at 8:30 A.M. and ends at 3:30 P.M.

Students may enter the building at 8:10 A.M.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The school's rules and procedures are designed to allow each student to obtain a safe, orderly, and appropriate education. Students must respect the rights of fellow students and staff, including the right to freedom of expression and association. Students must follow teachers' directions and obey all school rules. Disciplinary procedures are designed to ensure due process (a fair hearing) before a student is removed because of his/her behavior.

Parents have the right to know how their child is succeeding in school and will be provided with information regularly and as needed, when concerns arise. Many times, it will be the student's responsibility to deliver that information. If necessary, mail or hand delivery may be used to ensure contact. Parents are encouraged to build a relationship with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish his/her educational goals.

Students must arrive at school on time, prepared to learn and participate in the educational program. If, for some reason, this is not possible, the student should seek help from the building principal.

STUDENT WELL-BEING

Student safety is a responsibility of the staff. All staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as fire, lock down and tornado drills and accident reporting procedures. Should a student be aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify any staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students must have an emergency card completed and filed in the school office. **Be sure to list all who can pick up your child and update the office when changes occur.**

Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs and proper documentation by a physician to the School Nurse.

No animals, except working service animals, are allowed on school campus without consent from the building principal.

INJURY AND ILLNESS

All injuries must be reported to a teacher and the School Nurse. If minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the office staff or School Nurse will follow the school's emergency procedures.

A Student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission to go to the office staff or School Nurse. An appropriate adult in the office or the School Nurse will determine whether the student should remain in school. No student will be released from school without proper parental permission.

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

The District shall arrange for individual instruction for students at legal school age who are not able to attend classes because they are medically confined to the home.

Parents should contact the school administration regarding procedures for such instruction. Applications must be approved by the building principal. The District will provide homebound instruction only for those confinements expected to last at least five days.

Applications for individual instruction shall be made by a physician licensed to practice in this State, parent, student, or other caregiver. A physician must: (1) certify the nature and existence of a medical condition; (2) state the probable duration of the confinement; (3) request such instruction; and (4) present evidence of the student's ability to participate in an educational program.

SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION

ENROLLING IN THE SCHOOL

In general, State law requires students to enroll in the school district in which their parent or legal guardian resides unless enrolling under the District’s open enrollment policy (School of Choice). New students under the age of eighteen must be enrolled by their parents or legal guardian. When enrolling, parents must provide copies of the following:

1. A birth certificate or a certified copy of the birth certificate,
2. Court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate),
3. Proof of residency,
4. Proof of immunizations.

Under certain circumstances, temporary enrollment may be permitted. In such cases, parents will be notified about documentation required to establish permanent enrollment.

Homeless students who meet the Federal definition of homeless may enroll and will be under the direction of the District Liaison for Homeless Children regarding enrollment procedures.

A student who has been suspended or expelled by another public school in Michigan may be denied admission to the District’s schools during the period of suspension or expulsion even if that student would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the District. Likewise, a student who has been expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary purposes from a public school in another state and the period of expulsion or removal has not expired, may be denied admission to the District’s schools during the period of expulsion or removal or until the expiration of the period of expulsion or removal which the student would have received in the District had the student committed the offense while enrolled in the District. Prior to denying admission, however, the Superintendent shall offer the student an opportunity for a hearing to review the circumstances of the suspension or expulsion and any other factors the Superintendent determines to be relevant. When required by state law, the student may be required to first request reinstatement from the suspending or expelling school district, even if the student does not intend to re-enroll there.

SCHEDULING AND ASSIGNMENT

Our wish at Madison is to work with you in putting your children first. It is little wonder parents/guardians often feel strongly about having a voice in the selection of their child’s class placement. However, there are many things that need to be considered to create successful classrooms. Balanced classrooms make the best classrooms. When the initial information gathering tasks have been completed, your child’s current grade level team of teachers, special education teachers, specials teachers, literacy coach and the school counselor meet with the principal to draft the upcoming year’s classes. The objective is to match student learning styles to teacher strengths and areas of talent, while creating balanced classrooms. It is important that students learn to work and socialize in environments of diversity. This not only prepares them for “the real world” but also allows individual talents to shine. As staff works together in developing balanced classrooms, they factor in all students’

information gathered from a variety of sources. ***Creating balanced classrooms to focus on meeting all students' needs is our top priority!*** Madison Elementary School does not allow requests for specific teachers.

EARLY DISMISSAL

No students will be allowed to leave school prior to the scheduled dismissal time without a person listed on the emergency card coming to the school office to request the release.

Occasionally school will be released early so that our teaching staff may participate in professional development. Lunch will be served any time the children are dismissed at 12:00 p.m. or beyond. The early dismissal dates and times can be found on the district calendar on our website (madisonk12.us).

TRANSFER IN/OUT OF THE DISTRICT

Parents are encouraged to contact the building office for specific details about transferring from Madison Elementary.

Within 14 days after enrolling a transfer student, the school shall request in writing directly from the student's previous school a copy of his or her school record. Any school that compiles records for each student in the school and that is requested to forward a copy of a transferring student's record to the new school shall comply within 30 days after receipt of the request unless the record has been tagged as "missing".

School officials, when transferring student records, must transmit disciplinary records including suspension and expulsion actions against the student.

WITHDRAWING FROM SCHOOL

No student under the age of eighteen will be allowed to withdraw from school without the written consent of his/her parents.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Students must be current with all immunizations required by law or have an authorized waiver from State immunization requirements. If a student does not have the necessary shots or waivers, the principal may remove the student or require compliance with a set deadline. This is for the safety of all students and in accordance with State law. Any questions about immunizations or waivers should be directed to the School Nurse.

To best meet your student's health and educational needs in school, please inform the school nurse of any health-related issues or any current medications your student may be taking. The

school staff working with your student will be notified of your student's health related issues and medication needs. In case of a health-related issue during school hours, the school must be notified of any changes in your student's health. Please keep emergency phone numbers up to date with the school office staff as this could impact your student should a medical issue arise at school.

USE OF MEDICATIONS

In those circumstances where a student must take prescribed medication during the school day, the following guidelines are to be observed:

1. Parents should, with their physician's counsel, determine whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.
2. The Medication Authorization Form must be filed with the respective building principal and school nurse, for any prescription and over-the counter medications, and must be signed by both parent/guardian and student's physician before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours.
3. All medications must be registered with the nurse's office. Middle school and high school students can store their medication in their school offices with office staff.
4. Medication brought to the nurse's office must be properly stored in a securely locked space.
 - a. Medication must be conveyed to school in its original container as prepared by the pharmacy, with the student's name, name of medication, dosage, frequency, route, and name of the ordering physician. It should be conveyed directly from the parent to school personnel or transported by transportation personnel (bus driver and/or bus aide) at parental request. This should be arranged in advance.
 - b. Medication may not be sent to school in a student's lunch box, pocket, or other means on or about his/her person, except for emergency medications for asthma, allergies and/or reactions that have been approved by school personnel and accompanied by written physician approval.
 - c. Medication supply and renewal will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian. A two to four (2-4) week supply of medication is recommended.
5. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by school personnel when a prescription is no longer to be administered, has expired, or at the end of a school year.
6. The parents shall be responsible for instructing their student to take the medication at the scheduled time, and the student is responsible for presenting himself/herself on time and taking the prescribed medication.
7. A log for each prescribed medication shall be maintained which will note the personnel giving the medication, the date, and the time of day. This log will be maintained, along with the physician's written instructions and the parent's written permission release.

Parents may authorize the school to administer over-the-counter medication, also utilizing the Medication Authorization Form available at the school office or nurse's office. A physician also

does have to authorize such medication in the same way as prescribed medication. Medication must be labeled with the student's name and date of birth and be brought to school in its unopened and original container. All other conditions described above under prescribed medications will also apply to over-the counter medications. No other exceptions will be made to these requirements.

Asthma Inhalers and Epi-pens:

Students, with appropriate written permission from the physician and parent, may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms or an epinephrine auto-injector for anaphylactic allergic reactions. Possession of an inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector requires that the school keep on file a written emergency care plan prepared by a physician and updated on an as needed basis, or with each new school year.

CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PESTS

The school's professional staff has the authority to remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease. Specific diseases include diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, COVID-19 and other conditions indicated by the Local and State Health Departments. Any removal will only be for the contagious period as specified in the school's administrative guidelines and in compliance with any directive from the local or state health department.

Your student should remain at home, and please contact your student's healthcare provider, if your student is having any of the illness symptoms below or any other concerning symptoms:

- Fever: A student with a temperature of 100.4°F or greater.
- Illness symptoms: persistent symptoms such as cough, runny nose, sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea or any behavior changes.
- Diarrhea: A student has two loose or watery stools within 24 hours.
- Vomiting: A student that has vomited within 24 hours.
- Abdominal pain: A student with persistent abdominal pain or intermittent pain associated with fever or other symptoms.
- Rash: A student with a rash, especially if the student has a fever or other illness or changes in behavior.
- Skin sores: A student with open sores or leaking fluid.
- Certain communicable diseases: Students diagnosed with certain communicable diseases will need to be excluded as indicated by their healthcare provider or the local health department.

A student with a fever greater or equal to 100.4 degrees F, or a student with new onset vomiting or diarrhea, will be sent home from school. Students with such symptoms shall remain home for at least 24 hours of fever breaking without fever-reducing medication, and at least 24 hours from the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea. Exception – a healthcare provider has determined the cause to not be infectious and such documentation is provided to school personnel.

Lice:

Any student with live lice or nits (eggs) within ¼ inch of the scalp may remain in school until the end of the day, if found to be a first occurrence. The student will be restricted from activities involving close head-to-head contact or sharing personal items with other students. A parent or guardian will be notified and immediate treatment at home is advised. The student will only be readmitted to school after proper treatment at home. If, upon return, the school designated personnel find no live lice on the student or any nits (eggs) within ¼ inch of the scalp, the student may re-enter the classroom. If live lice or nits (eggs) within ¼ inch of the scalp are still found on the student, the student will not be re-admitted to the classroom and will be sent directly home. This process will continue until no live lice or nits (eggs) within ¼ inch of the scalp are found.

DIETARY ACCOMODATIONS

Any student requiring dietary accommodations (severe food allergy, sensitivities, intolerances, etc.) must provide a written statement from a licensed physician supporting the need for dietary substitutions. The physician's statement must contain information about the student's physical or mental impairment and how it restricts the child's diet, an explanation of what must be done to accommodate the student's disability, and the food(s) to be omitted and recommended alternatives. Please provide this documentation directly to the school's Director of Food Services. If your student has a severe food allergy that could result in anaphylaxis, a potentially severe medical emergency, please notify the school nurse.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

The Board has established a policy that every student must have an Emergency Medical Authorization Form completed and signed by his/her parents to participate in any activity off school grounds. This includes field trips, spectator trips, athletics and other extra-curricular activities, and co-curricular activities.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that no individual will be discriminated against based on a disability. This protection applies to all individuals who have access to the District's programs and facilities, including students.

Students may receive special education services following an evaluation. Parent involvement in this procedure is important and required by Federal (IDEA) and State law. Contact Lindsay Crow at 517-263-0741 ext. 142 to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Limited proficiency in the English language should not be a barrier to equal participation in the instructional or extra-curricular programs of the District. Students identified as having limited English proficiency will be provided additional support and instruction to assist them in gaining English proficiency and in accessing the educational and extra-curricular program offered by the District. Parents should contact the WIDA Coordinator, Lindsay Crow at 517-263-0741 ext. 142, to inquire about evaluation procedures and programs offered by the District.

STUDENT RECORDS

The District maintains student records including both directory information and confidential information.

Neither the Board nor its employees shall permit the release of the social security number of a student or other individual except as authorized by law. Documents containing social security numbers shall be restricted to those employees who need to know or access that information. When documents containing social security numbers are no longer needed, they shall be shredded by an employee who has authorized access to such records.

Directory information can be provided upon request to any individual, other than a for-profit organization, even without the written consent of a parent. Parents may refuse to allow the Board to disclose any or all of such “directory information” upon written notification to the Board. For further information about the items included within the category of directory information and instructions on how to prohibit its release, you may consult the Board’s annual *Family Education Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA) notice which can be found on our district website.

Other than directory information, access to all other student records is protected by FERPA and Michigan law. Except in limited circumstances as specifically defined in State and Federal law, the School District is prohibited from releasing confidential education records to any outside individual or organization without the prior written consent of the parents.

Confidential records include test scores, psychological reports, behavioral data, disciplinary records, and communications with family and outside service providers.

Students and parents have the right to review copies of all educational records. The school may charge a fee for copying student records. To review student records, provide a written notice to the building principal. You will be given an appointment with the appropriate person to answer any questions and to review the requested student records.

Parents have the right to request amendment of a student record when they believe that any of the information contained in the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the student’s privacy. A parent must request the amendment of a student record in writing and if the request is denied, the parent will be informed of their right to a hearing on the matter.

Individuals have a right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education if they believe that the District has violated FERPA.

Consistent with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), no student shall be required, as a part of the school program of the District’s curriculum, without prior written consent of his/her parents, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

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

Consistent with the PPRA and Board policy, the Superintendent shall ensure that procedures are established whereby parents may inspect any materials used with any such survey, analysis, or evaluation.

Further, parents have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey or evaluation created by a third party before the survey/evaluation is administered or distributed by the school to the student. The parents will have access to the survey/evaluation within a reasonable time after the request is received by the building principal.

The Superintendent will provide notice directly to parents of students enrolled in the District of the substantive content of this policy at least annually at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable time after any substantive change in this policy. In addition, the Superintendent is directed to notify parents of students in the District, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the approximate dates during the school year when the following activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled:

1. Activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for the purpose; and
2. The administration of any survey by a third party that contains one or more of the items described in 1 through 8 above.

The Family Policy Compliance Office in the U.S. Department of Education administers both FERPA and PPRA. Parents and/or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW 20202-4605
Washington, D.C.
www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpc

Informal inquiries may be sent to the Family Policy Compliance Office via the following email addresses:

FERPA@ED.Gov; and

PPRA@ED.Gov

STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND SUPPLIES

Madison Elementary charges specific fees for noncurricular activities and programs such as field trips and merit trips. Such fees are determined by the cost of materials, freight/handling fees, and add-on fees for the loss or damage to school property.

Fees may be waived at the District's discretion in situations where there is financial hardship.

The District will provide all basic supplies needed to complete the required course curriculum. The student and/or his/her family may choose to purchase their own supplies if they desire to have a greater quantity or quality of supplies, or desire to help conserve the limited resources for use by others. The

teacher or appropriate administrator may recommend useful supplies for these purposes. (See Policy 6152).

Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse of the property and equipment. The fine will be used to pay for the damage, not to make a profit.

Delinquent fines may be charged if borrowed property is not returned by the due date assigned.

STUDENT FUND-RAISING

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities will be allowed to solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. The following general rules will apply to all fundraisers.

1. Students involved in a fundraiser must not interfere with students participating in other activities when soliciting funds.
2. Students must not participate in a fundraising activity for a group in which they are not members.
3. Students may not participate in school-sponsored fund-raising activities off school property without proper supervision by approved staff or other adults.
4. Students may not participate in a "door-to-door" type fundraiser.
5. Students who engage in fundraisers that require them to exert themselves physically, such as "runs for...," will be monitored by a staff member to prevent potential harm.
6. Students may not participate in a fundraising activity conducted by a parent group, booster club, or community organization on school property without the approval of the Principal.

STUDENT VALUABLES

Students should not bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, electronic equipment, and the like, are tempting targets for theft. The School is not responsible for their safekeeping nor liable for loss or damage to personal items.

REVIEW OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES

Parents and guardians have the right to review any instructional materials being used in the school. Any parent or guardian wishing to review materials or observe instruction must contact the principal before coming to school. Parents and guardians' rights to review teacher materials and instructional activities are subject to reasonable restrictions and limits.

MEAL SERVICE

The Board believes the development of healthy behaviors and habits regarding eating cannot be accomplished by the District alone. It will be necessary for the school staff, in addition to parents and the public at large, to be involved in a community-wide effort to promote, support, and model such healthy behaviors and habits. Parents interested in being involved should contact the building principal.

The school participates in the National School Lunch Program and helps students with breakfast and lunch. Students may also bring their own lunch to school.

No student shall be allowed to leave the school premises during the lunch period.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Madison Schools maintains a Closed Campus Policy. The Closed Campus Policy is in effect from the moment a student arrives on campus and extends through the end of the school day. Visitors must have a scheduled appointment or prior permission from faculty to be on campus. All visitors must sign in and out of the building at the respective offices or location of an event.

FIRE, LOCKDOWN AND TORNADO DRILLS

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with State law. Specific instructions on how to proceed will be provided to students by their teachers who will be responsible for safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building.

Tornado drills will be conducted throughout the school year using the procedures provided by the State.

Lock down drills, in which the students are restricted to the school building's interior and secured, will occur at least two (2) times each school year.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND DELAYS

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, parents will be notified by our Infinite Campus Communication System.

PREPAREDNESS FOR TOXIC AND ASBESTOS HAZARDS

The School is concerned for the safety of students and complies with all Federal and State Laws and Regulations to protect students from hazards that may result from industrial accidents beyond the control of school officials or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction. A copy of the School District's *Preparedness for Toxic Hazard and Asbestos Hazard Policy* and asbestos management plan will be made available for inspection at the Board offices upon request.

VISITORS

Part of growing up is learning how to do things on your own. It is important to help children foster independence. All our students are encouraged to walk to class respectfully, responsibly, and safely. Parents of students are invited to accompany their children to class for the first day of school ONLY. Please obtain a pass from the office before entering the building. Adults in the building without a pass will be reported to the building office personnel. Students may not bring visitors to school.

If a person wishes to confer with a staff member, they should call for an appointment before coming to school to schedule a mutually convenient time. Parents should not be in the building after 8:30 unless they have a scheduled appointment.

If a teacher has planned for an event to which parents and family members are invited, teachers will communicate the plan to the office. Parents will need to sign in and get a visitor sticker.

For school events, **visitors** should enter and exit through the designated entrances.

USE OF LIBRARY

The library is available to students throughout the school day. Passes may be obtained from a student's teacher or from the librarian. A student may not check out additional items from the library until previously checked out items are returned or a fine is paid for those items.

USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Students must receive the permission of the teacher before using any equipment or materials in the classroom and the permission of the Principal to use any other school equipment or facility. Students will be held responsible for the proper use and protection of any equipment or facility they are permitted to use.

LOST AND FOUND

Students who have lost items should check the Lost and Found and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the winter holiday break and at the end of the school year.

STUDENT SALES

No student can sell any item or service in school without the building principal's approval. Violation of this may lead to disciplinary action.

USE OF TELEPHONES

Office telephones are not to be used for personal calls. Except in an emergency, students will not be called to the office to receive a telephone call. Telephones are available in the school for students to use when they are not in class. Students are not to use telephones to call parents to receive permission to leave school. Office personnel will initiate all calls on behalf of a student seeking permission to leave school.

ADVERTISING OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Students may not post announcements or advertisements for outside activities without receiving prior approval from the principal. The principal will try to respond to requests for approval within twenty-four (24) hours of their receipt.

SECTION II – ACADEMICS

GRADES

Madison Elementary has a standard grading procedure and additional notations that may indicate work in progress or incomplete work. A grade indicates the extent to which the student has acquired the necessary learning. In general, students are assigned grades based upon test results, homework, projects and classroom participation. Each teacher may place a different emphasis on these areas in determining a grade and will inform the students at the beginning of the course work. If a student is not sure how his/her grade will be determined, s/he should ask the teacher.

The Great Start program use the following grading system:

S = Successful

P = Progressing

N = Needs Improvement

Young 5s – 3rd grades uses the following grading system:

O = Often Exceeds Grade Level

S = Satisfactory, At Grade Level

N = Needs Improvement, below grade level

Grades 4 and 5 use the following grading system:

90 to 100 = A = Excellent achievement

80 to 89 = B = Good achievement

70 to 79 = C = Satisfactory achievement

60 to 69 = D = Minimum-Acceptable achievement

F = Failure

I = Incomplete

P = Acceptable achievement

Grading Periods

Students shall receive a report card at the end of each trimester indicating their grades for each course of study for that portion of the academic term. Progress reports are sent home for all 4th and 5th grade students midway through each trimester.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Promotion to the next grade is based on the following criteria:

1. Current level of achievement
2. Potential for success at the next level
3. Emotional, physical, and/or social maturity

The District may consult parents on elementary promotion and retention. The District has final authority over whether a student will be promoted or retained.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Students who have displayed significant achievements during the year are recognized for their accomplishments. Areas that may merit recognition include academics, athletics, performing arts, citizenship, and volunteerism. Recognition for such activities is initiated by the staff and coordinated by the building principal. Each grade level, with administration, will develop a systematic plan for positively acknowledging student behavior.

HOMEWORK

The assignment of homework can be expected. Student grades will reflect the completion of all work, including assignments to be completed at home. Homework is also part of the student's preparation for the State mandated tests and graduation.

Homework will not be used for disciplinary reasons but only to enhance the student's learning.

The general guideline for homework is the student's grade times 10 minutes per night. Thus, first graders will have approximately 10 minutes per night, while fifth graders will have approximately 50 minutes per night. Students should be practicing reading every night in addition to homework. Parents are strongly encouraged to promote educational activities beyond homework. These activities can be spontaneous, brief, and fun but should also be as frequent as possible. Some suggested activities include pleasure reading, educational discussion, educational games, and trips to the library or to other educational settings. Parents are the child's most important teacher and are strongly encouraged to take this role seriously.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKS

Before any student may take advantage of the School's computer network and the internet, s/he and his/her parents must sign an agreement that defines the conditions under which the student may participate. Failure to abide by all the terms of the agreement may lead to termination of the student's computer account and possible disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct or referral to law enforcement authorities. Copies of the School District's *Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy* and the requisite student and parent agreement will be distributed on the first day of school.

Students must complete a mandatory training session/program regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified in Policy 7540.03 – Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety before being permitted to access the Network and/or being assigned an e-mail address.

SECTION III – STUDENT ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL-SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Madison Elementary provides students the opportunity to broaden their learning through curricular-related activities. A curricular-related activity may be for credit, required for a particular course, and/or contain school subject matter.

The Board authorizes many student groups and activities that are sponsored by a staff member. Extra-curricular-related activities do not reflect the School curriculum but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities.

NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Non-school-sponsored student groups organized for religious, political, or philosophical reasons may meet during noninstructional hours. The applicant must verify that the activity is being initiated by students, that attendance is voluntary, that no school staff person is actively involved in the event, that the event will not interfere with school activities and that non-school persons do not play a regular role in the event. All school rules will still apply regarding behavior and equal opportunity to participate.

No nondistrict-sponsored organization may use the name of the school or school mascot.

ATHLETICS

The Madison Youth Athletic Counsel (MYAC) provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate providing they meet the eligibility requirements that may apply. The following is a list of activities currently being offered by MYAC:

1. Sideline cheer
2. Tackle football
3. Flag football
4. Volleyball
5. T-Ball
6. Baseball
7. Softball Wrestling
8. Basketball

All athletic programs of the District shall comply with the concussion protocols of the Michigan High School Association, the requirements of state law, and Department of Community Health guidelines regarding concussion awareness training and protection of youth athletes.

Birthday Celebrations

We appreciate that birthdays are special to children, and we want them to feel special. We ask that we do not use food in the classroom to celebrate. Instead, your child will choose a special activity from a birthday celebration menu that will make their day a special and memorable one. Each grade level has a menu with choices from which a student can pick an activity to celebrate their birthday.

SECTION IV – STUDENT CONDUCT

ATTENDANCE

School Attendance Policy

Classroom attendance instills a concept of self-discipline, exposes a student to group interactions with teachers and fellow students, and enables a student to hear and participate in class discussion and other related learning experiences.

Regular attendance is critical in the development and learning of all students. Absences are lost hours of

learning and instruction, rather than a simple tally of days. Our attendance policy's mission is to clearly and effectively communicate how absences will be defined.

Research shows that chronic absence is a directly linked factor contributing to lower test scores, an increased dropout rate, and significantly lower levels of reading and math abilities. Chronic absence is defined as missing 10% or more of any school period for any reason. Therefore, when interventions take place, it is not necessary to determine whether absences are excused or unexcused.

Goal

The school district's goal is to link all students and families with the appropriate resources which will enable them to overcome barriers that interfere with regular attendance.

Absences

Absences will be either counted or not counted, depending on the circumstances surrounding the absence. All absences will be counted except for the following appropriately documented circumstances:

1. Funeral Visitations
2. The day of a doctor's visit
3. Hospitalization
4. School related activity including suspensions
5. Court dates

Counted absences may be blocked with approval for recurring health issues where a doctor's visit is made. This will allow for several related absences to be blocked as one. Assignments will be made up with the rule of one day per absence.

All absences counted will be handled in the following manner per trimester.

Step 1: After five counted absences a letter will be mailed home to notify the parent, or a phone call will be made to the parent.

Step 2: After nine absences, the school administrator will determine if an Attendance Improvement Meeting with the students and parents is appropriate. The reasons for the absences will be considered when determining the need for a meeting. The goal of the meeting will be to address the root cause of the absences, offer academic support, alternative education if appropriate, and attendance expectations to include an attendance agreement. Interventions will include mental health screening, problem solving, tutoring, outside agency referral, and mentoring. The results of the Attendance Improvement Plan will be sent to the LISD (Lenawee Intermediate School District) truancy officers, the school resource officer, and the Lenawee County Prosecutor for review and follow up.

Step 3: The LISD truancy officers and/or school resource officer will follow up with the family and ensure that they are following the attendance agreement. If the agreement is not being met, a formal referral will be sent to the Lenawee County Prosecutor's office.

State law requires children to attend school from age 6 until age 18 unless a specific legal exception applies. The District has imposed additional attendance requirements for its students to maintain high academic standards.

Two types of absences:

1. Countable Absences (“unexcused” - count towards attendance policy)
 - Personal illness
 - No excuse or parent choice to keep student out
 - Vacation
2. Non-Countable Absences (“excused” - do not count towards attendance policy)
 - Funeral
 - School related activity
 - Doctor, dentist, or orthodontist appointment
 - Doctor/Health Department ordered absence for illness, injury, or hospitalization
 - Suspensions – Families are responsible for obtaining and completing assignments from teachers during suspension.
 - Verification of medical appointments (doctor’s note) should be submitted to the office.
 - Court Date

All absences must be communicated to the school office by the parent or guardian on the day of the absence. Please call the attendance line at 517-263-0744 and explain the reason for the absence. You can leave a message between 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. Please refer to the chart below for tardy and absent timelines.

Student Arrival/Sign Out Times	Tardy	Absent
Arrive between 8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	X	
Arrive between 8:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.		X
Sign out between 12:00 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.		X
Sign out between 3:20 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	X	

Suspension from School

Absence from school due to suspension shall be considered an authorized absence, neither excused nor unexcused. A suspended student will be responsible for making up schoolwork lost due to suspension. It is recommended that a student complete missed assignments during the suspension and turn them in to the teacher upon his/her return from school. Make up of missed tests may be scheduled. The student will be given credit for properly completed assignments and a grade on any made-up tests.

Student Sign-In/Sign-Out

If a student arrives late, after 8:40 a.m., the parents must come into the school office to sign the student in. If a student needs to go home early, the parents must sign the student out in the office. Teachers will not dismiss students from their classrooms without confirmation from the office. For the safety of our students, all children must be signed in and out of the office during the school day.

Make-up of Tests and Other School Work

Students who are excusably absent from school or who have been suspended shall be given the opportunity to make-up work that has been missed. The student's parents should contact their classroom teacher as soon as possible to obtain assignments. Students will be given the number of days of excused absence within which to do make-up work.

If a student misses a teacher's test due to excused absence, they may arrange for the teacher to take it. If s/he misses a State mandated test or other standardized test, the student should consult with the building principal to arrange for taking the test.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The school encourages students to attend as many school events held after school as possible, without interfering with their schoolwork and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help build school spirit and encourage participants in the event.

However, to ensure that students attending evening events as nonparticipants are properly safeguarded, it is strongly advised that students be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone when they attend the event. The school will not be able to supervise unaccompanied students, nor will it be responsible for students who arrive without an adult chaperone.

The school will continue to provide adequate supervision for all students who are participants in a school activity. Students must comply with the Code of Conduct at school events, regardless of the location.

CODE OF CONDUCT

A major component of the education program at Madison Elementary School is to prepare students to become responsible workers and citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards.

Madison Elementary is committed to creating a school environment that teaches, promotes, and instills characteristics that will allow students to be successful. In doing so, Madison Elementary implements a multi-tiered system of support as a framework to support students. Included in the framework are positive behavioral interventions and supports aimed at establishing positive student culture and individualized behavior supports necessary to create a safe and effective learning environment for all students. Research has shown that implementation of positive behavioral interventions and supports will result in an improved school climate, reduced discipline referrals, increased attendance rates, and increased student achievement. Madison Elementary school has developed the following behavioral expectations:

- **L**ive Respectfully
- **E**mbrace Responsibility
- **A**ct Safely
- **D**evelop Healthy Choices

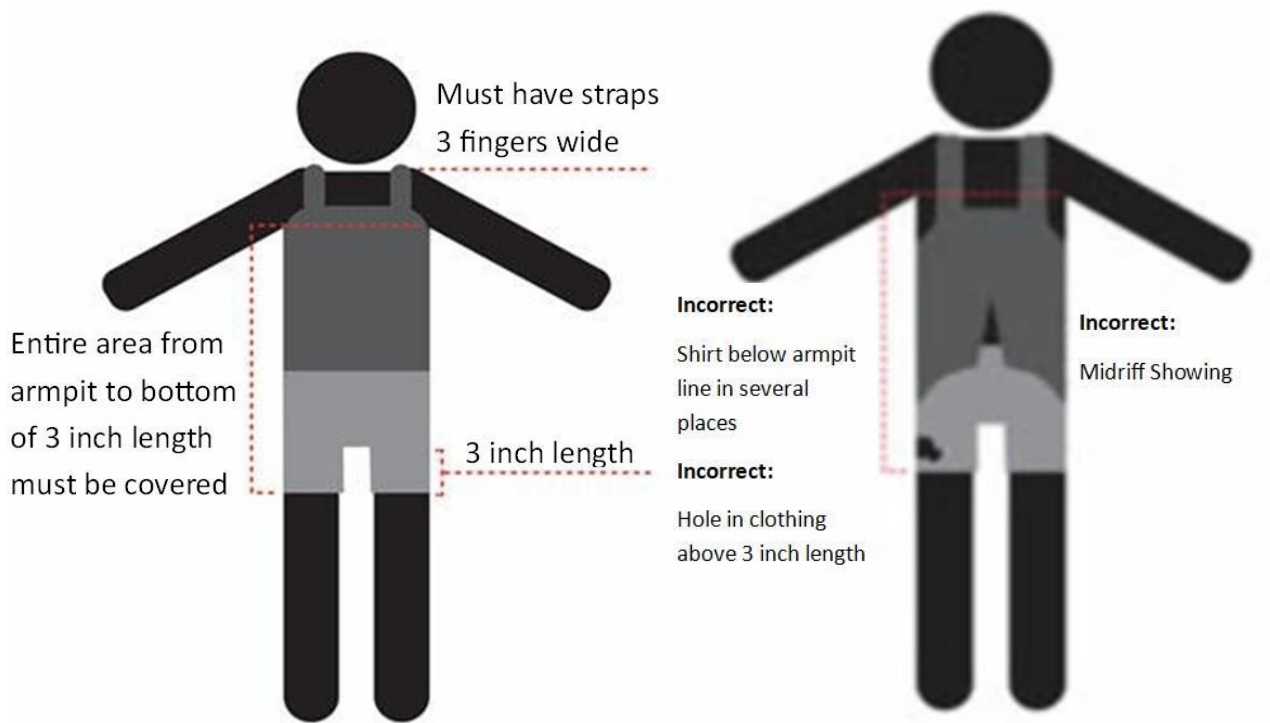
Students demonstrating these expectations are acknowledged by being given a “LEAD Ticket.” Any staff member that observes a student displaying these behaviors may award him/her with a LEAD Ticket. The tickets will be placed into a classroom container and are used in drawings to award individuals and their classrooms. The behavior matrix that follows outlines the behaviors being recognized and rewarded.

	All Locations	Learning Spaces	Cafeteria	Hallway	Playground	Bathroom	Bus	Field Trip & Assembly
Voice Levels								
Live Respectfully	-Follow adult directions the first time -Use kind words and actions -Follow Active Listening Guidelines (eyes watching, ears listening, body still, voices quiet) -respect property	-Follow classroom expectations -wait your turn -handle learning materials with care	-raise hand for help or questions -wait your turn in line -respect the space of others -use good table manners	-hold door open for next person -allow others to pass -respect that classes are in progress	-take turns on equipment -invite others -play fair -play by the rules -respect nature	-give others privacy -keep bathroom clean	-respect the space of others	-eyes and ears on speaker -applaud and respond appropriately
Embrace Responsibility	-keep track of personal items -keep locker/cubby and desk clean -clean up trash -be accountable for what you say and do	-be on time & prepared -return items to their place -ask for help -show your best effort -turn work in on time	-carry tray with 2 hands -keep food to self -eat your own food -clean up table and floor	-keep lockers organized and closed -go directly to location	-return equipment -line up quickly and quietly	-flush toilet paper only -one squirt of soap -count to five under dryer -2 pulls of paper towel -return to room quickly	-get to seat quickly -be ready for your stop	-follow establishment rules -represent Madison Schools in a positive way
Act Safely	-keep hands, feet, objects and unkind words to self -report problems to adults	-walk -all 4 chair legs on floor -use equipment and materials appropriately	-sit with feet on floor, bottom on bench, and facing table -walk -stay seated until dismissed	-students walk facing forward in a single straight line -stay on right-hand side -yield to classes at crossings -stay with your class	-walk to and from playground -stay within playground boundaries -use equipment properly -keep stones, wood chips and snow on the ground	-keep water in sink -keep feet on floor	-walk to and from bus -stay seated -sit with backs and bottoms on the seat -voices silent at railroad crossings	-follow adult directions -stay with your group/chaperone
Develop Healthy Choices	-use calming strategies, and problem-solving tools -demonstrate empathy and compassion -be positive -cover mouth for cough/sneeze -wash or sanitize hands regularly	-participate positively -be productive -non-food birthday celebrations -keep food/candy/gum in backpack unless otherwise directed by teacher	-eat healthy food/drink	-use water fountains/filling stations appropriately	-stay active, keep moving -dress appropriately	-wash hands with soap and water	-keep food/candy/gum in backpack while on bus (unless medically necessary)	-dress appropriately -apply sunscreen before coming to school

Dress Code

Students should dress for success. If students are to have an appropriate environment in which to learn and if parents and visitors are to have a favorable impression of our school, it is important that our students and staff dress in a manner that indicates their respect for one another and their appreciation that school is a place for work. The school Principal or Designee will be the final judge about whether a student's clothing is appropriate for school.

1. Students shall not wear distracting and/or inappropriate clothing, such as shirts with inappropriate wording, obscene or vulgar language or imagery; alcohol or tobacco logos; and pictures depicting alcohol, tobacco, or drug use, clothing that represents gang affiliation, or clothing that is a threat to a student's health and safety, etc.
2. Students shall not wear shoes without a hard sole (no slippers), hoods, bandannas, hats, gloves, and/or sunglasses at school. This is enforced both in class and in the hallways.
3. Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down to 3 inches in length on the upper thigh. Tops must have shoulder straps at least 3 fingers wide. Rips or tears in clothing should be lower than 3 inches in length.
4. Pants must be worn at the waist (top of the hip bone). Pants that do not stay at the waist are considered inappropriate school attire. All undergarments must be covered.
5. Undergarments /Sleepwear/Loungewear may not be visible and/or worn as outer garments.
6. Students shall not wear winter coats during the school day. In addition, students shall not bring blankets to class or wear gloves during class. (The classroom teacher when environmental conditions are extreme will exercise professional discretion.)



Classroom teachers are required to send students not complying with this dress code directly to the office. If a student's clothing does not meet the above dress code, they will be given the opportunity to change without consequence.

Care of Property

Students are responsible for personal property. Valuables such as jewelry or irreplaceable items should not be brought to school. The school may confiscate such items and return them to the student's parents.

If a student damages or loses school property, they must pay for the replacement or damage. If the damage or loss was intentional, the student will also be subject to discipline according to the Student Discipline Code.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE

The Board of Education has adopted the following Student Discipline Code. The Code includes the types of misconduct that will subject a student to disciplinary action. The Board has also adopted the list of behaviors and the terms in it.

It is the school staff's responsibility to provide a safe and orderly learning environment. History has shown that certain student actions are not compatible with a "safe" and "orderly" environment.

Discipline is within the sound discretion of the School's staff and administration. Due process ensures that disciplinary action is imposed only after review of the facts and/or special circumstances of the situation.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS APPLYING TO THE STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE

Each behavior described below may subject the student to disciplinary action including suspension and/or expulsion from school.

1. Student disorder/demonstration

Students will not be denied their rights to freedom of expression, but the expression may not infringe on the rights of others. Disruption of any school activity will not be allowed. If a student (or students) feels there is a need to organize some form of demonstration, s/he is encouraged to contact the principal to discuss the proper way to plan such an activity. Students who disrupt the school may be subject to suspension or expulsion.

2. Possession of a weapon

A weapon includes firearms, guns of any type including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, and explosives. It may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. Criminal charges may be filed for this violation. Possession of a weapon may subject a student to permanent expulsion.

State law may require that a student be permanently expelled from school, subject to a petition for reinstatement if s/he brings onto or has in his/her possession on school property or at a school-related activity any of the following:

1. Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas including bombs, grenades, rockets, missiles, mines, or device that can be converted into such a destructive item
2. Any knife with a blade over three (3) inches long
3. Any similar object intended to invoke bodily harm or fear of it (e.g. air gun, blowgun, toy gun, etc.)

3. Use of an object as a weapon

Any object used to threaten, harm, or harass another may be considered a weapon. This includes padlocks, pens, pencils, laser pointers, jewelry and so on. Intentional injury to another can be a felony and/or a cause for civil action. This violation may subject a student to expulsion.

4. Knowledge of Dangerous Weapons or Threats of Violence

Because the Board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are required to report knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the principal. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline.

5. Purposely setting a fire

Anything, such as fire, that endangers school property, and its occupants will not be tolerated. Arson is a felony and intentionally setting a fire will subject the student to expulsion.

6. Physically assaulting a staff member/student/person associated with the District

Physically assaulting a District employee, volunteer, or contractor may result in charges being filed and subject the student to expulsion. Physical assault is defined as “intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence.”

7. Written, Verbal, and/or Non-verbal threats to a staff member/student/person associated with the District.

A verbal threat is a communicated intent to inflict physical or other harm on another person, with a present intent and ability to act on the threat. Verbal threats include making threats directed at a school building, property, or a school-related activity. Verbal threats may result in suspension and expulsion.

8. Falsification of schoolwork, identification, forgery

Forgery of hall/bus passes and excuses as well as false I.D.'s are forms of lying and are not acceptable.

Plagiarism and cheating are also forms of falsification and subject the student to academic penalties as well as disciplinary action. Violations of this rule could result in suspension or expulsion.

9. False alarms, false reports, and bomb threats

A false emergency alarm, report or bomb threat endangers the safety forces responding, the citizens of the community, and persons in the building. What may seem like a prank is a dangerous stunt. Violations of this rule could result in suspension or expulsion.

10. Explosives

Explosives, fireworks, and chemical-reaction objects such as smoke bombs, pipe bombs, bottle bombs, small firecrackers, and poppers are forbidden. Violations of this rule could result in suspension or expulsion.

11. Trespassing

Although schools are public facilities, the law does allow the school to restrict access on school property. If a student has been removed, suspended, or expelled, the student is not allowed on school property without authorization of the Principal. In addition, students may not trespass onto school property at unauthorized times or into prohibited areas of the school. Violations of this rule could result in suspension or expulsion.

12. Theft

When a student is caught stealing property, s/he will be disciplined and may be reported to law enforcement officials. Students are encouraged not to bring anything of value to school not needed for learning without prior authorization from the building principal. The school is not responsible for personal property. Theft may result in suspension or expulsion.

13. Disobedience

School staff is acting “in loco parentis,” which means they are allowed, by law, to direct a student as would a parent. This applies to all staff, not just teachers assigned to a student. If given reasonable directions by a staff member, the student must comply. Chronic disobedience or failure to obey staff can result in discipline, up to and including expulsion.

14. Unauthorized use of school or private property

Students are expected to get permission to use any school property or private property on school premises. Any unauthorized use shall be subject to disciplinary action. This included use of the internet and communication networks not sanctioned by policy and administrative guidelines. Violations of this rule could result in suspension or expulsion

15. Refusing to accept discipline

The school may use informal discipline to prevent the student from being removed from school. When a student refuses to accept the usual discipline for an infraction, the refusal can result in a sterner action such as suspension or expulsion.

16. Aiding or abetting violation of school rules

If a student assists another student in violating any school rule, they will be disciplined and may be subject to suspension or expulsion. Students are expected to resist peer pressure and exercise sound decision-making regarding their behavior.

17. Displays of affection

Students demonstrating affection between each other is personal and not meant for public display. This includes touching, petting, or any other contact that may be considered sexual in nature. Such behavior may result in suspension from school or expulsion.

18. Possession of Wireless Communication Devices (WCDs)

A student may possess a cell phone, wireless communication device (WCD) or other electronic communication device (ECD) and electronic storage devices (ESD) in school prior to and after school hours. A student may not possess a WCD, ECD or ESD during school hours unless special permission is given by the building principal or the student’s teacher. Devices should be stored in lockers during the school day.

Except as authorized under Board policy, use of WCDs and electronic storage devices in school, on school property, at after school activities and at school-related functions will be subject to disciplinary action.

The school prohibits the use of any video or camera device in any restroom, locker room or other location where students and staff “have a reasonable expectation of privacy.” A student improperly using any device to take or transmit images will face disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Taking or transmitting images or messages during testing is also prohibited. If a student is caught transmitting images or messages during testing, s/he will fail the exam and receive up to a 10-day suspension.

19. Violation of individual school/classroom rules

Each learning environment has different rules for students. Individual rules are for the safe and orderly operation of that environment. Students will be oriented to specific rules, all consistent with the school's policy. Persistent violations of rules could result in suspension or expulsion.

20. Disruption of the educational process

Any actions or manner of dress that interferes with school activities or disrupts the educational process is unacceptable. Such disruptions also include delay or prevention of lessons, assemblies, field trips, athletic events, and performing arts events.

21. Harassment

Harassment of students is prohibited and will not be tolerated. This includes inappropriate conduct by other students and anyone in the school environment, including employees, Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers. It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing educational environments for all its students. This policy applies to all activities on school property and to all school-sponsored activities whether on or off school property.

Harassment is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impacts a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. To qualify as "harassment," the conduct must be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, or disability.

Harassment through any means, including electronically transmitted methods (e.g. internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), computer or wireless handheld device), may be subject to District disciplinary procedures. Such behavior is considered harassment whether it takes place on or off school property, at any school-sponsored function, or in a school vehicle if it is considered to have a negative impact on the school environment.

Every student and staff member must report any situation they believe improper harassment of a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

If the investigation finds harassment occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include expulsion for students, up to discharge for employee, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers and contractors, and removal from any officer position and/or a request to resign for Board members.

Retaliation against any person for complaining about harassment, or participating in a harassment investigation, is prohibited. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as harassment. Intentionally false harassment reports, made to get someone in trouble, are also prohibited. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

The following definitions are provided for guidance only. If a student or other individual believes there has been harassment, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

Sexual Harassment, may include, but is not limited to:

1. Verbal harassment or abuse;
2. Pressure for sexual activity;
3. Repeated remarks with sexual or demeaning implications;
4. Unwelcome touching;
5. Sexual jokes, posters, cartoons, etc.;
6. Suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, or safety;
7. A pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another;
8. Remarks speculating about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history.

Students who believe that they have been subjected to unlawful harassment should report the harassment to a teacher or to the District's Title IX Coordinator:

Nick Steinmetz

Superintendent

517-263-0741

22a. Hazing

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and all such activities are prohibited at any time in school facilities on school property, and at any district-sponsored event.

Hazing shall be defined for purposes of this policy as performing any act of coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, group, or organization that causes or creates a risk of causing mental, emotional, or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Hazing – any type of initiation procedure for any school related activity, which involves conduct such as but not limited to:

1. Illegal activity, such as drinking or drugs;
2. Physical punishment or infliction of pain
3. Intentional humiliation or embarrassment;
4. Dangerous activity;
5. Activity likely to cause mental or psychological stress;
6. Forced detention or kidnapping;
7. Undressing or otherwise exposing initiates

22b. Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior

It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing educational environments for all its students.

This policy protects all students from bullying/aggressive behavior regardless of the subject matter or motivation for such impermissible behavior.

Bullying or other aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, including Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers, is prohibited. This prohibition includes written, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including hazing gestures, comments, threats, or actions to a student, which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety or personal degradation.

Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers to provide positive examples for student behavior.

This policy applies to all “at school” activities in the District, including activities on school property, in a school vehicle, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school’s control, or where an employee is engaged in school business. Misconduct occurring outside of school may also be disciplined if it interferes with the school environment.

Refer to the Madison School District Board policy on bullying for additional details.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the district and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedure.

Parents or legal guardians of the alleged victim(s), as well as of the alleged aggressor(s), shall be promptly notified of any complaint or investigation as well as the results of the investigation to the extent consistent with student confidentiality. A record of the time and form of notice or notice attempts shall be kept in the investigation file.

To the extent appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations. Further, the appropriate authorities may be notified, depending on the nature of the complaint and/or the results of the investigation.

Implementation

The Superintendent is responsible for implementing this policy, and may develop further guidelines, consistent with this policy.

This policy is not intended to and should not be interpreted to interfere with legitimate free speech rights of any individual. However, the District reserves the right and responsibility to maintain a safe environment for students, conducive to learning and other legitimate objectives of the school programs.

Procedure

Any student who believes s/he has been or is the victim of bullying, hazing or other aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Principal or Intervention Specialist. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports shall be made to those identified above. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action may not be taken solely based on one.

The Principal (or other administrator as designated) shall promptly investigate and document all complaints about bullying, aggressive or other behavior that may violate document all complaints about bullying, aggressive or other behavior that may violate this policy. The investigation must be completed as promptly as the circumstances permit after a report or complaint is made.

If the investigation finds an instance of bullying or aggressive behavior has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers and contractors, and removal from any official position and/ or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement or other appropriate officials.

The individual responsible for conducting the investigation shall document all reported incidents and report all verified incidents of bullying, aggressive or other prohibited behavior, as well as any remedial action taken, including disciplinary actions and referrals, to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall submit a compiled report to the Board on an annual basis.

Non-Retaliation/False Reports

Retaliation or false allegations against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying or aggressive behavior (as a witness or otherwise), or is the target of the bullying or aggressive behavior being investigated, is prohibited, and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy, independent of whether a complaint of bullying is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying/aggressive behavior.

Making intentionally false reports about bullying/aggressive behavior to get someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

23. Possession of a Firearm, Arson, Criminal Sexual Conduct, and Physically Assaulting an Employee, Volunteer, or Contractor

In compliance with State law, the Board shall permanently expel any student who possesses a dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone or commits either arson or criminal sexual conduct in a District building or on District property, including school buses and other school transportation, or any student who physically assaults an employee, volunteer, or contractor.

Before suspending or expelling any student, the District will consider the following factors:

- a) The student's age.
- (b) The student's disciplinary history.
- (c) Whether the student is a student with a disability.
- (d) The seriousness of the violation or behavior committed by the student.
- (e) Whether the violation or behavior committed by the student threatened the safety of any student or staff member.
- (f) Whether restorative practices will be used to address the violation or behavior committed by the student.
- (g) Whether a lesser intervention would properly address the violation or behavior committed by the student.

The District retains sole discretion in determining how these factors will be considered with respect to student discipline.

A dangerous weapon is defined as "a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles: or other devices designed to or likely to inflict bodily harm, including, but not limited to, air guns and explosive devices.

Students with disabilities under IDEA of Section 504 shall be expelled only in accordance with Board Policy 2461 and Federal due process rights appropriate to students with disabilities. A student expelled under this policy may apply for reinstatement in accordance with state law and guidelines available in the principal's office.

Criminal acts

Any student engaging in criminal acts at or related to the school may be reported to law enforcement officials and may be disciplined by the school. It is not considered "double jeopardy" (being tried twice for the same crime) when school rules and the law are violated. Students should be aware that state law requires that school officials, teachers and appropriate law enforcement officials be notified when a student of this District is involved in crimes related to physical violence, gang related acts, illegal possession of a controlled substance, analogue or other intoxicants, trespassing, property crimes, including but not limited to theft and vandalism, occurring in the school as well as in the community.

Safety Concerns

Students should not use roller blades, bicycles, skateboards, scooters, or any other form of personal transportation device in school hallways or District pedestrian traffic areas. Exceptions may be made to accommodate students with mobility impairments. Students violating this expectation will be subject to disciplinary action.

Profanity

Any behavior or language which is obscene, disrespectful, vulgar, or profane may be subject to disciplinary action.

DISCIPLINE

It is important to remember that the school's rules apply going to and from school, at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, and on school transportation. In some cases, a student can be suspended from school transportation for infractions of school bus rules.

It is the principal's responsibility to keep things orderly. In all cases, the School shall attempt to make discipline prompt and equitable and to have the punishment match the severity of the incident.

Two types of discipline are possible: informal and formal.

Informal Discipline

Informal discipline takes place within the school. It may include:

1. Written reflections;
2. Change of seating or location;
3. Lunch and recess-time detention;
4. After-school detention;
5. In-school suspension.

A student missing any portion of his/her assigned in-school suspension may be given additional time. Failure to timely serve in-school suspension may lead to a suspension from school for a period not to exceed 10 days. Any such suspension shall be in accordance with the District guidelines on suspension and expulsion.

The following rules shall apply to in-school suspension:

1. Students are required to have class assignments with them.
2. Students are not to communicate with each other unless given special permission to do so.
3. Students are to always remain in their designated seats unless permission is granted to do otherwise
4. Students shall not be allowed to put their heads down or sleep.
5. No recreational **materials** shall be allowed in the room.
6. No food or beverages shall be consumed unless permission is granted to do otherwise.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities are entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (I.D.E.A.) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Formal Discipline

Suspension from School

When a student is being considered for a suspension of ten (10) days or less, the administrator in charge will notify the parent and student of the charges. The student will then be given a chance to explain his/her side, and the administrator will provide the student the evidence supporting the charges. After that informal hearing, the principal will decide whether to suspend. If a student is suspended, s/he and his/her parents will be notified within one (1) day of the reason for and the length of the suspension. The suspension may be appealed to the Superintendent within two (2) school days after receipt of the suspension notice. Suspension from co-curricular and extra-curricular activities may not be appealed.

During the appeal process, the student shall not be allowed to remain in school.

When a student is suspended, s/he may miss make-up work after the return to school or while on suspension. Any learning that cannot be made up such as labs, field trips, skill-practices, or any learning that the student chooses not to make-up may be reflected in the grades earned.

Long-term suspension or expulsion from school

When a student is being considered for long-term suspension (more than ten school (10) days) or expulsion, the parent and student will receive a formal letter of notification addressed to the parents that will contain:

1. The charge and related evidence;
2. The time and place of the Board of Education meeting at which the hearing will be held;
3. The length of the recommended suspension or a recommendation for expulsion;
4. A brief description of the hearing procedure;
5. A statement that the student may bring parents, guardians, and counsel (at parent expense);
6. A statement that the student and/or parent may request a translator for hearing impaired students or parents.
7. A statement that the student may explain his or her side of the story, present evidence, and provide a defense;
8. A statement that the student may request attendance of school personnel who were part to the action or accused the student of the infraction;

Students being considered for long-term suspension or expulsion may be immediately removed from school. The District will schedule a formal hearing with the Board of Education during which the student may be represented by his/her parents, legal counsel (at parent expense), and/or by a person of his/her choice.

Madison Elementary makes a sincere effort to have disciplinary actions take place that will allow the student to remain in school. If a disciplinary action does not result in removal from school, it is not

appealable. Should a student or parent have questions regarding the propriety of an in-school disciplinary action, they should contact the building principal.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Search of a student and his/her possessions may be conducted at any time the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education, if there is a reasonable suspicion that the student is in violation of law or school rules. A search may also be conducted to protect the health and safety of others. All searches may be conducted regardless of the student's consent.

Students are provided lockers, cubbies, desks, and/or other equipment in which to store material. These are all considered the property of the school and may be searched at any time, with or without reasonable suspicion. Locks are to prevent theft, not to prevent searches. If student lockers require student-provided locks, each student must provide the lock's combination or key to the principal.

Anything that is found in the course of a search that may be evidence of a violation of school rules or the laws may be taken and held or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items which have been confiscated. In the course of any search, students' privacy rights will be respected regarding any items that are not illegal.

All computers located in classrooms and offices of the District are the District's property and are to be used by students, when appropriate, solely for education purposes. The District retains the right to access and review all electronic, computer files, databases, and any other electronic transmissions contained in or used in conjunction with the District's computer system, and electronic mail. Students should have no expectation that any information contained on such systems is confidential or private.

Review of such information may be done by the District with or without the student's knowledge or permission. The use of passwords does not guarantee confidentiality, and the District retains the right to access information in spite of a password. All passwords or security codes must be registered with the instructor. A student's refusal to permit such access may be grounds for disciplinary action.

STUDENT RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION

The School recognizes the right of students to express themselves. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do it appropriately. Students may distribute or display, at appropriate times (based on district policy), written material and petitions; buttons, badges, or other insignia; clothing, insignia, and banners; and audio and video materials. All items must meet the following school guidelines:

1. A material cannot be displayed if it:
 - a. Is obscene to minors, libelous, indecent or vulgar,
 - b. Advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law,
 - c. Intends to incite fighting or presents a likelihood of disrupting school or a school event,

- d. Presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or manner of distribution or display, it causes or is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of school or school activities, a violation of school regulations, or the commission of an unlawful act.
2. Materials may not be displayed or distributed during class periods, or during passing times between classes. Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods and after school in designated locations, as long as exits are not blocked and there is proper access and egress to the building.

Students who are unsure whether or not materials they wish to display meet school guidelines may present them to the building principal twenty-four (24) hours prior to display.

STUDENT CONCERNS, SUGGESTIONS, AND GRIEVANCES

The school is here for the benefit of the students. The staff is here to assist each student in becoming a responsible adult. If a student has suggestions that could improve the school, s/he should feel free to offer them. Written suggestions may be presented directly to the principal or to the student government.

When concerns or grievances arise, the best way to resolve the issue is through communication. No student will be harassed by any staff member or need fear reprisal for the proper expression of a legitimate concern. Any suggestions, concerns, and grievances may be directed to the principal or to the student government.

A student may have the right to a hearing if the student believes s/he has been improperly denied participation in a school activity or has been subjected to an illegal rule or standard. A student may not petition to have a change in grade.

SECTION V – TRANSPORTATION

BUS TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL

The transportation schedule and routes are available by contacting the Transportation Director at 517-263-0741 Ext. 133 or by visiting Madison's website at madisonk12.us.

Students may only ride assigned school buses and must board and depart from the bus at assigned bus stops. Students will not be permitted to ride unassigned buses for any reason other than an emergency, except as approved by the principal. A parent/guardian is required to meet or be present at the bus stop for any student in second grade and younger.

We know that changes in regular transportation need to occur from time to time, but due to the increased volume of changes at the end of the school day, we have determined it is necessary to adopt the following procedures:

A phone call or note must be presented to the office secretary for the following conditions:

- A student will be walking home
- A student will be transported to a different location than his/her regularly scheduled stop

Please note: Large numbers of students will not be provided transportation to non-school activities (birthday parties, sleepovers, babysitting, etc.)

For all transportation changes, parents are to contact the building office before 2:00 p.m. This will allow our staff adequate time to notify teachers, students, and bus drivers of the change.

Should you need a permanent transportation change, please contact the building office.

If one of the above arrangements have not been made, the student will be sent home according to his/her usual form of transportation.

The safety of your child is always a top priority for us. We want to be sure that parents, students, office staff, teachers, and bus drivers have clear lines of communication to assure that your student arrives at his or her intended destination.

BUS CONDUCT

Students riding to and from school on transportation provided by the school must follow all basic safety rules identified below. This applies to school-owned buses and any contracted transportation.

The driver may assign seating or direct students in any reasonable manner to maintain transportation safety.

Students must comply with the following basic safety rules:

Previous to loading (on the road and at school)

Each student shall:

1. Be on time at the designated loading zone (10 minutes prior to scheduled stop);
2. Stay off the road at all times while walking to and waiting for the school transportation;
3. Line up single file off the roadway to enter;
4. Wait until the school transportation is completely stopped before moving forward to enter;
5. Refrain from crossing a highway until the driver signals it is safe to cross;
6. Go immediately to a seat and be seated.

It is the parents' responsibility to inform the bus driver when their child will not be aboard school transportation. Drivers will not wait for students who are not at their designated stops on time.

During the trip

Each student shall:

1. Remain seated while the school transportation is in motion;
2. Keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the school vehicle at all times;
3. Not litter in the school vehicle or throw anything from the vehicle;
4. Keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisle;

5. Be courteous to the driver and to other riders;
6. Not eat or play games, cards, etc.;
7. Not tamper with the school vehicle or any of its equipment.

Leaving the bus

Each student shall:

1. Remain seated until the vehicle has stopped;
2. Cross the road, when necessary, at least ten (10) feet in front of the vehicle, but only after the driver signals that it is safe;
3. Be alert to a possible danger signal from the driver.

The driver will not discharge students at the places other than their regular stop at home or at school unless s/he has proper authorization from school officials.

VIDEOTAPES ON SCHOOL BUSES

The Board of Education has installed video cameras on school buses to monitor student behavior. Actual videotaping of the students on any particular bus will be done on a random-selection basis.

If a student misbehaves on a bus and his/her actions are recorded on a videotape, the tape will be submitted to the principal and may be used as evidence to the misbehavior. Since these tapes may be considered a student's educational record, they can be viewed only in accordance with Federal law.

PENALTIES FOR INFRACTIONS

A student who misbehaves on the bus shall be disciplined in accordance with the Student Discipline Code and may lose the privilege of riding on the bus. In instances involving an IDEA-eligible student who has an IEP that requires transportation, an alternate form of transportation will be made available.

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