

Bloomsburg Area High School

STUDENT HANDBOOK



2025 - 2026

BLOOMSBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK, 2025-2026

Bloomsburg Area Secondary Complex
Bloomsburg High School
Bloomsburg Middle School

1200 Railroad Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
Telephone 570-784-6100

SECONDARY COMPLEX ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Andrea Landis, Secondary Principal, High School
Mrs. Michelle Prybyla, Secondary Principal of Students and Programs
Mrs. Wendy Arnold, Secondary Principal, Middle School
Mr. Mike Kogut, Athletic Coordinator/Assistant to the Principal

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Mr. John Khan, President
Mrs. Eve Ralston, Vice President
Mr. Jonathan Jones, Treasurer
Mrs. Stephanie Andreacci
Mr. Sam Bidleman
Mr. Josh Klingerman
Dr. Eric Miller
Mrs. Amanda Orzolek
Rev. Mark Reisinger

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Jonathan J. Cleaver, Superintendent
Mr. Dave Marsiglio, Business Administrator
Mr. Gary Honabach, Technology Director
Mrs. Amy Melchiorre, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mrs. Mary Rose Latorre, Director of Student Services

The Bloomsburg Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, and ADA.

The School District will provide those related services, aids and accommodations, which are needed to afford all students an equal opportunity to participate in and obtain benefits of the school program and co-curricular activities without discrimination and to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's ability.

For information regarding Civil Rights; Grievance Procedures, as well as services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by disabled persons, please contact the Superintendent at (570) 784-5000.

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MISSION

The mission of the Bloomsburg Area School District is to prepare its students to become contributing, responsible citizens and lifelong learners, with the ability to adapt and to succeed in a competitive world.

Bloomsburg Area High School strives to create a positive, safe, and inclusive learning environment, partnering with families and the community to:

- Encourage increased parental and community awareness and involvement in the educational process.
- Provide educational resources and technology that are current, relevant, and equitable for all students.
- Employ a competent, caring, and diverse staff; deliver a challenging and standards-aligned curriculum; and offer a comprehensive extracurricular program.
- Promote proficiency in reading comprehension, mathematical fundamentals, verbal and written communication, and critical thinking skills.
- Foster an atmosphere of academic excellence conducive to acquiring knowledge and skills necessary for rational, analytical, and creative thinking.
- Build self-esteem and promote positive attitudes and values, enabling students to respect and work cooperatively with others.
- Cultivate an appreciation for lifelong learning and responsible citizenship.

CHILD FIND

Every school district, along with other public agencies in the Commonwealth, must establish and implement procedures to identify, locate and evaluate all children who need special education programs and related services because of their disabilities (Chapter 14, Pennsylvania Regulations 14.121; Part 300 Federal Regulations 300.125). Furthermore, Federal Regulations under Individuals with Disability Education Act require child find from birth to 21 years of age. This notice is to help find these children, assist parents and describe the parents' right with regard to confidentiality of information that will be obtained during this process.

McKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.) (McKinney-Vento Act). The McKinney-Vento Act was originally authorized in 1987 and most recently reauthorized in December 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).¹ The McKinney-Vento Act is designed to address the challenges that homeless children and youths have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, educational agencies must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youths. Homeless children and youths must have access to the educational and related services that they need to enable them to meet the same challenging State academic standards to which all students are held. In addition, homeless students may not be separated from the mainstream school environment. Local Educational Agencies are required to review and undertake steps to revise laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youths.

The law indicates that the LEA liaison shall ensure that all homeless children, youth and families are identified through coordinated activities with other entities.

For additional information, contact LEA Homeless Liaison, Mary Rose Latore at 784-6100 ext 2008.

SCHOOL CALENDAR



Bloomsburg Area School District
School Calendar 2025-2026

728 E 5th St, Bloomsburg, PA 17815
www.bloomsd.org 570-784-5000

July							August							September							October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
27	28	29	30	31			31																				

November							December							January							February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
23	24	25	26	27	28	29																					
30																											

March							April							May							June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
29	30	31																									

Key			Calendar Details		
Act 80 Day – No Students	Built-in Make-up Days	Early Dismissal (Secondary-11:15 am/Elementary-12pm)	First Student Day	In-Service Day – No Students	Last Student Day
No Students/Offices Closed	Parent Conference Day (11am-7pm)– No Students				
Approved: 2/18/25 Revision Approved: 5/19/25			<p>July 4 – Offices Closed Aug. 7 – New Teacher Induction Aug. 13-14 –In-Service Days Aug. 14 – Open House (all schools) Aug. 19 – First Student Day, Marking Period 1 Begins Sept. 1 – No Students/Offices Closed Sept. 19 – Early Dismissal/Act 80 Day after Student Dismissal Sept. 22-26 – No Students/Offices Closed Oct. 13 – Act 80 Day – No Students Oct. 24 - Early Dismissal/Act 80 Day after Student Dismissal</p>		
			<p>Oct. 27 – Parent Conference Day – No Students Nov. 3 – Marking Period 2 Begins Nov. 26 – Early Dismissal Nov. 27-28 – No Students/Offices Closed Dec. 1 – No Students/Offices Closed Dec. 5 - Early Dismissal/Act 80 Day after Student Dismissal Dec. 19 – Early Dismissal Dec. 22-31 – No Students/Offices Closed Jan. 1-2 – No Students/Offices Closed Jan. 19 – Act 80 Day – No Students Jan. 23 – Marking Period 3 Begins</p>		
			<p>Feb. 13 – Early Dismissal/Act 80 Day after Student Dismissal Feb. 16 – No Students/Offices Closed March 13 – Act 80 Days – No Students March 31 – Marking Period 4 Begins April 2 - Early Dismissal April 3-6 – No Students/Offices Closed May 22 – Early Dismissal/Act 80 Day after Student Dismissal May 25 – No Students/Offices Closed June 3 – Last Student Day/Early Dismissal June 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 – Emergency Make-up Days</p>		

BELL SCHEDULES

REGULAR BELL SCHEDULE

Period	Time
Warning Bell	7:40am
Homeroom	7:45am – 7:55am
Period 1	7:58am – 8:42am
Period2	8:45am – 9:27am
Period 3	9:30am – 10:12am
Period 4	10:15am – 10:57am
LUNCH A	11:00am – 11:30am
Period A-5	11:00am – 11:42am
Period 5-B	11:33am – 12:15pm
LUNCH B	11:45am – 12:27pm
Period 6	11:45am – 12:27pm
Period 6-C	12:18pm – 1:00pm
LUNCH C	12:30pm – 1:00pm
Period 7	1:03pm – 1:45pm
Period 8	1:48pm – 2:30pm

Note: If you eat Lunch A - next class is 5B and Period 6 - C. If you have class Period A-5, you will either eat lunch B OR you will have Period 6. If you eat Lunch B - you will have Period 6-C.

TWO-HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

Period	Time
Warning Bell	9:40am
Homeroom	9:45am – 9:50am
Period 1	9:53am – 10:18am
Period2	10:21am – 10:46am
Period 3	10:49am – 11:14am
Period 4	11:17am – 11:42am
LUNCH A	11:45am – 12:15pm
Period A-5	11:45am – 12:15pm
Period 5-B	12:18pm – 12:48pm
LUNCH B	12:18pm – 12:48pm
Period 6	12:18pm – 12:48pm
Period 6-C	12:51pm – 1:21pm
LUNCH C	12:51pm – 1:21pm
Period 7	1:24pm – 1:54pm
Period 8	1:57pm – 2:30pm

EARLY DISMISSAL SCHEDULE (11:15 AM)

Period	Time
Warning Bell	7:40am
Homeroom	7:45am – 7:50am
Period 1	7:53am – 8:08am
Period2	8:11am – 8:26am
Period 3	8:29am – 8:44am
Period 4	8:47am – 9:02am
Period 7	9:05am – 9:20am
Period 8	9:23am – 9:38am
LUNCH A	9:41am – 10:11am
Period A-5	9:41am – 10:11am
Period 5-B	10:15am – 10:45am
LUNCH B	10:15am – 10:45am
Period 6	10:15am – 10:45am
Period 6-C	10:48am – 11:15am
LUNCH C	10:48am – 11:15am

EXTENDED HOMEROOM SCHEDULE

Period	Time
Warning Bell	7:40am
Homeroom	7:45am – 8:05am
Period 1	8:08am – 8:48am
Period2	8:51am – 9:31am
Period 3	9:34am – 10:14am
Period 4	10:17am – 10:57am
LUNCH A	Resume REGULAR BELL Schedule

PM ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Period	Time
Warning Bell	7:40am
Homeroom	7:45 – 7:50
Period 1	7:53 – 8:30
Period 2	8:33 – 9:06
Period 3	9:09 – 9:42
Period 4	9:45 – 10:18
Period 7	10:21 – 10:54
LUNCH A	10:57 – 11:27
Period A-5	10:57 – 11:39
Period 5-B	11:30 – 12:12
LUNCH B	11:42 – 12:12
Period 6	11:42 – 12:24
Period 6-C	12:15 – 12:57
LUNCH C	12:27 – 12:57
Period 8	1:00 – 1:33
Assembly/Activity Period	1:36 – 2:30

ACADEMICS

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Each teacher will address cheating in his/her homework and grading policy, which is distributed at the beginning of the school year. Cheating will result in a grade of zero for that assignment or test and/or appropriate disciplinary action. Instances of cheating will be recorded in the student's disciplinary record and may impact consideration for induction into the National Honor Society.

Credit must be given whenever a student writes something that is not their own original work, or uses information, ideas, or wording derived from another source when he uses information in writing that has been derived from another's ideas or words. This includes—but is not limited to—books, websites, articles, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, or other AI-based writing assistants. The use of AI must be transparent and properly documented when it contributes to any portion of a student's academic work.

Plagiarism is not limited to research papers: students may commit acts of plagiarism in homework assignments, reading logs, journal entries, and formal presentations, and projects**.

Sources must be cited in the following situations:

- Quoting a source directly;
- Using others' ideas or words; paraphrasing others' words;
- Using facts or statistics that are not common knowledge;
- Incorporating content (text, structure, or ideas) generated by AI tools.

A writer is guilty of plagiarism if they fail to give credit to the sources used in their work, or if they knowingly—or reasonably should have known—to document material that is paraphrased or derived from other sources, including AI-generated content he or she knowingly fails or ought to reasonably to have known to document words that are paraphrased. Plagiarism is a serious offense.

Students who plagiarize all or any part of an assignment will receive a grade of zero for that assignment. If you are accused of plagiarism, you must provide evidence that you have not presented a source's ideas or words as your own. You must submit every source you used along with your prewriting, notes, and rough drafts. This includes documentation of any AI tools used. You will be required to attend a conference with your parents, faculty, and administration. Instances of plagiarism will be recorded in the student's disciplinary record.

Students can avoid charges of plagiarism by:

- Always using accurate in-text parenthetical citations to give credit to the source;
- Always giving a complete and accurate listing of sources in the Works Cited page of their papers;
- Always quoting accurately and distinguishing clearly between their own ideas and those of others;
- Disclosing the use of any AI tools and explaining how they were used in the process of completing the assignment.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR ATHLETICS & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

To participate in extracurricular activities at Bloomsburg Area School District, students must meet the following academic and attendance requirements, in accordance with PIAA guidelines.

Eligibility Requirements

- Full-Time Enrollment: Students must be enrolled in a full-time curriculum approved by the principal.

- Weekly Academic Check: Every Friday at 1 PM, student grades are reviewed. To be eligible, students must be passing courses totaling at least four full credits and failing less than 2 credits.
 - Students who are failing two (2) or more credits but still passing four credits will be placed on Warning Week status.
- Previous Grading Period: Students must have passed four full-credit subjects (or equivalent) and failed less than 2 credits during the previous grading period. For the first marking period, final grades from the previous school year will be used.
 - Failure to meet this requirement results in 15 school days of ineligibility, starting the day report cards are issued.
- Attendance Requirement (PIAA Rule): A student absent for 20 or more school days in a semester is ineligible for inter-school practices, scrimmages, or contests until the student has attended 45 school days after the 20th absence.

Warning Week

- What It Is: A one-time grace week for students who are at risk of becoming ineligible. Students may continue to participate in activities during this week.
- Notification: Students on Warning Week will be notified by Athletic Director or designee.
- Academic Support: Students are encouraged to attend tutoring, meet with teachers, and complete assignments during this time.
- Reevaluation: The following Friday, grades are reviewed again:
 - If improved: student remains eligible.
 - If still failing 2+ credits: student becomes ineligible starting Sunday and remains so until eligibility is regained.

Special Notes

- School Musical: Will follow the same eligibility procedures as noted above and will be informed of warning week and ineligibility by the director or designee.
- School Dances: Academic eligibility for school dances is based on cumulative grades for the school year, rather than weekly evaluations.
 - Students who are failing courses totaling two (2) or more credits at the time of review will be ineligible to attend the dance.
 - A Warning Week will be provided prior to the event, with notice given no later than the week of ticket sales, allowing time to improve academic standing.
 - Students who are unsure of their eligibility are encouraged to proactively check their status with administration once the dance is announced.
 - A student absent for 20 or more school days in a semester is ineligible for dances until the student has attended 45 school days after the 20th absence.
 - 10 plus days of tardiness (per semester) the student will forfeit his/her privilege to participate in all dances
- Other Activities & Field Trips: May be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See your building principal with questions.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP COURSES)

Courses designated as Advanced Placement (AP) are weighted by 8%. Students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses are required to take the College Board's AP exam that is administered in the spring. The cost of the exam will be paid upfront by the district, but students earning below a '2' may be billed for reimbursement. AP courses do require summer assignments. Failure to complete the pre-course assignments will result in students receiving a zero grade for those assignments. AP courses are approved for concurrent credit through partnerships with LCCC and/or Lackawanna College, allowing students to earn both high school and college credit.

DUAL ENROLLMENT AND CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES [FLYER](#)

Bloomsburg High School (BHS) offers students the opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school through Concurrent Enrollment and Dual Enrollment programs. These programs allow students to gain a head start on their college education and, in some cases, save on tuition costs.

According to the United States Department of Education, secondary students who have completed at least one college course are more likely to: successfully complete high school, enroll in a post-secondary institution, persist through the second semester of college, complete more post-secondary credits overall, achieve a higher GPA, and finish their chosen degree on time!

Concurrent Enrollment

- Select courses taken on-campus at BHS with BHS teachers
- Earn college credit through Luzerne County Community College (LCCC), Lackawanna College, or Pennsylvania College of Technology
- Courses designated as concurrent are weighted by 4%.

Dual Enrollment

- Courses taken on a college campus or online at Commonwealth University, LCCC, or Lackawanna College that count towards elective credits to fulfill BHS graduation requirements
- Other colleges/universities must receive administrative approval before credit is awarded
- Dual enrollment courses (not taught by BHS teachers) will be listed on a student's high school transcript with the letter grade earned at the accredited institution but will not be weighted into the student's high school gpa or class rank. This ensures that students are evaluated fairly within the high school grading system, as different colleges have varying grading scales and course rigor that may not align directly with Bloomsburg High School's curriculum and assessment methods.

Note: A student's concurrent course & dual enrollment may not exceed 24 postsecondary credits in any school year. Bloomsburg Area School District has taken steps to minimize program costs to students and families so as to promote equal access to concurrent and dual credit courses and not to prohibit student participation. To support student participation, the district will fund up to 66 postsecondary credits for those pursuing an associate degree through Luzerne County Community College (LCCC) or Lackawanna College.

Luzerne County Community College (LCCC)

- Two options for earning LCCC credits:
 1. Concurrent Enrollment: BHS courses that also offer LCCC credits
 2. Dual Enrollment: Courses taken at an LCCC campus or online.

- Many LCCC credits are transferable to numerous colleges and universities, including the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education schools and Pennsylvania State University
- Students have the opportunity to earn a [general associate degree](#) through a combination of concurrent and dual enrollment courses with LCCC
- Tuition is paid upfront by the district, but students earning below a 'C' may be billed for reimbursement

Lackawanna College- Cyber Security Associate Degree Program

- Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, Bloomsburg High School has partnered with Lackawanna College to offer students the opportunity to earn an Associate Degree in Cyber Security
 - Concurrent Enrollment: [High school courses](#) that also offer Lackawanna credits
- Dual enrollment courses with Lackawanna College will begin in 11th grade and conclude in 12th grade
- This program allows students to graduate high school with a full associate degree in cyber security, preparing them for careers in the field or further college education
 - [Cyber Security Associates in Science Degree Requirements](#)
- Tuition is paid upfront by the district, but students earning below a 'C' may be billed for reimbursement

Commonwealth University (Early College Program)

- High school students can take courses at Commonwealth University while still enrolled in BHS
- Up to eight high school elective credits can be earned
- Courses can be scheduled within or outside the school day, depending on the student's schedule
- Students must provide their own transportation
- Application and acceptance into the Early College Program are required
- More information: [Commonwealth University Early College Program](#)
- The tuition for an early college student is \$115 per credit, totaling \$345 for a 3-credit course. Currently, tuition costs are covered upfront through the Bloomsburg University Foundation, contingent on the availability of endowment funds. Students who earn a grade below a 'C' may be required to reimburse the tuition.

Pennsylvania College of Technology (Penn College)

- BHS offers concurrent courses in partnership with the Pennsylvania College of Technology
- These courses are taught by BHS teachers and provide students with college credit
- Available courses include:
 - CCD103 - Technical Drawing
 - CCD104 - Detailing I
 - FHD137 - Introductory Baking
- These credits can be applied toward technical and career-oriented programs at Penn College or transferred to other institutions
- Tuition for Penn College concurrent courses is currently free.

If interested in Concurrent/Dual Enrollment Opportunities

- Meet with your school counselor to discuss eligibility and scheduling
- Apply to the Early College Program if interested in taking courses at Commonwealth University
- Explore course offerings and determine the best fit for your academic and career goal

FINAL EXAMS

The percentages for each grading period or semester will be averaged together to compute the final grade for the course. Finals will count for 12% of the final grade.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND CLASS RANK

High school Grade Point Average (GPA) and class rank are calculated from course completion and grades earned throughout high school. GPAs are calculated at the end of each marking period. Class rank is calculated at the end of each semester for grades 10-12 and at the end of the year for grade 9. Courses designated as Honors or Concurrent Enrollment are weighted by 4% and courses designated as Advanced Placement (AP) are weighted by 8%. Class rank is determined by ordering students based upon a cumulative GPA calculated using final grades earned for BASD courses.

GRADE PORTAL

Bloomsburg Area School District students and parents have the ability to access important, updated student information online. Our online Gradebook system, Sapphire, provides access to current grades, missing assignments, attendance record, daily class schedule and discipline record. Parents are encouraged to monitor student grades throughout the year and to request conferences at any time.

To gain access to the portal, parents should visit the District webpage and click on the “Sapphire Parent Portal” button located below the scrolling picture. Please contact the guidance department if you encounter difficulty with the process of creating an account.

GRADING SCALE

LETTER	NUMERIC
A	93-100
B	85-92
C	77-84
D	70-76
F	Below 70
I	Incomplete

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Students are assigned to counselors as follows:

Grades 10-12, A-K: Mrs. Tammy Mrozek, tamrozek@bloomsd.k12.pa.us

Grades 10-12, L-Z: Mr. Brian McNamara, bmcnamara@bloomsd.k12.pa.us

Grades 8-9: Mrs. Jami Fisher, jfisher@bloomsd.k12.pa.us

Appointments may be made by calling the Secondary Complex office.

HIV/AIDS INSTRUCTION

In accordance with Pennsylvania School Code (22 Pa. Code § 4.29), all middle and high schools are required to provide HIV/AIDS instruction. Instruction must be age-appropriate, medically accurate, include discussion of prevention, and stress that abstinence is the only completely reliable means of preventing sexual transmission.

Per state guidelines, school districts must notify parents/guardians that detailed curriculum outlines and materials used for HIV/AIDS instruction are available for review during normal school hours or at teacher-parent conferences. If you wish to review our curriculum or materials, please contact your child’s teacher or building principal.

Parents/guardians have the right to excuse their child from HIV/AIDS instruction if it conflicts with their religious beliefs or principles. Requests for excusal must be submitted in writing to the school principal prior to the start of the instruction. This “opt-out” policy ensures that students excused from this instruction will not be penalized and, when practical, alternative materials may be made available for home instruction by the parent or guardian.

HONOR ROLL AND HIGH HONOR ROLL

Distinguished Honor Roll -Students who have earned a grade point average (each marking period) of 95% and above and no incompletes are eligible.

Honor Roll- Students who have earned a grade point average (each marking period) of 90-94.99% and no incompletes are eligible.

HONORS COURSES

Courses designated as Honors are weighted by 4%. All honors courses require that students have maintained a minimum of a 93% average in prior courses in the same or related discipline to enter the honors curriculum and then maintain a minimum of an 87% in an honors course to continue in the honors level course sequence. Students will be enrolled in these classes until the class limits have been reached. Honors courses do require summer assignments. Failure to complete the pre-course assignments will result in students receiving a zero grade for those assignments. Most Honors courses are approved for concurrent credit through partnerships with LCCC and/or Lackawanna College, allowing students to earn both high school and college credit.

KEYSTONE EXAMS AND ACT 158

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments that help determine whether a student has mastered the state standards associated with a particular course. The content areas of algebra, biology, literature are tested in Pennsylvania. At the Bloomsburg Area High School, the following courses have accompanying Keystone Exams: Algebra I, Algebra IB, Biology and Biology Honors, English 10, and English 10 Honors. Proficiency is required (see ACT 158) below. Participation in these exams is also required for federal accountability purposes unless a religious exception is filed.

Parents and guardians may review the assessments prior to the testing window by making arrangements with the high school administration. If after reviewing the test, parents/guardians find the test to conflict with their religious beliefs and wish their child to be excused from the test, the parents/guardians must provide a written request that states the objection to the Superintendent of Schools.

Act 158 of 2018 (Act 158), signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf, provides alternatives to Pennsylvania’s statewide requirement of attaining proficiency on the three end-of-course Keystone Exams (Algebra I, Literature, and Biology) for a student to achieve statewide graduation requirements. Effective with the graduating class of 2023, students have the option to demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through one of four additional pathways that more fully illustrate college, career, and community readiness.

LIBRARY

The Bloomsburg High School Library is the hub of learning and exploration for academic and personal growth for our students and teachers.

Committed to fostering a love of reading and learning, the Bloomsburg High School Library maintains a collection of over 7,000 books, over 2,200 eBooks, and over 1,300 audiobooks, as well as online research

tools providing resources to the diverse educational needs and wide interests of our school population.

The High School Library provides supplemental curriculum material support, personalized guidance and instruction on research strategies, information literacy, and digital citizenship, ensuring that students are well-prepared for lifelong learning.

The Library provides opportunities for students to work collaboratively and pursue their passions. The High School Library's Innovation Studio is a professional-grade creative learning environment with support and access to multimedia production gear, 3D design and printing tools, drones, and cutting equipment.

Whether you're searching for your next favorite book, needing assistance with a project, or simply looking for a place to study, the Bloomsburg High School Library is here to support you. Join us in exploring the endless possibilities that our library has to offer.

MINIMUM SCHEDULED CREDITS

To remain on track for graduation, all students must take a minimum of 7 credits each year. Given the school's mission to prepare students for lifelong learning, students are encouraged to challenge themselves throughout their high school career. Multiple opportunities exist for seniors who have less need for credits. These include Community Based Learning and numerous Dual Enrollment programs. Seniors enrolled in approved Work-Based Learning or Dual Enrollment programs may carry fewer than 7 credits, provided they meet graduation requirements. Students are only permitted to have one study hall scheduled per day.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY ELIGIBILITY & SELECTION

Selection for the National Honor Society is decided by a faculty committee known as the Faculty Council. A student eligible to apply (but not necessarily be selected) must:

- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 95%;
- Be currently enrolled in two or more Honors or AP courses;
- Positive faculty recommendation for character;
- Have completed at least 15 hours of community service (restrictions apply – such as service not already required as a member of, or to benefit, a sports team, not occurring during school hours, etc.);
- Have shown leadership, as attested by a recommendation letter written on his/her behalf (holding a formal leadership position is not required);
- New members inducted from the junior class are limited to 30% of the class

PROGRESS REPORTS

Throughout each marking period, progress reports will be emailed to all parents. Reports will be mailed to parents/guardians who submit a request with the guidance office. Although it is not common, it is possible for a student to receive a failing report card grade without receiving a failing grade at the time of progress report distribution.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued every nine weeks, at the end of each marking period. Grade reports will be emailed to all parents. The email addresses used are the ones that are used when you register for a parent portal account. Grade reports will be mailed to parents/guardians who submit a request with the guidance office.

In the first marking period, the minimum grade a student can earn is 55, regardless of performance. This is intended to provide students an opportunity to recover academically in subsequent marking periods. For the second, third, and fourth marking periods, no minimum grade is established—students will receive the grade they earn based on their academic performance.

SCHEDULE CHANGE REQUESTS

After final schedules have been distributed no course may be dropped from a student's schedule without the approval of the guidance department and high school administration. The request for such a change must be made in writing and include an educational reason for the request to be considered.

***NOTE:** Only under unusual circumstances, after consultation with the teacher, student, parent/guardian and the guidance counselor, the principal may approve a student withdrawing from a course. If this occurs beyond the first week of the semester or quarter, the result of the withdrawal will include a W on his/her transcript.*

ATTENDANCE

§ 11.13. Compulsory Attendance of the Pennsylvania State School Code was designed to make certain that all children would have an equal opportunity to gain a public school education. School officials and parents are responsible for this education of our children, and the state places fines and prison sentences or both for failure to observe the law.

Section 1326: The term “compulsory school age” shall mean the period of a child’s life from the time the child’s parents elect to have their child enter school, which shall be no later than at the age of six (6) years, until the age of eighteen (18). Every child of compulsory school age, having a legal residence in this Commonwealth, is required to attend a day school in which the subjects and activities prescribed by the State Council of Education are taught in the English language and every parent, or guardian or the person having control or charge of any child or children of compulsory school age is required to send such child or children to such day school.

ABSENCES

The school recognizes the importance of consistent attendance in academic success and therefore, encourages students to attend school regularly in order to achieve at their greatest potential.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), “a student is considered absent if they are not physically participating in instruction or instruction-related activities on school grounds or at an approved off-grounds location for at least half of the school day. Each day a student is absent for 50% of the school day or more is to be counted as an absence.”

Based on the reasons and documentation provided for absences, they can be categorized as either Excused or unlawful. Please find a breakdown of these below.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

PARENT EXCUSES- Absences will be deemed excused by way of parent excuses received within three days to confirm one of the following reasons for the absence:

- Illness
- Other exceptionally urgent reasons
- Previously approved planned absence (no additional excuse necessary)

OFFICIAL EXCUSES- Some absences will be deemed excused by way of official excuses received to confirm one of the following reasons for the absence:

- Medical excuses issued by a health care provider for each absence stating appointment/absence date and time (written note from a doctor)
- Medical excuses issued by the athletic trainer and/or team doctor
- Death in the immediate family
- Court appearances (documentation from the courthouse confirming appearance)
- Religious Holidays (must be pre-approved by administration)
- Previously approved college visitation (completed “College Visitation Form” submitted upon return)

UNLAWFUL ABSENCES

Absences will be deemed unlawful if/when:

- A written excuse is not received within three days.
- The reason for the absence is beyond the scope of illness, death in family, and/or previously approved planned absences.
- An official excuse is not provided after 10 total days of parent-excused absences are accrued.
- A student that has a defined unlawful absence and is 18yr old will be considered unexcused.

Parents should contact the Administration to discuss any concerns or situations that may result in the need for

special arrangements or to address their child's attendance.

ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

Parents or guardians will receive automated phone calls from our Notification System around 10:00am if their children are marked absent. It is not necessary to call the school to report your child absent. Students are required to have a written excuse upon their return to school. You may send an email to: HSAttendance@bloomsd.org.

ABSENCE REPORTING

Full and Partial Absences

A student is counted present for a **full day** if they are in attendance **for four hours or more**. A student is counted present for a **half day** if they are in attendance for **at least two hours, but less than four hours**. A student will be recorded absent if they are in attendance for less than two hours.

COLLEGE VISITATIONS

College visitations are granted for junior (11th grade) and senior (12th grade) students. Students are to notify the office with a note from their parents at least one school day prior to the scheduled college visit. Students will then be given a "College Visitation Form" that must be returned to the office on their first day back to school. This form will need to be signed by an individual at the college/university. A maximum of three (3) school days will be granted for college visitations during any academic (school) year. College visitations will be counted as an official excused absence and will be added to the student's cumulative attendance.

EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Students who need to leave school early or leave the high school building are required to bring a note from a parent or guardian. All notes must be brought to the office before homeroom on or before the morning of the day requested. Students will then receive an excuse slip from the office to be presented to their classroom teacher and office secretary upon leaving. Early dismissals without this documentation will be unlawful. All students will be required to furnish an official excuse within three days of return from the appointment or the timeout will be considered unlawful.

The following must be indicated on each request:

1. Name, grade, and homeroom section of student
2. Date and time of requested dismissal
3. Parent/guardian signature and phone number
4. Reason for request

EXCESSIVE ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

TEN OR MORE PARENT EXCUSED ABSENCES

If a student accumulates ten (10) or more absences for which an official excuse was not submitted, the parent will be notified by postal mail that an official excuse is required for each additional absence for the remainder of the school year.

ONE OR MORE UNLAWFUL ABSENCES

Parents/guardians will receive written notification when their children accumulate unlawful absences. Once a student reaches 6 unlawful absences, the school may require a School Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP) team meeting in order to develop a plan for improved attendance.

Students who accumulate six (6) or more unlawful/illegal absences are considered habitually truant and may be referred to the county children and youth agency for services. Additionally, the school may file a citation against the parent and/or student in the magisterial district court.

MAKE-UP WORK FOLLOWING AN ABSENCE

Any student who is absent due to illness, death in the immediate family, or with prior approval by the principal will be given the opportunity to complete any assignment upon returning to school.

It is primarily the student's responsibility to initiate the make-up activities. The make-up assignments and

examinations shall be completed within a reasonable time of the date of absence arranged with the teacher. Teachers will review procedures for their classes at the beginning of the year. Any student absent for more than three (3) consecutive days should contact his/her instructor to obtain instructions regarding missed assignments. The responsibility for obtaining the assignments rests with the parents and/or student. Teacher contact information can be found on the school's website under the "District Wide Staff Directory" Tab.

PLANNED ABSENCES

Students who are going to be absent from school due to a planned trip or vacation must complete a "Planned Absence Request" form in order to have those days marked excused. These forms must be submitted to the school administration three (3) school days prior to the requested absence. Forms are available in the High School Office and on the school's website. **No vacation requests will be approved during final examinations.** Planned absences will only be approved after consideration of the following factors:

- The student has not exceeded 10 planned absence days in a school year;
- The student has not been absent 10 or more days without an official excuse.

If the student's parent-excused absence totals reach or exceed 10 days with the approved planned absence, the student will be required to furnish an official excuse for each additional absence for the remainder of the year.

Students who attend unapproved trips will be marked as unlawful and may receive a grade of zero for all work/exams the days the student was absent.

Note: It is the recommendation of the Bloomsburg Area School District that students not take vacations during the school year. In requesting a vacation absence, the student and family must realize that this increases the likeliness of the student suffering academically.

STATE ATTENDANCE REPORTING

Pennsylvania schools are required to report attendance to the state. Below please find the three classifications used for these reports, which are used to calculate a school's effectiveness.

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Students who are absent, both excused and unlawful, for at least 10% of the school days are considered chronically absent.

TRUANT

Students who accumulate three (3) or more unlawful absences are considered truant.

HABITUALLY TRUANT

Students who accumulate six (6) or more unlawful/illegal absences are considered habitually truant and may be referred to the county children and youth agency for services. Additionally, the school may file a citation against the parent in the magisterial district court.

TARDINESS

Students who report to homeroom after 7:45am are considered tardy. These students must sign in upon entrance to the building. A pass will be issued for admission to homeroom/class.

Students who report to school after 7:50am should report directly to the high school office. The following protocols will be followed depending upon the reason for the tardiness:

- Students entering the building after 8:10am with a parent must sign in at the central office.
- Students who arrive after 8:10am without a parent/notification from a parent (written excuse or phone call) will be assigned an unlawful tardy.
- **Students entering the school after 8:10am, with or without a parent, will not be able to participate in extra-curricular activities unless an official excuse is provided.**

TARDINESS CONSEQUENCES

If a student is excessively tardy to school, the following disciplinary actions will be taken:

- 3 days tardy (per semester)- Parent Notification and Student Conference w/ Building Administrator
- 4 to 6 days tardy (per semester) – A student who has exceeded 3 days tardy will be given a

- lunch detention for each time he/she is tardy from 4 to 6 times; parents will be notified.
- 7 to 10 days tardy (per semester) – A student who has exceeded 6 days tardy will be given an after school detention for each time he/she is tardy from 7 to 10 times; parents will be notified by the Principal.
 - 10 plus days of tardiness (per semester) will result in after school detention and the student will forfeit his/her privilege to participate in sports, all school activities, and all dances for the remainder of the semester. Parents will be required to attend a Student Attendance Improvement Plan meeting with the truancy officer and team.
 - ***Parents should contact the Secondary Complex Administration to discuss any concerns or situations that may result in the need for special arrangements or to address their child's tardiness.***

BUILDING PROCEDURES

BLOOMSBURG ASSISTANCE, SUPPORT, & EDUCATION (BASE) TEAM

In accordance with state guidelines, the Bloomsburg High School operates a Student Assistance Program, which is referred to as the BASE team. This core team consists of a building administrator, the school nurse, guidance counselors and teachers.

The BASE Team exists to identify and support students who may be struggling with substance use, mental health concerns, or other barriers to academic and personal success. When concerns are raised, the team gathers information, seeks teacher input, and reviews relevant data to determine whether a referral to outside support services is appropriate.

Recommendations may include support from a licensed drug and alcohol or mental health provider outside of the school district. Parents/guardians are typically notified and may choose to decline services at any time.

However, in accordance with Pennsylvania state law, students age 14 or older may consent to receive mental health services without parent or guardian permission. In such cases, services may proceed without parental notification or approval, unless disclosure is required by law or is in the best interest of the student's safety.

The BASE Team is referenced in several Bloomsburg Area School District policies—including Policy #227 (Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia), #228 (Student Government), #248 (Unlawful Harassment), and #249 (Bullying/Cyberbullying)—and may be consulted as part of the intervention and support process related to those policy areas.

DELIVERIES TO THE SCHOOL

The delivery of balloons, flowers, and other non-essential items to the Central Office will be distributed to students at the end of the school day. Students are not permitted to have food, beverages (including coffee or specialty drinks), or any other non-essential items delivered to the high school during the school day unless prior permission is granted by a building principal. This includes deliveries made by parents/guardians or commercial vendors.

FOOD SERVICE PROCEDURES

Community Eligibility Program: First Meal (breakfast and /or lunch) is at NO CHARGE to students, BUT it must be a complete meal: There are 5 components to a meal: Entrée(bread and protein), Fruit, Vegetable and Milk. A complete meal must have 3 components (one must be a fruit or a vegetable) for the meal to be FREE

Nutritional Information is posted in the HS cafeteria for your viewing pleasure, this may help you make healthy choices. Middle School nutritional information is available upon request.

Reminder we have many entrée choices everyday:

Daily Menu Choices: 1 Main entrée and 2 hot sandwiches, Pizza – changes daily, Deli Bar: Entrée Salads, Wraps and Hoagies, PB&J, Fruit and Veggie Bar – 4 choice of fruit and 4 choices of fresh vegetables, besides hot daily vegetable.

Code of Conduct:

- Form a single line into the serving area, not cutting into line.
- ALL students must have a TRAY- if getting a MEAL – this will eliminate the need to put food in your pockets or keep you from spilling food items. Food in your pockets is considered concealing and is stealing.
- Take all meal components on your first trip through the cafeteria line. Everyone may take 1 Entrée, 2 servings of Fruit, 2 servings of vegetable and Milk.

- Any second or third trips through the cafeteria line you will be charged ala carte pricing
- DO NOT throw away plates, silverware, or trays. This is school property, and you will be charged if you are caught.

Food Service Charging

Food service is a self-supporting department within BASD. Charging for Ala carte items is not encouraged; however, we realize that occasionally students forget cash for ala carte items. Students may charge food items to their account. Charging Policy states that students will be allowed to charge up to \$15.00 maximum. So please try to pay this balance as soon as possible.

Online Services - Bloomsburg School District Food Service Department provides parents a convenient, easy and secure online prepayment service to deposit money into your child's school meal account at any time. This service also provides parents the ability to view your child's account balance through a web site called MySchoolBucks.com. To access these services:

- -Simply go to the district web site at
- -Click on the Information/School Lunch Information/MySchoolBucks.com.
- -Click on the MySchoolBucks.com link.

From this site you will create your account and add money to your child's school meal account. All you need is your child's name, student's food service ID number and school ZIP code.

HALL PASSES

During class time, which includes homeroom periods, students are not to be in the halls without a pass. If a student wishes to see a teacher during a study hall, a pass must be secured ahead of time. The teacher must issue a pass granting the student permission to be excused from study hall.

HAIR, DRESS, & GROOMING

The Bloomsburg Area School District has a specified code for dress and grooming. Clothing should be neat, clean, and in good taste. It should not be extreme to the extent that it focuses attention on the wearer and causes a distraction or disruption in the classroom, hall, or throughout the building. The administration has the authority to determine inappropriate clothing, attire or costuming. Failure to wear proper attire will result in the student being asked to change attire. If the student is unable or unwilling to change clothing, they will remain in ISS for the remainder of the day. Some examples may be, but are not limited to the following:

1. Clothing and tattoos which displays obscene,
2. sexual or drug/alcohol related messages;
3. Halter tops, tube tops, spaghetti strap tops, tank tops, mesh tops worn alone, and clothes that expose the midriff or undergarments; shoulders and straps must be covered; Torn clothing (visible holes or rips regardless of undergarments) or cut off shirts; Using tape to cover holes, inside or out, is not permitted;
4. Underwear worn as outerwear; underwear that can be seen;
5. Coats are not permitted to be worn during the school day;
6. Shorts and skirts that are inappropriate;
7. Tops that expose cleavage or are too revealing;
8. Hats and all other head apparel, such as but not limited to bandanas, sweat bands, visors, hoods, sunglasses;
9. Chains, pins, dog collars, dangling jewelry or other ornaments that may be disruptive or present a safety hazard;
10. Excessively large, sagging, improperly-fitting clothing, and pajamas;
11. Stretch pants, leggings, or any form-fitting pants without an additional layer of clothing;
12. Studs or rivets on clothing;
13. Clothing not worn as designed/intended, blankets;
14. Clothing of unacceptable length;
15. Costume effect contact lenses;

16. Excessive makeup and/or face paint;
17. Gang-related attire;
18. Blankets or towels;
19. Any clothing or buttons that mock, ridicule or otherwise deliberately demean or provoke others because of race, religion, national origin or individual views.
20. Shoes must be worn at all times; any shoe that poses a safety threat is not permitted.
21. Headphones, earbuds, airpods or any in-ear or other sound device is not permitted during the passing of classes or in class unless given permission by the teacher and/or monitor.

The administration will consider factors of safety, cleanliness, suitability to the activity, and commonly held standards of decency to determine the appropriateness of clothing.

Students have the right to govern the length or style of their hair, including facial hair. Any limitation of this right shall include evidence that length or style of hair causes disruption of the educational process or constitutes a health or safety hazard. Where length or style of the hair presents a problem, some types of covering should be considered.

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, shops, extra-curricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to insure the health or safety of the student.

Students have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes, and their hair clean. School officials may impose limitations on student participation in the regular instructional program where there is evidence that the lack of cleanliness constitutes a health hazard.

LAVATORY USE

Students must have permission from the classroom teacher to leave class to use the lavatory. Lavatory visits should be limited to a reasonable amount of time. Excessive or inappropriate use of lavatory privileges will result in a parent meeting to address concerns and develop a plan for appropriate use. Any students caught vandalizing the lavatories will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. If the lavatories or their contents are abused, certain lavatories may be shut down. Loitering in the lavatories is not permitted. The use of personal devices is strictly prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms, and the nurse's office due to privacy concerns.

LOCKER USE

Every secondary student is issued a hall locker located in the area near his/her homeroom. Locks are issued (at the request of the student) at the beginning of the school year by homeroom teachers. A duplicate record is kept of the lock combinations and the locker numbers assigned to each homeroom teacher. This record is maintained in the office throughout the year. The following rules and regulations govern the use of lockers:

- All lockers should be kept locked at all times.
- The school district is not responsible for items lost or stolen from lockers. Locks can be borrowed from the office, free of charge.
- Lockers remain the property of the school and will be inspected periodically to ensure that they are being properly cared for and that all contents are in no way harmful to the owner, other students, or the school building.
- Congestion in the halls during class change will require that we limit students going to their lockers after each class. Students are advised to use their lockers in the morning, during lunch, at the discretion of their classroom teacher and at dismissal time.

SENIOR PRIVILEGES

Seniors with no suspensions are afforded the opportunity of senior privileges. The senior privileges consist of the following:

Utilizing the Panther Den couches and tables during lunch periods and study halls (under the supervision of the study hall and/or lunch monitor).

STUDENT FUNDRAISING

Soliciting or selling of any kind by any student or student group is prohibited during the school day unless it is directly related to a school-sponsored activity and approved by the High School Principal. Furthermore, all

fund-raising activities by school-sponsored groups must be approved, in advance, by the High School Principal or designee.

All school-related (but not sponsored) groups, such as the PTA and Booster Clubs must obtain the High School Principal's permission to use school facilities or engage students during the school day in any fundraising activity. "Use of Facilities Forms" are available in the high school office and on the school website.

STUDY HALL PROCEDURES

- Students will arrive at study hall and be quiet while roll is being taken.
- The study hall teacher is in charge. Any reasonable request from the teacher is to be followed.
- All students leaving study hall for any reason will sign out with the study hall monitor.
- In the cafeteria, no more than four students are permitted at a table.
- In silent study halls, all students will be separated and must be doing assigned work.

WORKING PAPERS (EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES)

All working papers and employment certificate information can be obtained in the central office. Students involved in employment are subject to Child Labor Laws and the compulsory attendance requirements of the Public School Code.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

One of the major goals of education is to help students learn self-discipline; to know how to act and how not to act in various situations; and to accept responsibilities. Meeting the expectations of the school is part of the educational process. The purpose of this code is to make known the responsibilities of each student, so that all students may realize their full potential, and so we may be able to provide the best possible learning climate.

These guidelines are not intended to be all-inclusive, however, as they do not cover every situation and every condition. Therefore, if in the judgment of the high school administration, a student's inappropriate behavior is not defined in the code of student conduct, the administration will take appropriate action in the best interest of the student and the school.

Section 1317. Authority of Teachers, Vice Principals and Principals over Pupils. Every teacher, vice principal and principal in the public schools shall have the right to exercise the same authority as to conduct and behavior over the pupils attending his school, during the time they are in attendance, including the time required in going to and from their homes, as the parents, guardians or persons in parental relation to such pupils may exercise over them (1317 amended July 25, 1963, P.L. 315, No. 169).

BUS CONDUCT

Students who ride to and from school on school-provided transportation are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. They must respect the drivers and not abuse the buses or furnishings. This accommodation is provided by the school district and is to be considered a privilege and a courtesy.

Students may be assigned seats on the bus and in cases of misbehavior, students may be assigned detention, suspended from school or be deprived of transportation for a duration of time to be determined by the offense or number of offenses. Students who are not regularly assigned to ride a bus may not ride any bus in order to visit friends, go to a relative, get to work, etc. without written permission. Permission must be accompanied by a written request from a parent. Students are not to leave the bus drop-off area once they arrive at school. At no time are bus students to go to the parking lot.

CELL PHONES & PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Personal electronic devices—including cell phones, earbuds, AirPods, headphones, smartwatches, and tablets—are a common part of modern life. However, their use during the school day must be carefully regulated to maintain a safe, respectful, and academically focused environment. To protect student privacy, the use of electronic devices is strictly prohibited in restrooms, locker rooms, and the nurse's office. Additionally, students are not permitted to take photos, record videos, or make audio recordings of any kind without prior approval from the building principal. Violations involving unauthorized recording or photography will result in disciplinary consequences, which may include out-of-school suspension, expulsion, and legal action, depending on the circumstances.

High school students may use personal devices during non-instructional times: before the school day begins, after dismissal, during lunch while in the cafeteria, and during hallway transitions between classes. Devices must be silenced and kept out of sight during instructional time, which begins upon entering a classroom or school-sponsored event (such as an assembly or rally) and ends when the student exits. This includes trips to lockers and restrooms during class periods. Use of any device during instructional time is not permitted unless explicitly allowed by a teacher as part of a whole-class learning activity. Unauthorized use—including texting, checking notifications, or visibly holding a device—may result in disciplinary action and the confiscation of the device.

Earbuds, AirPods, and headphones may be used only in the hallway and cafeteria, and students may wear only one earbud to ensure they remain responsive to staff and announcements. Volume must be kept at a level that allows for effective communication. In classrooms, audio devices may only be used when approved by the teacher for instructional purposes.

To support academic integrity, teachers may collect electronic devices during tests, quizzes, and other assessments.

Students are expected to comply with these requests. Any unauthorized use or visible possession of a device during an assessment—including texting, accessing apps, checking the time, or handling a phone or smartwatch—will be treated as academic dishonesty and subject to disciplinary and academic consequences.

Violations of the cell phone and electronic device policy will result in the following consequences:

First Offense – The device is confiscated and held in the office until the end of the school day. The student may pick up the device after school. A parent/guardian will be notified.

Second Offense – The device is confiscated and will only be returned to a parent or legal guardian in person. The student will also be assigned one detention.

Third Offense – The device is confiscated and must be picked up by a parent or guardian. The student will be required to check in their phone at the main office each morning and retrieve it at the end of the day for one week. Additional consequences may be assigned at the discretion of administration.

Refusal to Surrender Device – Any student who refuses to hand over their device when requested will be immediately suspended.

Parents and students are reminded that this policy is not intended to limit essential communication between families. Parents may contact the school's main office to relay important messages to their child. With permission, students may also use the office phone or their personal device in the main office if necessary.

DANCES

Several dances are held at the high school throughout the year. These rules apply:

- Academic eligibility for school dances is based on cumulative grades for the school year, rather than weekly evaluations.
 - Students who are failing courses totaling two (2) or more credits at the time of review will be ineligible to attend the dance.
 - A Warning Week will be provided prior to the event, with notice given no later than the week of ticket sales, allowing time to improve academic standing.
 - Students who are unsure of their eligibility are encouraged to proactively check their status with administration once the dance is announced.
 - A student absent for 20 or more school days in a semester is ineligible for dances until the student has attended 45 school days after the 20th absence.
 - 10 plus days of tardiness (per semester) the student will forfeit his/her privilege to participate in all dances
- All dances will be established for the appropriate grade levels.
- Students must be in attendance at school the day of the dance in order to attend the dance.
- No one will be permitted to leave a dance and return later, even if the person offers to pay a second time.
- Students assigned In-School Suspension (ISS) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) on the day of a dance are not permitted to attend the event. If the dance is held on a Saturday, students serving ISS or OSS on the preceding Friday or the following Monday will also be ineligible to attend.
- Severe discipline infractions may result in the loss of the privilege to attend a school dance.
- As with all school functions, school rules regarding drug and alcohol use will be enforced.
- Chaperones will exercise their authority in maintaining proper standards of conduct.
- Bloomsburg Area High School students may bring one guest to the Homecoming Dance, Winter Dance, or Prom
 - All guests must be approved by both the Bloomsburg principal and the guest's school principal prior to the purchase of tickets. Approval must be completed using the official Dance Permission Form, available in the high school office.

- Guests must be current high school students or high school graduates under the age of 21. Individuals who have dropped out of Bloomsburg Area High School are not eligible to attend as guests under any circumstances.

EXTRACURRICULAR BEHAVIOR

All school rules and policies are in effect for school sponsored and approved athletic/musical/field trips and/or competitions. Students violating the rules and policies will be subject to disciplinary action. If in the judgment of the high school administration, a student's inappropriate behavior is not defined in the code of student conduct, the administration will take appropriate action in the best interest of the student and the school.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

School property shall include not only the actual buildings, facilities and grounds on the school campus, but also school buses, school parking areas, and any facility being used for a school function.

SENIOR PRANKS

Senior Pranks, which include any type of childish prank, nuisance decorations, vandalism, or trespassing on school property by any student, will not be tolerated by the Bloomsburg Area School District.

During the regular school year, the discipline of a student involved in a prank or vandalism will be governed by the Code of Student Conduct. However, during the graduation season when the Code of Student Conduct may not be sufficiently applicable, students involved in a senior prank will receive disciplinary action that shall include, but not be limited to:

- Suspension from the graduation ceremony
- Citation for institutional vandalism or criminal mischief
- Fines, costs, and restitution.

STUDENT CONDUCT AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

STUDENT SPECTATORS

Students are to show proper respect for the opposing team, coaches, cheerleaders, and fans at all times. This respect should be demonstrated at both home and away games.

- The use of profanity is strictly prohibited.
- Individual players or coaches should not be singled out by fans and/or players.
- Students should remain respectful when opposing cheerleading squads are performing a cheer.
- Noisemakers are not allowed.
- No person may throw objects onto the playing surface.

STUDENT DISCIPLINARY WITHDRAWAL

A student may be withdrawn from a class if there is a continuous disciplinary problem in the classroom, or if the student is a potential danger to the teacher, other students, or himself. The student will receive a mark of WF (withdraw-failing) for the quarter and as a final grade for the year. No credit will be earned for any WF course. A student who displays persistent negligence of rules and procedures may be placed in an alternative learning setting.

STUDENT DRIVING

Students must register all of their vehicles in the central office in order to park on campus. Students who have not registered their vehicles are prohibited from parking on school property and will be subject to a parking citation. The transfer of a parking permit or parking space to another student without permission from the high school office is also prohibited. The Principal along with the security team will determine the validity of all parking permit requests. The speed limit on school property is 10 miles per hour. Students are to obey all signs and posted rules. Students are to park only in the assigned student parking areas. During the school day, students may enter their cars only with the permission of the High School Principal. Upon arriving at school, students are required to park their cars as assigned. At no time are they to cruise the campus or leave school property. Students are not allowed in their cars after the 7:45am bell.

No vehicle is to be operated on the school campus in a way that is reckless or that might cause an accident or

injury to anyone. Reckless driving will result in the loss of driving privileges.

- A first minor offense of a driving violation will result in a warning or a detention and parent notification
- A second offense of a driving violation will result in ISS and/or a suspension of your driving privileges for a period of time to be determined by the Principal.
- A third offense of a driving violation will result in a suspension (ISS or OSS) and the loss of your driving privileges for the remainder of the school year.
- Major offenses may result in the loss of driving privileges for the school year without a previous warning.

STUDENT RELATIONSHIPS

This school recognizes the relationships that develop between students while attending school. The school does not, however, accept certain conduct, which is considered to be in poor taste in public. The following conduct will not be permitted in school: kissing, embracing, or holding another student, walking or standing with arms around student or with hands on another student.

TARDINESS TO CLASS

If a student is tardy for a class, a pass should be obtained from the previous classroom teacher. If the tardiness is not legitimate and persists after being warned, a detention will be issued.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

The purpose of the Bloomsburg Area High School discipline plan is to provide a safe, orderly, and positive learning environment that fosters the educational development of individual students. This will be accomplished through the cooperative effort of students, parents, and school personnel.

Legal Compliance

The disciplinary procedures outlined herein comply with the Pennsylvania Public School Code (including Sections 12 and 13), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Gun-Free Schools Act, the Safe Schools Act (Act 26 of 1995), and other applicable federal and state laws. The district respects the due process rights of students and parents in all disciplinary matters.

REPORTING OF INFRACTIONS

Infractions can be reported by students, parents/guardians, staff, teachers, and administrators. A copy of the Voluntary Written Statement form can be obtained by students in both the main office and counseling office.

Regardless of how the referral is initiated, administrators will investigate all claims and assign consequences when necessary. Due to student confidentiality, student names and specific consequences cannot be shared with anyone other than the student in question and his/her parents/guardians.

TEACHER-ASSIGNED DETENTIONS

Teachers may assign consequences for most Level One offenses without the involvement of building administrators. In the case of a teacher-assigned detention, teachers must document the steps taken to proactively deal with the behavior before assigning a consequence. Examples include conferencing with the student, changing seating arrangements, and contacting home. Detentions may be assigned on the first violation, however, depending upon the severity of the infraction. Teachers assigning detention will inform the student of the consequence, schedule the detention with the student, and contact home in order to discuss the infraction. Students and parents will be given notice of at least 24 hours prior to the detention.

TEACHER-INITIATED DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS

Teachers will refer students for all Level Two through Level Four offenses to building administrators. Once referred, building administrators will investigate the infractions in a timely manner. When multiple referrals are received, administrators will investigate those referrals according to the severity of the claim, not necessarily the order in which they are referred. In addition to reading the referral and conferencing with the referring teacher,

building administrators will conference with the student reportedly in violation. Administrations may also speak with additional students if necessary and/or consult video surveillance. Once a determination is made, students and their parents will be informed of all consequences specific to their children.

DETENTION

Detention may be assigned at the discretion of the instructional staff to students who exhibit unacceptable behavior. Each student assigned a detention is required to sign the detention form to indicate that he/she is aware of the detention being assigned. Students who are assigned detention will have a choice of attending one of the two upcoming detention days. If a student does not serve an assigned detention, he/she will be assigned an additional detention. Failure to serve both detentions will result in the student being assigned an in-school suspension.

Detentions will only be rescheduled for cases of medical reasons (excuse required), court appearances, or other exceptionally urgent reasons authorized by the high school administration. After school detention will take place in the assigned location. Students must be engaged in schoolwork for the entire duration of the detention period. After school Detention will be at 2:35pm, and a student will serve for forty-five minutes (3:20pm). If a student is late for detention, he or she will be asked to stay for additional time or may be assigned another detention.

Transportation from detention is the responsibility of the student and his/her parent/guardian.

WRITTEN CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

In cases when one student has been identified as having inappropriate interactions with another student, a written cease and desist order may be put in place. This document names the students involved and the reason for the order. It may be put in place individually or in conjunction with another consequence.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

When inappropriate behaviors continue even after progressive consequences, a behavior management contract may be created. The purpose of this document is to assist the student in improving behavior; to enlist the support of the parent/guardian; and to document the school's attempts to provide resources to promote student success.

SUSPENSIONS

Students may be assigned to either in-school suspension (ISS) or out-of-school suspension (OSS). Students on in-school suspension will be responsible for completing assignments given by teachers. The student will be isolated from the rest of the student body and will be subject to certain restrictions. The ISS monitor directs and supervises students on in-school suspension.

Students suspended in-school (ISS) or out-of-school (OSS) may not attend or participate in any after-school function, activity, or event during the day(s) of the suspension. Participation in all school-related activities may resume upon full completion of the suspension. Students suspended out-of-school may not come onto school property (except for schoolwork or appointment approved by the administration). Participation in all school-related activities may resume upon full completion of the suspension.

Students shall be permitted to complete all assignments missed due to the suspension from school. If assignments are not received by the suspended student before departure from school, the parent or guardian may request the assignments by calling the high school office.

For suspensions of more than three (3) consecutive school days, the student and parents/guardians will be afforded an informal hearing or conference to discuss the suspension before or promptly after removal, except when immediate removal is necessary for safety reasons.

Written notice of the suspension, including the reasons and appeal rights, will be provided to parents/guardians promptly. Parents/guardians have the right to appeal suspensions per the Pennsylvania School Code and district policy.

Any student suspended out-of-school (OSS) three separate times or a total of five times (ISS or OSS) throughout the year will forfeit his/her privilege to participate in sports, all school activities and all dances for the remainder of the

school year.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The district follows all applicable laws regarding discipline of students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

For suspensions exceeding 10 cumulative school days in a school year, or removals constituting a change of placement, a Manifestation Determination Review (MDR) will be conducted to determine if the behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability.

Students with disabilities are entitled to continue to receive educational services during suspensions and removals as required by law. Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBA) and Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP) will be developed or revised as appropriate.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION FOR DISRUPTIVE YOUTH (AEDY) PLACEMENT

On occasion, the behavior of a student becomes such that it interferes with this objective and becomes a disruptive factor throughout the school. Behavior that is chronically disruptive and/or blatantly disregards the policies of the school and/or the respect of others has a tremendous negative impact on the entire school climate. In addition, the resources available to deal with these types of behaviors often prove to be of limited value. When behaviors persist and disciplinary actions become more frequent and severe, the child's educational program suffers. At times, a single behavioral incident is disruptive enough to prompt an AEDY placement

An alternative program proves an additional option for students exhibiting these behaviors. It provides a more focused setting for the student while eliminating disruptive and distracting behaviors from the regular school environment. Distractions are minimized in both the alternative setting and in the mainstream.

POLICE REFERRAL

As part of the Bloomsburg Area School District's efforts to provide a safe environment for all students to learn, collaboration exists with the Bloomsburg Area School District Police Department who may work with the Town of Bloomsburg Police Department when necessary. All evidence collected as part of school investigations can and will be shared with police for incidents that may be criminal in nature. The school's consequence for misconduct is separate from any consequence imposed by the police. As such, it is possible that students can receive both a school and legal consequence for the same incident.

Certain offenses (e.g., weapons possession, assaults, drug violations) must be reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Education in compliance with the Safe Schools Act (Act 26 of 1995).

EXPULSION

1. Expulsion is exclusion from school by the Board of School Directors for a period exceeding 10 school days and may be permanent expulsion from the school rolls. All expulsions require a prior formal hearing under Section 12.8.
2. A formal hearing may be held before the Board of School Directors or a duly authorized committee of the Board, preferably composed of no fewer than three members of the School Board. The hearing committee's decision is advisory to the School Board where expulsion is recommended. A majority vote of the entire School Board is required to expel a student.
3. At the formal hearing, the following due process requirements are to be observed:
 - (a.) Notification of the charges in writing, sent to the parents or guardian by certified mail, and to the student.
 - (b.) Sufficient notice of the time and place of the hearing.
 - (c.) The right to an impartial tribunal.
 - (d.) The right to be represented by counsel.
 - (e.) The right to demand that any such witnesses appear in person and answer questions or be cross-examined.
 - (f.) The student's right to testify and produce witnesses on his/her own behalf.
 - (g.) A record must be kept of the hearing either by a stenographer or audio recorder. The

- student is entitled, at the student's expense, to a copy of the transcript.
4. If requested by the student or the student's parents, the hearing shall be in private.
 5. Where the student is dissatisfied with the results of the hearing, recourse can be had to the appropriate state court. If it is alleged that a constitutional issue is involved, the student may file a claim for relief in the appropriate federal district court.

OFFENSES

In an attempt to clarify disciplinary actions, offenses have been categorized into levels indicating seriousness. Appropriate disciplinary actions have been listed for each level.

CONSEQUENCES

The school's primary concern is to assist students in correcting undesirable behavior. To this end, school officials will work with the students, their parents or guardians, as well as resource people and community agencies to achieve more appropriate behavior.

In order to apply disciplinary action uniformly for all students, the administration has developed a set of specific disciplinary measures for each level of offense. Most often these can be handled as a routine matter. However, for very serious cases of misconduct, further action may be taken by the Superintendent or Board of School Directors.

DISCIPLINARY LEVELS

These guidelines are not intended to be all-inclusive; however, as they do not cover every situation and every condition. Therefore, if in the judgment of the high school administration, a student's inappropriate behavior is not defined in the code of student conduct, the administration will take appropriate action in the best interest of the student and the school.

Section 1317. Authority of Teachers, Vice Principals and Principals over Pupils. Every teacher, vice principal and principal in the public schools shall have the right to exercise the same authority as to conduct and behavior over the pupils attending his school, during the time they are in attendance, including the time required in going to and from their homes, as the parents, guardians or persons in parental relation to such pupils may exercise over them (1317 amended July 25, 1963, P.L. 315, No. 169).

SUGGESTED LEVEL ONE OFFENSES

Include, but are not limited to:

- Academic dishonesty
- Classroom disruption
- Dress code infraction
- Excessive unlawful tardiness to class
- Failure to report or leaving assigned area without permission
- Horseplay
- Inappropriate display of affection
- Inappropriate language
- Misuse of computer/network
- Other minor infractions of unacceptable behavior or any condition that causes a disruption of the educational process or constitutes a health and/or safety hazard
- Pestering/teasing others
- Refusal to participate in class
- Unauthorized use of personal electronic devices

SUGGESTED LEVEL ONE CONSEQUENCES

May include, but are not limited to any combination of the following:

- Phone communication with parent AND
- Student conference with teacher, counselor, and/or building administrator AND

One or more of the following possibilities:

- Loss of privileges
- Detention (before school, after school, and/or lunch)
- In-School Suspension (ISS)

SUGGESTED LEVEL TWO OFFENSES

Include, but are not limited to:

- Abusive language
- Auditorium/Bus/Cafeteria misconduct
- Damage and/or destruction to school property
- Defiance/Insubordination
- Excessive unlawful tardiness to school
- Failure to comply with building procedures
- Failure to serve consequences
- Forgery/falsification
- Leaving school grounds without permission
- Repeated Level One offenses

SUGGESTED LEVEL TWO CONSEQUENCES

May include, but are not limited to any combination of the following:

- Phone communication with parent AND
- Student conference with teacher, counselor, and/or building administrator AND

One or more of the following possibilities:

- Loss of privileges
- Multiple Detentions (before school, after school, and/or lunch)
- Exclusion from extra-curricular activities
- Behavior management contract
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral for supportive resources (SAP, etc...)
- Suspension of transportation privileges
- Police referral

SUGGESTED LEVEL THREE OFFENSES

Include, but are not limited to:

- Abusive, obscene, or profane language and/or gestures
- Bullying/Cyberbullying/Harassment
- Fighting and/or disorderly conduct
- Major computer use/network violations
- Physical Assault
- Possession of pornography
- Repeated Level Two offenses
- Theft
- Threats
- Use/possession of tobacco products (includes vaporizers and e-cigarettes along with accessories)
- Vandalism*

*Act 16 of 1994 amends the Crimes Code to expand the offense of “institutional vandalism” to include carrying aerosol spray-paint cans, broad-tipped indelible markers or similar marking devices into an institution, such as a school building, with the intent to vandalize. Pa. C.S. Section 3304 (a) (4). Act 17 of 1994 amends the Crimes Code to define defacing public and private property with spray paint or indelible

markers as “criminal mischief.” The Act also provides the court with a community service sentencing option in lieu of jail time for such an offense. Pa. C.S. Section 3307 (a.3).

SUGGESTED LEVEL THREE CONSEQUENCES

May include, but are not limited to any combination of the following:

- Phone communication with parent AND
- Student conference with teacher, counselor, and/or building administrator AND

One or more of the following possibilities:

- Loss of privileges
- Exclusion from extra-curricular activities
- Behavior management contract
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral for supportive resources (SAP, etc...)
- Suspension of transportation privileges
- Police referral and/or charges filed to Magistrate
- Administrative recommendation for Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY) placement
- Administrative review for recommendation to the Board of School Directors for an expulsion hearing

SUGGESTED LEVEL FOUR OFFENSES

- Arson or tampering with fire alarms, extinguishers, or activating a false alarm
- Commission of any other act punishable under the Pennsylvania Crimes Code
- Possession of weapons on school property, school bus or any other school-sponsored activity
- Possession and/or use of drugs and/or alcohol or any unauthorized substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; intent to sell and/or distribute drugs and/or alcohol or any unauthorized substance. This includes school grounds, school buildings, school buses or while participating in or attending an approved school function.
- Production/distribution of pornography (including pictures or videos of sexually explicit images)
- Repeated Level Three Offenses
- Substantiated threats of harm made against the school (verbal, written, and/or posted on social media)

Level Four acts include those which result in violence to another person or their property or which pose a threat to the safety of others in school. These actions are often criminal and are so serious that they require administrative actions, which result in police involvement and in the immediate removal of the student from school.

SUGGESTED LEVEL FOUR CONSEQUENCES

May include, but are not limited to any combination of the following:

- Phone communication with parent AND
- Student conference with teacher, counselor, and/or building administrator AND
- One or more of the following possibilities:
- Loss of privileges
- Exclusion from extra-curricular activities
- Behavior management contract
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral for supportive resources (SAP, etc...)
- Suspension of transportation privileges
- Police referral and/or charges filed to the Magistrate
- Administrative recommendation for an alternative educational plan
- Administrative recommendation for Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY) placement
- Administrative review for recommendation to the Board of School Directors for an expulsion hearing

The Federal gun-Free School Act of 1994 states, “Any student who brings a firearm or weapon to school (as

defined in Section 912 of Title 18, United States Code) shall be referred to the criminal justice system.” (Public Law 103-382)

The definition of “weapon” includes: [a]ny bomb, grenade, machine gun, sawed-off shotgun with a barrel less than 18 inches, firearm specially made or specially adapted for concealment or silent discharge, any blackjack, sandbag, metal knuckles, dagger, knife, razor or cutting instrument, the blade of which is exposed in an automatic way by switch, push-button, spring mechanism, or otherwise, any stun gun, stun baton, taser or other electronic or electric weapon or other implement for the infliction of serious bodily injury which serves no common lawful purpose, knives, cutting instruments, cutting tools, martial arts devices, nunchaku, firearms, shotguns, rifles, air rifles, BB gun, pellet gun, and pistols, sling shots, explosive devices, chemical agent, and any other tools, instruments, or implements capable of inflicting serious bodily injury, where the intent is to use such a tool, instrument, or implement as a weapon is present. Also included are “look-alikes” of the weapons listed above.

See Pennsylvania Department of Education Act 26 of 1995. See BASD Policy 218.1.

PROHIBITED ITEMS & CONFISCATED CONTRABAND

The following items are prohibited on school property:

Drugs and Alcohol: Including prescription medications not authorized by the school, over-the-counter drugs used improperly, and any form of alcohol.

Weapons: Such as firearms, knives, brass knuckles, or any object intended to be used as a weapon.

Explosives: Including fireworks, firecrackers, and other incendiary devices.

Tobacco Products: Including cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, and vape products.

Pornographic Materials: Any material of a sexually explicit nature.

Theft Tools: Items used to steal or commit vandalism, such as lock-picking tools.

Hate Speech Materials: Materials that promote hate or discrimination against any individual or group.

Illegal Substances: Including recreational drugs and controlled substances.

Inappropriate or Obscene Items: Items that are offensive or disruptive to the school environment.

Bullying Devices: Tools or devices used to intimidate or bully others.

Any prohibited items confiscated by school staff will be handed over to the school police officer for further processing. At the conclusion of the school year, all confiscated contraband will be destroyed.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

EMERGENCY MEDICATION OPT-OUT

Emergency medications such as epinephrine auto-injectors, albuterol inhalers, and Narcan (naloxone) are available in BASD schools by order of the school physician. These medications may be administered in the event of a health emergency, such as anaphylaxis (severe allergic reaction), respiratory distress (such as asthma symptoms), or suspected opioid overdose.

If you wish to **decline** the administration of any or all of these emergency medications for your student, you must contact the certified school nurse to review and sign an Emergency Medication Opt-Out Form.

ILLNESS

Students who become ill during school hours should:

- Acquire a pass from their teacher in order to be admitted to the health room.
- Then go directly to the nurse's office.
- The nurse will sign the pass and record the time if the student is sent back to class.
- Arrangements for students sent home due to illness will be made by the nurse.

Arrangements to leave school made prior to the consent of the school nurse will be recorded as unlawful.

MEDICATIONS

Whenever possible, medications should be administered at home. If it is necessary for a student to receive medication during school hours, the following procedures must be followed:

- Any medication brought to school by a parent or student is to be brought directly to the nurse's office. Please come to the Middle School office when dropping off any medication, even for high school students. All medication must be in the original container.
- Medication will only be given when accompanied by a note from a parent/guardian.
- In addition to a parental note, prescription medication requires a written order from the prescribing physician.
- Students are to take home any remaining medication at the end of the school year. Any medication not taken home at that time will be discarded.

Doctor's order and parent request forms for medication are available in the nurse's office.

PHYSICAL EXAMS

PA School Health Law requires a physical examination for all students in grade 11. This examination may be completed by the student's family physician up to a year prior to the junior year, or by the school physician during the junior year with a signed permission from a parent or guardian. Students failing to complete the physical examination will not be allowed to begin the next school year until the required examination has been completed (BASD Policy #209.9).

SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

For an entire list of Board Policies, please visit the School Board Tab under the District's website (www.bloomsd.org) then click on "policies."

Bloomsburg Area School District's policies are housed on BoardDocs, which can be accessed by clicking on this link: <https://www.boarddocs.com/pa/bloo/Board.nsf/Public> .

[249 Bullying/Cyber Bullying](#)

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Annual Public Notice of Special Education Services and Programs, for Gifted Students and Protected Handicapped Students

Notice to Parents

According to state and federal special education regulations, annual public notice to parents of children who reside within a school district is required regarding child find responsibilities. School districts (SDs), are required to conduct child find activities for children who may be eligible for services via Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For additional information related to Section 504/Chapter 15 services, the parent may refer to Section 504, Chapter 15, and the Basic Education Circular entitled Implementation of Chapter 15. Also, school districts are required to conduct child find activities for children who may be eligible for gifted services via 22 PA Code Chapter 16. For additional information regarding gifted services, the parent may refer to 22 PA Code Chapter 16. If a student is both gifted and eligible for Special Education, the procedures in IDEA and Chapter 14 shall take precedence.

This notice shall inform parents throughout the school district, intermediate unit, and charter school of the child identification activities and of the procedures followed to ensure confidentiality of information pertaining to students with disabilities or eligible young children. In addition to this public notice, each school district shall publish written information in the handbook and on the web site. If parents believe that the child may be eligible for special education, the parent should contact the appropriate staff member identified at the end of this notice.

Evaluation and Consent

School entities cannot proceed with an evaluation or reevaluation, or with the initial provision of special education and related services, without the written consent of the parents. Once written parental consent is obtained, the district will proceed with the evaluation process. If the parent disagrees with the evaluation, the parent can request an independent education evaluation at public expense.

Program Development

Once the evaluation process is completed, a team of qualified professionals and parents determine whether the child is eligible. If the child is eligible, the individualized education program team meets, develops the program, and determines the educational placement. Once the IEP team develops the program and determines the educational placement, school district staff will issue a notice of recommended educational placement/prior written notice. Your written consent is required before initial services can be provided. The parent has the right to revoke consent after initial placement.

Confidentiality of Information

The SDs maintain records concerning all children enrolled in the school, including students with disabilities. All records are maintained in the strictest confidentiality. Your consent, or consent of an eligible child who has reached the age of majority under State law, must be obtained before personally identifiable information is released, except as permitted under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The age of majority in Pennsylvania is 21. Each participating agency must protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction stages. One official at each participating agency must assume responsibility for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information. Each participating agency must maintain, for public inspection, a current listing of the names and positions of those employees within the agency who have access to personally identifiable information.

For additional information related to student records, the parent can refer to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

This notice is only a summary of the Special Education services, evaluation and screening activities, and rights and protections pertaining to children with disabilities, children thought to be disabled, and their parents. For more information or to request evaluation or screening of a public or private school child, contact the responsible school entity listed below. For school age children, information, screenings and evaluations requested may be obtained by contacting the Director of Student Services at 570-784-3167, EXT. 2002

STUDENT RIGHTS

The Bloomsburg Area Board of School Directors has adopted a code of student conduct, which includes policies governing student discipline and a listing of student rights and responsibilities as outlined in Chapter 12 of the Pennsylvania School Code. A complete copy of Chapter 12, Student Rights and Responsibilities, is available online by searching PA School Code Chapter 12.

DUE PROCESS

The Board of School Directors believes that education is a fundamental right, and students must be afforded all appropriate elements of due process if they are to be excluded from school. In a case involving a possible expulsion, the student is entitled to a formal hearing, which is a fundamental element of due process.

1. Informal Hearings

- a. When a suspension exceeds three school days, the student and parents or guardian shall be given the opportunity for an informal hearing consistent with the requirements set forth in Section 12.8(c) (relating to hearings). See Bloomsburg Area School District Policy #233.
- b. The purpose of the informal hearing is to enable the student to meet with the appropriate school official to explain the circumstances surrounding the event for which the student is being suspended, to demonstrate that there is a case of mistaken identity or to show that there is some compelling reason why the student should not be suspended. The informal hearing also encourages the student's parents or guardian to meet with the principal to discuss ways by which future offenses can be avoided.
- c. At the informal hearing, the following due process requirements are to be observed:
 - Notification of the reasons for the suspension in writing, given to the parents or guardian and to the student.
 - Sufficient notice of the time and place of the informal hearing.
 - A student has the right to question any witnesses present at the hearing.
 - A student has the right to speak and produce witnesses on his own behalf.
 - The district shall offer to hold the informal hearing within the first five days of suspension.

2. Formal Hearings

- a. Expulsion is exclusion from school by the Board of School Directors for a period exceeding 10 school days and may be permanent expulsion from the school rolls. All expulsions require a prior formal hearing under Section 12.8.
- b. A formal hearing may be held before the Board of School Directors or a duly authorized committee of the Board, preferably composed of no fewer than three members of the School Board. The hearing committee's decision is advisory to the School Board where expulsion is recommended. A majority vote of the entire School Board is required to expel a student.
- c. At the formal hearing, the following due process requirements are to be observed:
 - (a.) Notification of the charges in writing, sent to the parents or guardian by certified mail, and to the student.
 - (b.) Sufficient notice of the time and place of the hearing.
 - (c.) The right to an impartial tribunal.
 - (d.) The right to be represented by counsel.
 - (e.) The right to demand that any such witnesses appear in person and answer questions or be cross-examined.
 - (f.) The student's right to testify and produce witnesses on his/her own behalf.
 - (g.) A record must be kept of the hearing either by a stenographer or audio recorder.

The student is entitled, at the student's expense, to a copy of the transcript.
- d. If requested by the student or the student's parents, the hearing shall be in private.
- e. Where the student is dissatisfied with the results of the hearing, recourse can be had to the appropriate state court. If it is alleged that a constitutional issue is involved, the student may file a claim for relief in the appropriate federal district court.

Opening Exercises, Flag Displays, and Patriotic Observances

Each school day begins with opening exercises that include the Pledge of Allegiance and/or the National Anthem. A U.S. flag is displayed in each classroom and on or near school buildings, as required by Pennsylvania law.

Students may choose not to recite the Pledge or salute the flag based on personal or religious beliefs. Those who choose not to participate must do so quietly and respectfully, without disrupting others.

Each year on September 11, the school observes a moment of silence during instructional hours to honor the anniversary of the 2001 attacks.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Students have the right to express themselves unless such expression materially and substantially interferes with the educational process, threatens immediate or serious harm to the welfare of the school or community, encourages unlawful activity or interferes with another individual's rights (PA Title 22, Section 12.9,b).

FREE EDUCATION

All persons residing in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, from the first day the child begins Kindergarten until graduation from high school or up to the age of 21, are entitled to a free and full education in the Commonwealth's public schools (Pa. Title 22, 12.1)

PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

The law is clear that school districts have a duty to protect students from sexual abuse and harassment. It is the policy of the Bloomsburg Area School District to prohibit improper conduct of whatever kind, including sexual abuse and harassment of students, by school employees, fellow students, and others who come in contact with students during school or through school activities. Students and school employees are encouraged to report any suspected violations of this policy to the guidance office, high school administration or superintendent without fear of retaliation. A list of contact names and phone numbers to turn to for help (e.g., The Women's Center) is available at either the nurse's office or the guidance office.

SALE & DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY STUDENTS

Students have the right to express opinions, take stands, and support causes both publicly and privately. There should be no interference in school with these liberties or students' expression of controversial points of view. However, the administration must have the authority to prevent, control, or stop whatever is disruptive to the educational process.

- School officials shall prohibit material which is obscene, libelous, or which inflames or incites other students so as to create a clear and present danger.
- Printed materials to be distributed on school property must be submitted to the High School Principal, at least two days prior to the distribution, for it to be evaluated properly.
- Materials to be distributed on school grounds are to be circulated before or after school hours on the grounds, or in the cafeteria during normal lunch hours.

SEARCHES & SEIZURES

The Bloomsburg Area School District recognizes that the Fourth Amendment provides that students have a right "to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures." However, with the passage of the Gun Free Schools Act, the Safe Schools Act, and Act 26 of 1995 that amends the School Code, it is imperative that the school also recognizes its responsibility to protect and maintain the health, welfare, and safety of all students.

Consequently, the school district contends that school lockers and desks belong to the school, and that students are only given permission to use them. It is with this understanding that students should assume no expectation of privacy and realize that searches may be conducted by school officials with or without any suspicion of wrongdoing on the part of the student. Searches must be reasonable in scope and justified at inception. Students should be aware that all student desks and lockers may be searched at any time and for any reason, with no qualifications or exceptions.

Student lockers and desks will be inspected from time to time to insure that they are being properly cared for

and that the contents are in no way harmful to the student and other persons in the school building. Any illegal material may be seized. Along with police, drug detection canines may be used to search school grounds.

Students may also be asked to empty their pockets, book bags, (plastic or mesh see through), purses, and other personal articles to search for illegal, controlled, or criminal material. Parents will be contacted and made aware of the reasons for the search.

STUDENT PRIVACY

No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- Political affiliations
- Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his family.
- Sexual behavior and attitudes
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incrimination and demeaning behavior
- Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships
- Legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers
- Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program) without the prior written consent of the student (if the student is an adult or emancipated minor), or in the case of an un-emancipated minor, without the prior written consent of the parent. Such survey, analysis, or evaluation may, however, be conducted on a wholly voluntary basis, provided that the student and parents have been notified of their rights.

NETWORK/INTERNET GUIDELINES

TERMS AND CONDITIONS SIMPLIFIED

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BLOOMSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT/EMPLOYEE/NON-EMPLOYEE, IN THEIR USE OF THE BASD NETWORK AND/OR INTERNET ACCESS

This document, designed specifically for student/employee/non-employee in the Bloomsburg Area School District, is a synopsis of the Terms and Conditions for the use of either the BASD Network and/or Internet Access. All student, employee and non-employee users agree to this contract as a condition to the use of the BASD Network and/or Internet Access. This "shortened version", taken from Board Policy 815, is designed to help students/employee/non-employee to clearly understand their responsibilities as users of the BASD Network and/or Internet Access. If any student, employee and/or non-employee should have a question about the legitimacy of their activities, they should ask either the System Administrator or the Technology Coordinator.

- *The use of your account must be in support of your education or teaching environment in the Bloomsburg Area School District and consistent with the educational objectives of the Bloomsburg Area School District.*
- *As a user of this community system, students, employee and/or non-employee will notify a teacher, the System Administrator, or the Technology Coordinator if any violations of this contract take place by other Bloomsburg Area School District students, employees, or outside parties.*
- *You may NOT give your password to anyone.*
- *You may NOT use or play games via the network, unless it is part of a class assignment or project.*
- *You may NOT use or alter anyone else's BASD Network or Internet account.*
- *You may NOT offer BASD Network or Internet access to any individual via your account.*
- *You may NOT break in or attempt to break in to other computer systems.*
- *You may NOT create or share computer viruses.*
- *You may NOT destroy another person's data.*
- *You may NOT monopolize the resources of any BASD Network system; this includes things such as running large jobs during the day, sending massive amounts of mail to other BASD users, or using system resources for games.*
- *You are NOT permitted to get or put onto any BASD Network system, any copyrighted material (including software), or any threatening or obscene material.*
- *Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial communications on the BASD Network or Internet is prohibited.*
- *Purposefully annoying other BASD Network and/or Internet users, on or off the BASD Network system is prohibited; this includes such items as continuous talk requests.*
- *Illegal activities may not be conducted via any BASD Network system.*
- *All communications and information accessible via any BASD Network system, should be assumed to be school district property.*
- *For-profit purposes, product advertisement, or political lobbying via any BASD Network system is prohibited.*
- *Use of the BASD Network or Internet Access for non-work or non-school related communications is prohibited.*

PROPER USE OF ELECTRONIC MAIL

- *Be polite. Do not write or send abusive messages to others.*
- *Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities, or any other inappropriate language.*
- *Do not reveal your personal address or phone number or those of other students or colleagues.*
- *Note that electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the appropriate authorities.*

The Bloomsburg Area School District reserves the right to log BASD Network and Internet use, and to monitor files server space utilization by district users, while respecting the privacy right of both district users and other outside users. The school district reserves the right to remove a user account from the network to prevent further unauthorized or illegal activities. Authorized staff members are permitted to view student home directories that are stored on the BASD network.

All data on the Bloomsburg Area School District's servers, PCs, laptops, or network is considered property of the Bloomsburg Area School District and can be accessed at any time necessary by the system administrator(s) and superintendent.

Reference School Board Policies [224 Care of School Property](#) & [Policy 815 Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources](#).

PARENT & STUDENT SIGNATURE PAGE FOR STUDENT HANDBOOK & INTERNET USE

This handbook contains a variety of information that is important to both students and their parents/guardians. Please read it in its entirety and complete the bottom portion of this page. Students who do not have this page completed and signed by a parent/guardian will not be permitted to use the BASD network or the internet at school. **Please return the signed page to school by September 1st, 2023.**

PLEASE PRINT:

Student Name: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

Both I/we and my/our child have read this handbook and are familiar with its contents. We have contacted the administration to seek clarification regarding anything we did not fully understand.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

NETWORK/INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

I have read the "Simplified Terms and Conditions" for my child to use the BASD network/internet. Please note, students will need access to the BASD network in order to use the computers for simple operations such as word processing.

PLEASE CHECK ONE STATEMENT:

_____ I give permission for my child to access the BASD network and internet.

_____ I **do not** give permission for my child to access the BASD network and internet.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____



Panther Pride

School Mascot:
Panther

School Colors:
Red & White

ALMA MATER

(W. Clair Hower)

Oh, Bloomsburg High School, Alma Mater
Always Faithful, Always True,
Your sons and daughters e'er will cherish you;
Red and White to you all hail;
See our colors waving o'er us
Proudly may they ever fly!
Bear us onward, aid, direct us.
Bid us now to do or die.

Oh, Bloomsburg High School, Alma Mater
Receive the honor we would give.
And may we strive to do our best and live
True to Bloomsburg High, all hail!