

# EAST DUBUQUE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

200 Parklane Drive  
East Dubuque, IL 61025

## 2025-2026 Student Handbook

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### ***OUR MISSION***

Maximize Life's Opportunities for Everyone!

### EAST DUBUQUE SCHOOLS TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

School Office	815-747-3188
School Fax	815-747-3516
Transportation Office	815-747-3188 ext. 1107
District Office	815-747-2111

District Website: [www.eastdbgschools.org](http://www.eastdbgschools.org)

This student handbook is a summary of the school's rules and expectations and is not a comprehensive statement of school procedures. The Board's comprehensive policy manual is available for public inspection through the District's website ([www.eastdbgschools.org](http://www.eastdbgschools.org)) or at the district office, located at 100 School Road, East Dubuque, IL 61025.

The provisions in this handbook are not to be considered irrevocable, contractual commitments between the school and the student; rather, the provisions reflect the current status of rules, practices, and procedures as currently practiced and are subject to change without prior notification.

The Board of Education realizes that it is not possible to write rules and regulations that will fit every situation and set of circumstances, and the administrator handling the situation needs some latitude in the application and interpretation of these rules.

## **GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION**

The School Board governs the school district and is elected by the community. Current School Board members are:

Mr. Glen Foote, President  
Mr. David Sendt, Vice-President  
Mrs. Esta Poulton, Secretary  
Mr. Dan Dalberg, Member  
Mr. Stephen McDermott, Member  
Mrs. Angie Ryan, Member  
Mrs. Christina Schauer, Member

The School Board has hired the following administrative staff to operate the school:

Mr. TJ Potts, Superintendent  
Mr. Darren Sirianni, Principal/Athletic Director  
Mr. Grover Priebe, Maintenance Director  
Mr. Jeffrey Weydert, Transportation Director  
Ms. Kassandra Meyer, Guidance Counselor

School Colors: Royal Blue and White  
Mascot: Warriors  
Conference: Grant—Fever River Conference



### **East Dubuque School Song**

*East Dubuque, East Dubuque, show them you can fight.  
Knock their ears down, Knock their ears down, knock them down tonight.*

*Rah, Rah, Rah.*

*Make us happy, Make us happy, we will do or die.  
Win another victory for East Dubuque High.*

*Cheer, boys, cheer, the Warriors have the ball.*

*You, rah, rah, we don't intend to fall.*

*So when we win this game, we'll win it for us all.*

*There'll be a hot time in the old town tonight.*

*You tell them-*

*Cheer, boys, cheer, the Warriors have the ball.*

*You, rah, rah, we don't intend to fall.*

*So when we win this game, we'll win it for us all.*

*There'll be a hot time in the old town tonight.*

*Rah! Rah! Rah, Rah, Rah!*

*Rah! Rah! Rah, Rah, Rah!*

*Rah! Rah! Rah, Rah, Rah!*

*Rah! Yea! East Dubuque!*

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### **ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

All of the District's electronic networks must be in support of education and/or research or be for a legitimate school business purpose. General rules for behavior and communications apply. The use of the District's electronic networks (e.g., computers, cameras, scanners, printers, the Internet, etc.), is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

Students and staff members have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored, transmitted, or received via the District's electronic networks. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account but not erased, may be monitored or read by school officials. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the Acceptable Use Policy for Computers and Internet form as a prerequisite to receiving computer privileges.

### **ACCIDENT REPORTS**

Students should report any accident to the teacher, regardless of its nature. All accident reports should be completed by the appropriate supervisor and submitted to the principal.

### **ACCOMMODATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Individuals with disabilities shall be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities and will not be subject to illegal discrimination. Individuals with disabilities should notify the superintendent or principal if they have a disability, which will require special assistance of services, and, if so, what services are required.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All announcements will be handled through the principal's office. Announcements will be read before lunch by the classroom teacher, and copies of the announcements will be posted in teachers' rooms and outside the principal's office.

### **ARRIVAL/PICK-UP**

Those dropping off children may do so in the front of the school after 7:00 a.m.

Parents picking up students after school may do so in front of the school after 2:30 p.m. Vehicles may not be parked directly in front of the main doors to block school transportation. Vehicles located in these locations may be towed and/or ticketed by the police.

### **ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY**

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between six (by September 1<sup>st</sup>) and seventeen years of age shall assure that the child attends school in the district in which he or she resides, during the entire time school is in session (unless the child has already graduated from high school). Illinois law also requires that whoever has custody or control of a child who is enrolled in the school, regardless of the child's age, shall assure that the child attends school during the entire time school is in session.

There are certain exceptions to the attendance requirement for children who: are physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), are lawfully and necessarily employed, are between the ages of 12 and 14 while in confirmation classes, have a religious reason requiring absence, or are 16 or older and employed and enrolled in a graduation incentive program.

### **Absence from School**

Excused absences include (but are not limited to): illness, observance or a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond the control of the student, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's safety or health, attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS, or other reasons as approved by the principal. Pre-arranged family vacations can be considered excused provided the student is accompanied on the trip by their parent/guardian. All other absences are considered unexcused.

In the event of any absence, the student's parent or guardian is required to call the school to explain the reason for the absence. If a call has not been received by 10:00 am on the day of a student's absence, a school official will call the home to inquire why the student is not at school. If the parent or guardian cannot

be contacted, the parent/guardian must send in a note the following day explaining the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence. Upon request of the parent or guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

For an excused absence or if a student has been suspended (in or out of school) the student will be permitted to make up all missed work, including homework and tests, for the equivalent academic credit. Students who are unexcused from school will not be allowed to make up missed work. Standard procedure will be that the student will receive one day per day of excused absence to get work completed and turned in.

Once a student has accumulated nine (9) days of absence within the last 180 days of school, the school can require a doctor note for any subsequent absences to be considered excused. If a student misses more than three (3) days of unexcused absences, they will be referred to a truancy officer. This referral can lead to Pre-Court meetings, school discipline or more serious consequences, pending the circumstances of the unexcused absences. The school will provide support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue prior to these measures.

#### **Excused Absences**

For excused absences, students are allowed to make up missed assignments and tests within a **maximum** time period of one day for every day of excused absence. Anything that cannot be made up, such as a pop quiz, will count neither for nor against the student.

#### **Unexcused Absences/Truancy**

Truancy is the act of being absent for a school day or portion thereof for any reason deemed unacceptable by the school administration. These absences shall include, but not be limited to, excessive tardiness (including oversleeping), car trouble, shopping, hair appointments, concerts, getting back late from a game, job interviews, and employment.

For unexcused absences, the student will not be allowed to earn any credit for any work missed. Assessments can be made up with administrative approval, and the student may be given a detention or suspension at the discretion of the principal.

Students who miss more than 1% but less than 5% of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause are truant. Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action.

A parent/guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant may be convicted of a Class C misdemeanor, which carries a maximum penalty of thirty days in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1500.00.

#### **Tardiness**

Students arriving after 7:30 am should report to the main office before going to class. A student who is more than twenty minutes late to first period (7:50 am) will be recorded as an unexcused absence rather than tardy. Each student will be given two warnings for being tardy during each semester; afterwards, the student will earn a disciplinary consequence. Individual teachers will determine when a student is tardy following 1<sup>st</sup> period.

### **Family Vacations**

Pre-arranged absences for family vacations will be acknowledged only when his/her parent or legal guardian will accompany the student on the vacation. The student will make up missed work according to each teacher's guidelines. The student will need to fill out a Student Pre-Arranged Absence form (located in the office). The purpose of this form is to make the teachers aware of a student's absence and to allow teachers to convey their requirements for missed work. Students will receive credit only if these stated requirements are met. All other family vacation absences will be unexcused.

### **Leaving School During the School Day**

For safety and security reasons, a prior written or oral consent of a student's custodial parent/guardian is required before a student is released from school: (1) at any time other than the regular dismissal times or other times when a school is officially closed, and/or (2) to any person other than the custodial parent/guardian. Students leaving school before the normal dismissal time must have permission from the principal or his designee. If a student leaves school without permission from the principal or his designee, the student will earn an unexcused absence and serve consequences as per the student handbook. As a matter of good practice, students will not be allowed to transport other students when leaving the building during the school day.

### **Reporting or Returning to School after 7:30 a.m.**

Students coming or returning to school after the normal start time must report to the main office before going to class.

### **DAILY TIME SCHEDULES**

Listed below are the time schedules used at East Dubuque Junior High School. Additional modified schedules may be used during the course of the year.

#### **Regular Daily Schedule**

Period	Start	-	End
Homeroom	7:30	-	7:35
1	7:40	-	8:05
2	8:09	-	8:57
3	9:01	-	9:49
4	9:53	-	10:41
Lunch	10:45	-	11:15
5	11:19	-	12:06
6	12:10	-	12:59
7	1:03	-	1:51
8	1:55	-	2:25

#### **Early Dismissal**

Period	Start	-	End
1	7:30	-	7:50
2	7:54	-	8:25
3	8:29	-	9:00
4	9:04	-	9:35
5	9:39	-	10:10
6	10:14	-	10:45
Lunch	10:49	-	11:19
7	11:23	-	12:01
8	12:05	-	12:25

## 2-Hour Late Start

Period	Start	-	End
1	9:30	-	9:50
2	9:54	-	10:26
3	10:30	-	11:02
4	11:06	-	11:38
Lunch	11:42	-	12:12
5	12:16	-	12:48
6	12:52	-	1:25
7	1:29	-	2:01
8	2:05	-	2:25

### **DANCES**

The Student Council sponsors dances. Students who were suspended during the current semester or who have received either one behavioral or four(4) lunch detentions before the first dance or in between dances will not be permitted to attend. Students who are failing 2 or more classes will not be permitted to attend. School rules, expectations, and dress code apply. Students wishing to bring a guest must have him/her approved in the office 48 hours in advance. Students who are not currently in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade may not attend dances.

### **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

The school district shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the district, as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and implementing provisions of the School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

### **EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN**

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths. A homeless child may attend the district school that the child attended when permanently housed or in which the child was last enrolled. Transportation shall be provided in accordance with the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

The possession and/or use of electronic devices and other technology at school is a privilege, not a right. Students are prohibited from using electronic devices not issued or authorized by the school district. An electronic device includes, but is not limited to the following: cell phone, smart phone, smart watches, audio or video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), iPod, iPad, laptop computer, tablet computer, or other similar electronic device. Pocket pagers and other paging devices are not allowed on school property at any time.

Upon arrival at school, students will submit cell phones and other prohibited items to the designated area for their grade level. This will take place from 7:30-7:35. Students will turn in their cell phones and put them in a lockable case and get their lanyard to wear for the day. Students must wear their lanyard all day as part of the Corridor safety program. Devices should be turned off at the time of collection (powered down). Devices will remain locked during the school day and will be released upon the completion of the school day. If students arrive late, or leave early, they will turn in their device(s) or collect them from the office. At the end of the day, students will turn in their lanyards and collect their phones from their designated areas.

Electronic devices may never be used in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, violates student conduct rules, or violates the rights of others. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: (1) using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms; (2)

cheating; (3) creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction or non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images (i.e., sexting, etc.); (4) accessing streaming services, games, or other forms of entertainment without express permission from faculty. The school and school district are not responsible for the loss, theft, or damage to any electronic device brought to school that is not turned in.

Students in violation of this procedure are subject to the following consequences:

**\*\*1<sup>st</sup> violation** = The device will be confiscated and parents/guardians will be notified. A student will be given an in-school suspension with no access to their Chromebook. The suspension will take place the next full school day. At the end of the day, the device and the Chromebook will be returned to the student.

**\*\*2<sup>nd</sup> violation** = The device will be confiscated and parents/guardians will be notified. The student will be given an in-school suspension with no access to their Chromebook. The suspension will be served the next full school day. This will also trigger extra-curricular violations for conduct unbecoming of a student-athlete. A parent meeting must be scheduled before the device and Chromebook are returned to the student.

**\*\*3<sup>rd</sup> violation** = The device will be confiscated and parents/guardians will be notified. The student will be given an in-school suspension with no access to their Chromebook. The suspension will be served beginning the next full school day. A parent meeting must be scheduled before the device and Chromebook are returned to the student. The student will lose extra-curricular activity privileges, be assigned additional community service hours, and/or mental health counseling will be issued.

The administration reserves the right to modify the consequences for cell phone violations pending the severity of an offense.

### **EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS**

In cases of bad weather and other local emergencies, please listen to any local radio or television station to be advised of school closings or early dismissals. Skylert is the automated message system that will contact you in case of weather related or emergency situations. Calls will be made as early as 5:30 a.m. and throughout the school day. If your phone numbers change, call the school. For your child's safety, make certain your child knows ahead of time where to go in case of an early dismissal. If we dismiss early for an emergency, all after-school functions are automatically cancelled.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

The district offers opportunities for resident English Language Learners to develop high levels of academic attainment in English and to meet the same academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to attain. The superintendent of designee shall develop and maintain a program for English Language Learners that will, among others, provide information to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of English Language Learners about (1) the reasons for their child's identification, (2) their child's level of English proficiency, (3) the method of instruction to be used, (4) how the program will meet their child's needs, (5) specific exit requirements of the program, (6) how the program will meet their child's IEP, if applicable, and (7) information on parent(s)/guardian(s) rights.

### **EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, religious beliefs, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. The East Dubuque School District equity coordinator is the superintendent.

### **FEES**

All students must pay the annual general fee set by the Board of Education. If a child leaves the school system during the first semester of the school year and has returned all school supplies and paid any outstanding obligations, he/she will be entitled to a refund of one-half of the general fee. Once the second semester begins, no refund will be given. A request in writing for the refund must be submitted to the principal's office before payment will be authorized. The request must be received within 10 school

days of the last day of the student's attendance. There is a \$15.00 fee for participation in Band and Chorus. There is also a fee of \$20.00 for participation in one extracurricular activity or \$40.00 for participation in two or more extracurricular activities.

### **Waiver of Student Fees**

Applications for fee waivers may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. A separate application form shall be submitted for fees assessed to each student. A student shall be eligible for a fee waiver when the student currently lives in a household that meets the same income guidelines, with the same limits based on household size, that are used for the federal free meals program.

The Superintendent or designee may require family income verification at any time an individual applies for a fee waiver and anytime thereafter but not more than once every 60 calendar days.

If a student receiving a fee waiver is found to be no longer eligible during the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian and charge the student a prorated amount based upon the number of school days remaining in the school year.

Students receiving a fee waiver are not exempt from charges for lost or damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and equipment.

### **FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips are a privilege for students. Students must abide by all school policies during transportation and during field trip activities and shall treat all field trip locations as though they were school grounds. Failure to abide by school rules and/or location rules during a field trip may subject the student to discipline.

All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons – failure to receive appropriate permission from parent/guardian or teacher, failure to return the permission form by a specified due date, failure of two or more courses at that time, behavioral or safety concerns (including suspensions), denial of permission from administration, or other reasons as determined by the school.

### **Reward Days**

Good character does not go unnoticed. Students who complete a semester without suspension and have received no more than one behavioral detention or four (4) lunch detentions are invited to a reward day, which may be a field trip. Students must also show that they are completing assignments and working appropriately during the semester. If a student is failing two (2) or more core classes (Language, Literature, Science, Social Studies, Math), they will not be allowed to attend these events. Student cost may vary based upon behavioral compliance throughout the semester. Remember, good citizenship is simply good common sense.

### **FIRE, TORNADO, AND BUS EVACUATION DRILLS**

Fire, tornado, and bus evacuation drills will be conducted throughout the school year as required by state law. Students should follow the instructions posted in each classroom. These instructions will assist in providing for students' safety.

If there is a fire alarm during students' study hall period and they are checked out to another location (e.g., the library), students are to exit the building immediately, using the most direct and accessible exit, and report to their scheduled study hall teacher as soon as they reach the transportation garage parking lot.

If there is a fire alarm during the 4-minute passing time between classes, students are to exit the building immediately, using the most direct and accessible exit, and as soon as they reach the transportation garage parking lot, report to the teacher of the class that they were going to.

If there is a fire alarm during lunch, students should exit the building immediately, using the most direct and accessible exit, and report to their sixth period teacher as soon as they reach the transportation garage parking lot.

### **FOOD, JUICE, CANDY, GUM, ETC.**

Food, juice, candy, etc., is not to be consumed in any classroom before school or during regular school hours unless pre-approved by the classroom teacher or principal. Students are allowed to chew gum in classrooms at each teacher's discretion. If a student makes a mess, then the student is expected to clean it up. Garbage should be disposed of in appropriate receptacles.

If failure to satisfy these reasonable expectations becomes a school-wide problem, then, at the discretion of the principal, no snack food, juice, candy, gum, etc., will be sold or allowed in the building.

### **FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**

Under the Constitution, all individuals have freedom of expression. However, since student expression made on school premises or as a part of a school-sponsored activity may be attributed to the school, such expression must be appropriate to the activity. Students will be allowed freedom of expression as long as the expression is reasonably done. Student expression shall not, in the judgment of the administration, encourage the breaking of laws, cause defamation of persons, contain obscenity or indecency, or cause a material and substantial disruption in the orderly operation of the school. The administration has the right to determine the time, place, and manner in which the expression be allowed so as to not disrupt the educational program of the school. Students who violate this expectation may be subject to disciplinary actions.

### **FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**

Only school-sponsored student organizations and parent organizations and booster clubs that are recognized by the district may solicit students on school grounds during school hours or during a school activity to engage in fundraising activities.

Fundraising efforts shall not conflict with instructional activities or programs; must be voluntary; and must support the organization's purposes and/or activities, the general welfare, a charitable cause, or the educational experiences of students generally. Student safety is paramount, and door-to-door solicitations are allowed only under direct supervision of families.

For school-sponsored student organizations, administrator approval is required for all fundraising activities; a school staff member must supervise the fundraising activities; and the student activity funds treasurer must safeguard the financial accounts. Funds shall be used to the maximum extent possible for the designated purpose.

### **GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

Students are expected to show good manners and conduct themselves in an orderly manner so as not to disrupt the educational environment. Generally, students are expected to adhere to the following reasonable expectations:

1. Do not enter the building until supervision is provided (7:00 am on a regular day), and leave the building as soon as school is dismissed unless involved in a supervised activity.
2. Do not run or jostle others.
3. Talk in a normal tone of voice. Yelling and swearing will not be tolerated.
4. Kissing and other displays of affection are not appropriate at school and will not be tolerated.
5. Cell Phones are to be stored in your locker during the school day unless approved by a teacher.
6. Laser lights, toys, and other disruptive items that have no school-related purpose are prohibited at school and school activities.

## **GRADING PROCEDURE**

Semester grades go on a student's report card and determine whether or not credit has been earned for a course. To calculate semester grades, teachers will use a continuous grading system throughout the semester. Academic grades will be applied on the following scale:

<b><u>Percent Range</u></b>	<b><u>Letter Grade</u></b>	<b><u>Percent Range</u></b>	<b><u>Letter Grade</u></b>
93-100	A	73-76.5	C
90-92.5	A-	70-72.5	C-
87-89.5	B+	67-69.5	D+
83-86.5	B	63-66.5	D
80-82.5	B-	60-62.5	D-
77-79.5	C+	Below 59.5	F

## **Grading and Promotion**

The teacher has an obligation to make students aware of the expectations and objectives of the class early in a term. Progress reports will be issued approximately 4½ weeks, 9 weeks, and 13½ weeks into each semester. Each student should put forth an effort that is commensurate with his/her ability. A student shall not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance. Any student who fails two or more academic classes for the entire school year will be retained.

\*\*\*\*Each student will receive a hardcopy of the progress report. This form must be signed and returned within three days or a lunch detention will be given. \*\*\*\*

## **Assignments**

Assignments are updated daily on the junior high link of the school's website.

One of the most difficult adjustments for junior high students is completing assignments in a timely manner. Lunch detentions for missing assignments may be issued. Students may fail classes for not completing assignments.

Students who do not have an assignment completed and feel they have a legitimate reason for not completing the work are encouraged to call the school and leave a voice mail for the teacher or contact the teacher before class to explain any reason for not having the work completed.

If your child has more than 80 minutes of homework per night, a problem may exist. Please contact the classroom teacher.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty occurs when a student uses or attempts to use unauthorized information while taking a quiz/test; or submits as his or her own work essays, reports, drawings, or other products prepared by another person; or knowingly assists another person in such acts. Such behavior is unacceptable to the school district, and students found guilty of academic dishonesty face consequences that may include loss of credit, detention, and/or suspension. Instances of academic dishonesty ultimately affect all students and the entire school district by devaluing the work produced legitimately by students.

## **Make-Up Work**

Students whose absences are approved shall make up and receive full credit for missed schoolwork. The student will have one day to make up work for every day of excused absence. It shall be the responsibility of the student to initiate a procedure with the student's teacher to complete the work missed.

### **Retention Policy**

Two types of retention exist: mandatory and advisory.

Mandatory: If a student fails two or more core academic subjects for the year, he/she will likely be retained. Core subjects are Literature, Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies.

Advisory: If a student fails to perform at ability level, he/she will face consideration for retention. Parental input is a valuable part of this process.

If following the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester, a student is in jeopardy of being retained, a promotion plan will be initiated.

### **Exemption from Physical Activity**

A child may be exempted from some or all physical activities when the appropriate excuses are submitted to the school by parent(s)/guardian(s) or by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act.

Alternative activities and/or units of instruction will be provided for pupils whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents their participation in the physical education courses.

### **HARRASSMENT/SEXUAL HARRASSMENT**

No person, including a District employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; nationality; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Sexual harassment of students is prohibited. Any person, including a district employee or agent, or student, engages in sexual harassment whenever he or she makes sexual advances, requests sexual favors, and engages in other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual or sex-based nature, imposed on the basis of sex, that:

1. Denies or limits the provision of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or that makes such conduct a condition of a student's academic status; or
2. Has the purpose or effect of:
  - a. Substantially interfering with a student's educational environment;
  - b. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
  - c. Depriving a student of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or
  - d. Making submission to or rejection of such conduct the basis for academic decisions affecting a student.

The terms "intimidating," "hostile," and "offensive" include conduct that has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Examples of sexual harassment include touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities.

### **Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment**

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, nationality, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in each of the following situations:

1. During any school sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school sponsored or school sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school district or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process of orderly operation of a school.

Bullying includes cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
3. Substantially interfering with the student's academic performance.
4. Substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Bullying, intimidation, and/or harassment may take various forms, including without limitation: threats, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the district complaint manager or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. ALL school staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the district complaint manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing.

**Complaint Managers:**

Darren Sirianni (815) 747-3188 x1103  
Kassandra Meyer (815) 747-3188 x1105

A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is prohibited. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the school's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

**HAZING**

Soliciting, encouraging, aiding, or engaging in hazing is prohibited. "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed against a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization, club, or athletic team whose members are or include other students.

A student engaged in hazing will be subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

- Removal from extracurricular activities.
- Conference with parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Referral to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

A student engaging in hazing that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of another may also be subject to suspension for up to ten days and possible expulsion.

### **HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS**

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall present proof that the student received a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health, within one year prior to entering ninth grade or enrolling in an Illinois school, regardless of the student's grade (including students transferring into Illinois from out-of-state or out-of-country).

The required health examinations must include a diabetes screening (diabetes testing is not required) and a statement from a physician assuring "risk-assessed" or screening for lead poisoning.

Unless the student is homeless, failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the District. New students who register mid-term shall have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization regulations.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students entering an Illinois school for the first time shall present proof before October 15 of the current school year that the student received an eye examination within one year prior to entry of the school.

If a student fails to present proof by October 15, the school may hold the student's report card until the student presents proof: (1) of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15. Schools shall not exclude a student from attending school due to failure to obtain an eye examination.

### **HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION**

A student absent from school for more than 2 consecutive weeks because of health or physical impairment will be provided the services of a certified teacher in the home or hospital. Appropriate educational services shall begin as soon as eligibility has been established with a written statement from a licensed medical examiner and a written parental or guardian request filed in the office of the Superintendent.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction before the birth of the child when the student's physician indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction as well as for up to 3 months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s) and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate the student's return to school.

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

#### **Banking Project**

Students have an opportunity to earn EDJH dollars based on varying academic endeavors. The students also have an opportunity to earn dollars through good citizenship. These dollars will be used during special events throughout the year.

#### **Honor Roll**

Honor roll eligibility is determined as follows:

- Straight A Honors: 4.00 GPA for all classes
- Gold Honor Roll: 3.71 – 3.99 GPA for all classes
- Silver Honor Roll: 3.36 – 3.70 GPA for all classes
- Bronze Honor Roll: 3.0-3.35 GPA for all classes

Any grade of “F” will eliminate a student from honor roll consideration. All core subjects will be equally weighted for honor roll purposes. (Literature, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies)

### **Presidential Academic Achievement**

Eligibility for this award is based on the following requirement:

Grade Point Average—Students must have a minimum grade point average of 90 on a 100 point scale from grades 4 through the fall semester of the 8th grade.

### **LOCKERS**

All lockers in the school building are the property of the East Dubuque School District and remain school property even though they are temporarily assigned to students. Students are to use lockers only for the storage of schoolbooks, school materials, and possessions ordinarily used in day-to-day school activities, and outerwear clothing. It shall be the responsibility of each student to keep his/her assigned lockers clean and undamaged. Student lockers may be searched in compliance with Board policy regulating search and seizure. Students may not switch lockers without first getting the approval from the principal or designee. No open food or drinks are to be consumer between class periods or left in lockers.

### **LOST AND FOUND**

A Lost and Found center will be maintained in the principal’s office. If you find an article, please bring it to the office so the owner might recover it.

### **LUNCH EXPECTATIONS**

1. The teacher, not the bell, will dismiss students to lunch.
2. The hot lunch line will form against the wall – no cutting in line.
3. Each student will receive a debit card (similar to a bank debit card). When students go through the lunch line, they should scan their card. The cashier will enter each student’s lunch into a computer using a touch screen. The dollar amount of the lunch is automatically debited from each student’s account.
4. Students who do not have their debit cards should wait at the end of the line so as not to slow down the point of sale.
5. Students may charge any combination of meals up to a balance of \$0.00.
6. Students are not allowed to buy other students hot lunch using their debit cards, as this skews the government reimbursable lunch counts.
7. Students are not allowed to order food from outside businesses.
8. All food is to be consumed in the cafeteria. This rule applies whether you bring your own lunch or purchase a school lunch. The only exception will be staff-initiated meetings.
9. Clean tables of garbage, food, and trays and push your chair in when leaving the table.
10. Stack trays and return silverware in the kitchen window when finished eating.
11. At all times, students should remain in the cafeteria where they can be readily observed by a lunchroom supervisor.
12. Students should not enter the locker bay, gym locker rooms, or parking lot without permission from a lunchroom supervisor.
13. Students are not to leave school property during lunch without proper authorization from the principal or his/her designee.

Money for lunch is deposited into individual student’s accounts. Preferably, money can be deposited prior to the start of school when students gather in the cafeteria or at the end of lunch.

### **Free and Reduced-Price Food Services**

A student’s eligibility for free and reduced-price food services shall be determined by the income eligibility guidelines and family-size income standards, which are set annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and distributed by the Illinois State Board of Education.

### **MANDATED REPORTERS**

All school personnel, including teachers and administrators, are required by law to immediately report any and all suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

### **MEDICINES (ADMINISTERING TO STUDENTS)**

Students should not take medication during school hours or during school-related activities unless it is necessary for a student's health and well being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to their child and otherwise follow the District's procedures on dispensing medication.

No school district employee shall administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this policy and its implementing procedures.

A student may possess an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen) and/or medication prescribed for asthma for immediate use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

The school district shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication or epinephrine auto-injector or the storage of any medication by school personnel. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine auto-injector and/or medication or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

### **Food Allergies**

State law requires our school district to annually inform parents of students with life-threatening allergies or life-threatening chronic illnesses of the applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other applicable federal statutes, state statutes, federal regulations and state rules.

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the building principal at (815) 747-3188.

Federal law protects students from discrimination due to a disability that substantially limits a major life activity. If your student has a qualifying disability, an individualized Section 504 Plan will be developed and implemented to provide the needed supports so that your student can access his or her education as effectively as students without disabilities.

Not all students with life-threatening allergies and life-threatening chronic illnesses may be eligible under Section 504. Our school district also may be able to appropriately meet a student's needs through other means.

### **Care of Students with Diabetes**

If your child has diabetes and requires assistance with managing this condition while at school and school functions, a Diabetes Care Plan must be submitted to the school principal. Parents/guardians are responsible for and must:

1. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes which need to be made to the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school for their child.
2. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.
3. Sign the Diabetes Care Plan.
4. Grant consent for and authorize designated school district representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the Diabetes Care Plan.

For further information, please contact the building principal.

## **PASSES**

Three types of passes are used in this school.

1. **Admit to Class** -- If a student is absent, then he/she needs to have an Admit to Class issued from the principal's office before he/she can return to class. If a student goes to class without an Admit to Class, then the teacher should send the student to the principal's office immediately to get one.
2. **Hall Pass** -- This form is used to allow a student to travel from his/her assigned point of instruction to another location within the building. No student should be in the hallways during class time without a hall pass. This handbook contains one page for hall passes for each semester.
3. **Tardy Slip** -- This form is issued by the principal's office only when a student is late to school. It will not be used for tardiness between classes.

## **PESTICIDE APPLICATION NOTICE**

The district maintains a registry of parents/guardians of students who have registered to receive written or telephone notification prior to the application of pesticides to school grounds. To be added to the list, contact Mr. Grover Priebe, Buildings and Grounds, at 814-747-3188, ext. 1122. Notification will be given before application of the pesticide. Prior notice is not required if there is imminent threat to health or property.

## **PHYSICAL RESTRAINT**

Teachers, other certified educational employees, and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

## **POSTING OF INFORMATION**

All announcements, advertising, etc., that are posted in the building must receive approval from the principal prior to posting.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **School-Sponsored Publications and Websites**

School-sponsored publications, productions, and websites are part of the curriculum and are not a public forum for general student use. School authorities may edit or delete material that is inconsistent with the district's educational mission.

All school-sponsored communications shall comply with the ethics and rules of responsible journalism. Text that is libelous, obscene, vulgar, lewd, invades the privacy of others, conflicts with the basic educational mission of the school, is socially inappropriate, is inappropriate due to the maturity of the students, or is materially disruptive to the educational process will not be tolerated.

### **Non-School-Sponsored Publications and Websites**

Students are prohibited from accessing and/or distributing at school any written or electronic material, including material from the Internet:

1. That will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities.
2. That violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright.
3. That is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, or contains indecent and vulgar language.
4. That is primarily intended for the immediate solicitation of funds.

The distribution of non-school-sponsored written material shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the material is endorsed by the School District.

Accessing or distributing “at school” includes accessing or distributing on school property or at school-related activities. A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for (1) accessing or distributing forbidden material, or (2) for writing, creating, or publishing such material intending for it to be accessed or distributed at school.

### **SCHOOL VISITATION RIGHTS ACT**

The School Visitation Rights Act (Illinois School Code, 820 ILCS 147/1) requires employers subject to this Act to grant employees who satisfy specific criteria leave time to attend school conferences or classroom activities related to the employee’s child if the conference or classroom activities cannot be scheduled during nonwork hours. In addition, an excerpt from this Act reads, “... no leave may be taken by an employee of an employer that is subject to this Act unless the employee has exhausted all accrued vacation leave, personal leave, compensatory leave and any other leave that may be granted to the employee except sick leave and disability leave.” Please contact your employer or the principal’s office if you would like more information on this Act.

### **SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

To maintain order and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects.

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there. The building principal may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs. School authorities may search a student and/or the student’s personal effects in the student’s possession (such as purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district’s student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student’s age and sex, and the nature of the infraction. School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student’s account on a social networking website that violates the school’s disciplinary rules or school district policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination.

By electing to avail themselves of the use of the school parking lot, students are effectively consenting in advance to any search of their vehicles parked on that lot.

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating the law or the District’s policies or rules, such evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, such evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

### **SECURITY CAMERAS**

In an effort to balance the students’ and employees’ expectations of privacy and the district’s obligation to maintain a safe and secure learning environment, security cameras are placed throughout the school building, grounds, and on school buses for the purpose of monitoring activity that occurs before, during, and after official school hours. The security cameras are visible and are not concealed unless mandated by a court order or in cooperation with a law enforcement investigation. If a discipline problem is captured on audiotape or videotape, these recordings may be used as a basis for imposing student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the tape may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

## **SEX EDUCATION INSTRUCTION**

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or course in comprehensive sex education if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The parent or guardian's decision will not be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene, or traditional courses in biology.

Parents or guardians may examine the instructional materials to be used in any district sex education class or course.

## **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to:

1) Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes. In all violations, tobacco products will be confiscated, parents will be notified, and the student will be suspended. If the student is under 18 years of age, then the student will be referred to the police for violation of a city ordinance.

2) Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.

3) Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:

4) Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, medical cannabis and hashish).

5) Any anabolic steroid unless being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.

6) Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.

7) Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis is prohibited unless the student has the proper paperwork and prescription.

8) Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition of this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.

9) "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.

10) Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

11) Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in a tablet or powdered form.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession. As per the Illinois School Code, ". . . the superintendent or his or her designee . . . shall report all such drug-related incidents occurring in a school or on school property to the local law enforcement authorities immediately . . . ."

A) Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon" or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.

B) Using or possessing an electronic paging device. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person (commonly known as "sexting") through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the building principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student's lunch period; or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

C) Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.

D) Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a district staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.

E) Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.

F) Engaging in bullying, hazing or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or encouraging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft, or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.

G) Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning) and sexual assault.

H) Engaging in teen dating violence.

I) Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property. Arrangements must be made to repair or replace any damaged or stolen article(s) as a prerequisite to being readmitted into school.

J) Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.

K) In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (calling 9-1-1); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.

L) Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.

M) Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.

N) Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.

O) Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and hazing.

P) Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

Q) Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studies within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as

threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.

R) Operating an unarmed aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the building principal.

For purposes of these rules, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

### **Jurisdictional Statement**

The grounds for disciplinary action apply whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

- 1) On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
- 2) Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
- 3) Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
- 4) Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

### **Disciplinary Measures**

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out of school voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following measures:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. (If transportation arrangements cannot be made in advance, an alternative disciplinary measure will be assigned to the student).
8. Community Service.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
11. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.

13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State law.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension or expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

### **Corporal Punishment**

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

### **Weapons**

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to the school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year, but not more than 2 calendar years.

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961.
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including "look-alikes" of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

### **Gang & Gang Activity**

"Gang" is defined as any group, club or organization of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts. No student on or about school property or at any school activity or whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to a school activity, shall: (1) wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell any clothing, jewelry, paraphernalia or other items which reasonably could be regarded as gang symbols; commit any act or omission, or use either verbal or non verbal gestures, or handshakes showing membership or affiliation in a gang; or (2) use any speech or commit any act of omission in furtherance of the interest of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to, soliciting others for membership in any gangs; (3) request any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidate, harass or threaten any person; (4) commit any other illegal act or other violation of district policies; or (5) incite other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

### **Re-Engagement of Returning Students**

The building principal or designee shall meet with a student returning to school from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion or alternative school setting. The goal of this meeting shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusion and shall include an opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make-up missed work for equivalent academic credit.

### **Delegation of Authority**

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, or in-school

suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other certificated educational employees, and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent and Building Principal are authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons.

### **Misconduct by Students with Disabilities**

The school will comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) when disciplining students. Behavioral interventions will be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his/her disability as determined through a manifestation hearing. Any special education student whose gross disobedience or misconduct is not a manifestation of his/her disability may be expelled pursuant to the expulsion procedures.

### **Disciplinary Notice**

Junior high students who receive a disciplinary notice will be given a pink copy, a white copy will be mailed home to parent/guardians and a yellow copy will be placed in their file. The principal and student will call the parent/guardian once the disciplinary notice is verified. These forms will not be defaced. Any defacement will result in additional consequences as determined by the principal.

### **Referrals to the Office**

A teacher may remove from the learning setting any student whose behavior interferes with the lessons or participation of fellow students. When a student is removed from the classroom, he/she should report immediately and directly to the principal's office.

### **Progressive Discipline**

Teachers and administrators use discipline notices as one means of changing students' inappropriate behaviors. For most students, this is an effective means to a desired end; however, for a small minority of students, this method does not seem to work as evidenced by their earning a disproportionate number of disciplinary notices. In this case, a student who earns a disproportionate number of disciplinary notices, behavior-related or otherwise, will earn graduated consequences.

Students who receive more than three disciplinary notices within each semester will be assigned an Extended Detention or Saturday Detention, pending the severity of the behavior and at the discretion of the principal. Students who receive more than five disciplinary notices within each semester will earn incremental suspension days or incremental Extended Detentions for subsequent disciplinary notices, pending the severity of the behavior and at the discretion of the principal.

### **Extended Detentions**

At the discretion of the principal, a student may be assigned an Extended Detention. Extended Detentions will run after school from 2:30—4:00 p.m.

### **Suspension**

The superintendent and the principal are authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days. A student suspended from school is prohibited from being on school grounds or being present at school activities.

Before a student may be suspended, the student shall be provided a conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges. A pre-suspension conference is not required, and the student can be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practical.

Any suspension shall be reported immediately to the student's parent(s)/ guardian(s). A written notice of the suspension shall state the reason(s) for the suspension, including any school rule which was violated, and a notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their right to a review of the suspension. A copy of this notice shall be given to the School Board.

Upon request of the parent(s)/guardian(s), a review of a suspension shall be conducted by the School Board or a hearing officer appointed by the Board. At the review, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board or its hearing officer and may be represented by counsel. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall take such action as it finds appropriate.

### **Expulsion**

The Board of Education may expel a student by a majority affirmative vote. An expulsion will be based on grounds of immorality, violation of rules and regulations adopted by the Board, any violation of State laws, or when the presence of the student is considered detrimental to other students or detrimental to the purposes for which school is conducted. Any administrator may initiate the original recommendation for expulsion and shall have the authority to immediately suspend said student from class attendance until such time as the Board conducts a hearing concerning the expulsion.

During the expulsion hearing, the Board shall hear evidence concerning whether the student is guilty of the gross disobedience or misconduct as charged. The student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) may be represented by counsel, offer evidence, present witnesses, and cross-examine witnesses who testified, and otherwise present reasons why the student should not be expelled. After presentation of the evidence, the Board shall decide the issue of guilt and take such action as it finds appropriate.

### **STUDENT DRESS**

Student dress and grooming must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency.

1) Students may wear slacks, including blue jeans, as long as they are clean, do not give the appearance of having been worn-out, are free from inappropriate patches or other decorations, have adequate clearance from the floor, and are suited to the person wearing them (not too tight or too baggy).

2) No bike shorts, running shorts, or boxer shorts will be allowed. Shorts and skirts must be appropriate in length (as determined by administration).

3) Student dress (including accessories) should not advertise, promote, or picture alcohol, tobacco, and drugs drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images.

4) Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols, including gang symbols.

5) Students are not to wear casual clothes such as overalls, cut-offs, swimsuits, muscle shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, off-the-shoulder tops, halter-tops, backless tops, or anything that exposes the area from the chest to the waist.

6) Students should wear appropriate undergarments to fit their growth, but any garment such as a plain, white T-shirt, which is normally worn as underwear should not be worn as outer wear.

7) Students must wear some type of appropriate footwear. Slippers and athletic cleats are examples of prohibited footwear.

8) No student is allowed to wear clothing that would be distracting or cause undue attention among other students. Clothing displaying or making reference to obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, racist or sexual remarks, or ambiguous messages are prohibited.

9) Students are not to wear items that could create a safety hazard (e.g., dangling chains).

10) Hats, Ball Caps, coats, bandanas, sweat bands, and sunglasses are not to be worn during the school day. These should be removed upon entering the building.

11) Students are to keep their hair neat and clean and wear it in a manner that will keep it out of their eyes. Students whose hair is such length as to present health or safety problems are to provide hairnets, bands or clips that will restrain their hair. This need is to be determined by the administration and the individual teachers for their classes.

The principal will make the final determination as to what constitutes appropriate attire. Students who fail to comply with these guidelines will be required to change into appropriate clothing, and any missed class time will be considered unexcused. Repeated violations will be followed by parent conferences and suspensions.

### **STUDENT AND FAMILY PRIVACY RIGHTS**

All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the district's educational objectives or assist students' career choices.

#### **Surveys Requesting Personal Information**

School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the District) containing one or more of the following items:

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

The student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation and refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercises this option.

#### **Instructional Material**

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child/ward's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request. The term "instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to the student, regardless of its format. The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

### **STUDENT RECORDS**

Neither the District nor any of its employees shall release, disclose, or grant access to information found in any student record except under the conditions set forth in the Illinois School Student Records Act.

State and Federal law gives parents and eligible students certain rights with respect to their student records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and copy the student's education records within 15 school days of the day the school receives a request for access. There may be a small charge for copies, not to exceed \$.35 per page. This fee will be waived for those unable to afford such cost.
2. The right to request the amendment of the portion student's education record that the parent/guardian or eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, irrelevant, or improper.
3. The right to permit disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except in certain circumstances. Disclosure is permitted without consent in the case of directory information and to school officials with legitimate educational or administrative interests. Disclosure is also permitted without consent to: any person for research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified; any person named in a

court order; appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons; juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties who request information before adjudication of the student; and in other cases permitted by law.

4. The right to complain to the U.S. Department of Education if the school or district fails to comply with the above. Federal officials can be contacted at:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue  
SW Washington D.C. 20202-4605

The district may release certain directory information regarding students, except that parent(s)/guardian(s) may prohibit such a release. Directory information shall be limited to name, address, gender, grade level, birth date and place, parents'/guardians' names and addresses, academic awards, degrees and honors, information related to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics, major field of study, and period of attendance in school.

### **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

The following student support services may be provided by the District:

- The guidance counselor will provide students with educational, personal, and social counseling. The counselor will also handle achievement testing, college placement, and occupational opportunities. Students who would like to see the counselor should do so during a study hall. Students should get a pass from the counselor before reporting to study hall or sign the list in the front office.
- The District employs a school nurse who is housed in the elementary building. The nurse will be at the Junior High school daily and is on call as needed.
- Educational and psychological testing services and the services of a school psychologist as needed. In all cases, written permission to administer a psychological examination must be obtained from a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The results will be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s) with interpretation, as well as to the appropriate professional staff.
- The services of a social worker. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must consent to regular or continuing services from a social worker.

### **TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Parents/guardians may request information about the qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals, including:

- Whether the teacher has met State certifications requirements;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status by which State licensing criteria have been waived;
- The teacher's college major;
- Whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees; and
- Whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact the school office.

### **TRANSPORTATION/BUS CONDUCT**

The District shall provide free transportation for any student in the District who resides: (1) at a distance of 1.5 miles or more from his or her assigned school, unless the State Board has certified to the Illinois State Board of Education that adequate public transportation is available, or (2) within one and one-half miles from his or her assigned school where walking to school or to a pick-up point would constitute a serious hazard due to vehicular traffic or rail crossing, and adequate public transportation is not available. A student's parent(s)/ guardian(s) may file a petition with the Board requesting transportation due to the existence of a serious safety hazard.

All students must follow the District's School Bus Safety Guidelines. Gross disobedience or misconduct providing grounds for suspension from riding the school bus includes:

1. Prohibited student conduct as defined in the student discipline policy.
2. Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.
3. Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
4. Use of profanity.
5. Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor. The driver is in charge of all students while riding the bus. The following rules must be obeyed at all times:
  - a. Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop.
  - b. No pushing or shoving while boarding or exiting the bus.
  - c. Upon boarding the bus, you must remain seated, facing forward. No feet in the aisle.
  - d. Keep hands and head inside the bus.
  - e. No animals or pets may be taken on the bus.
  - f. Once a student is seated, he/she must retain that seat.
  - g. Talk quietly on the bus. No shouting or creating loud noises that may distract the driver. Tablets, iPods, iPads, smartphones and other electronic devices must be silenced on the bus unless a student uses headphones.
  - h. Talking back to the driver will not be tolerated.
  - i. Students must ride their assigned bus. They may ride another bus only with written permission from the office. Board and exit the bus at the designated stop only.
  - j. Keep the bus clean; use the trashcans.
  - k. Remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop.
  - l. If you must cross the street after exiting the bus, cross in front of the bus only.
6. Such other behavior as the administration deems to threaten the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.

Electronic video and audio recordings may be used on school buses to monitor conduct and maintain a safe environment for students and employees when transportation is provided for any school-related activity. The content of the electronic recordings are student records and are subject to District policy and procedure concerning school student records; such recordings are exempt from the Eavesdropping Act. If the content of an electronic recording becomes the subject of a student disciplinary hearing, it will be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

The superintendent and principal are authorized to suspend from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive days, students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct. The School Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 days for safety reasons. The typical progression of consequences is:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Driver warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Parent contact – warning
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Parent contact – bus-riding privileges suspended for one week
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense: Parent contact – recommendation to the Board of Education to suspend bus-riding privileges for the balance of the school year.

The administration reserves the right to modify the consequences for violations pending the severity of an offense. A student suspended from riding the bus who does not have alternate transportation to school shall have the opportunity to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit. It shall be the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternate transportation.

**Field Trips, Athletic Events, Music Contests, Pep Buses, etc.**

- Only East Dubuque students, staff, and riders pre-approved by the administration will be allowed to ride the bus.
- Conduct and behavior will be in accordance with school rules.
- Students will exit upon return at the point of origin. No other stops will be made.
- All extracurricular bus trips must have at least one adult chaperone.

**USING ANIMALS IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Animals may be brought into school facilities for educational purposes according to procedures developed by the Superintendent assuring: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for,

and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

Experiments on living animals are prohibited; however, behavior studies that do not impair an animal's health or safety are permissible. The dissection of dead animals or parts of dead animals shall be allowed in the classroom only when the dissection exercise contributes to or is a part of an illustration of pertinent study materials. All dissection of animals shall be confined to the classroom and must comply with the School Code.

Students who morally object to performing, participating in, or observing the dissection of animals are excused from classroom attendance without penalty during times when such activities are taking place. No student will be penalized or disciplined for refusing to perform, participate in, or observe a dissection. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) are hereby informed of each student's right to refrain from attending classes when instruction involves the dissecting of animals. The classroom teacher with the principal's approval shall arrange alternative instructional programs and classroom attendance for the students.

#### **VANDALISM/CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY**

Students are expected to take care of school property, including desks, chairs, books, lockers, and school equipment. Vandalism will not be tolerated. Students found to have destroyed or otherwise harmed school property will be subject to disciplinary consequences. The Board will seek restitution from students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) for vandalism or other student acts that cause damage to school property.

#### **VISITORS TO AND CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

All visitors (any person other than an enrolled student or District employee) to school property are required to report to the building principal's office and receive permission to remain on school property. All visitors must sign a visitor's log, show identification, and wear a visitor's badge. When leaving the school, visitors must return their badges. On those occasions when large groups of parents and friends are invited onto school property, visitors are not required to sign in but must follow the school official's instructions. Persons on school property without permission will be directed to leave and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member by telephone or email to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

The School District expects mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among all people on school property or at a school event.

#### **Convicted Child Sex Offender**

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender is:

1. A parent/guardian of a student attending the school and has notified the building principal of his/her presence at the school for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion and notifies the building principal of his or her presence at the school, or
2. Has permission to be present from the Board, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee. If permission is granted, the Superintendent or Board President shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

In all cases, the Superintendent or designee who is a certified employee shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity.

## **JUNIOR HIGH EXTRACURRICULAR HANDBOOK 2025-2026**

The Board of Education of the East Dubuque School District offers a variety of voluntary activities designed to enhance the education of its students. Students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school district throughout the calendar year, whether at or away from school. Students who wish to exercise the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with Board policy and must refrain from activities that are illegal, immoral, unhealthy, or highly inappropriate. Participation in school-sponsored activities is a privilege conditioned upon meeting the eligibility criteria established by the Board, administration, and individual activity coaches, directors, and advisors.

In addition to the expectations contained in this handbook, all other East Dubuque School Board policies are in full effect. The coach/director/advisor of an extracurricular activity may establish and make known rules of conduct and regulations in addition to those stated in this policy for the students participating in the activity. Those rules of conduct shall be approved by the building principal, shall be in writing, and shall be given to each student prior to his/her membership or involvement in the activity.

The Board of Education realizes that it is not possible to write rules and regulations that will fit every situation and set of circumstances, and the administrator handling the situation needs some latitude in the application and interpretation of these rules.

The following activities are covered by the Board's policies and these rules: academic bowl, athletics, drama productions, non-curricular instrumental and vocal music performances, student council, or any other activity where the student represents the school district outside the classroom.

### **REQUIRED FORMS**

1. **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:** In order to participate, student-athletes must annually have placed on file with the principal a certificate of physical fitness issued and signed by a licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse or physician assistant, as set forth in the Illinois State Statutes. Chiropractors are not authorized to issue physical examinations in the State of Illinois for Athletics. Physical examinations are good for only one (1) year from the date of the exam. The State of Illinois DHS physical forms are available in the high school office or on our website at [www.eastdbqschools.org](http://www.eastdbqschools.org) (click on the High School link, followed by the Printable Forms link).

2. **AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE/INSURANCE/MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION:** This form has three components to it:

1) An **AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE** form must be signed by the student (including team managers, stage crew, etc.) and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) and be on file in the principal's office before being allowed to participate;

2) Student-athletes must show proof of accident insurance coverage either by a policy purchased through the district-approved insurance plan or a parent(s)/guardian(s) written statement that the student is covered under a family insurance plan. The former can be accomplished by contacting the high school office; the latter can be satisfied by completing the portion of this form labeled **INSURANCE SIGN-OFF FORM**;

and 3) Parents must complete the **MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION** portion of this form. This gives the school personnel the authority to seek medical care for a student if the parent/guardian is unable to be contacted.

3. **IHSA: PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING SUBSTANCE TESTING POLICY/STEROID TESTING POLICY CONSENT TO RANDOM TESTING/CONCUSSION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CONSENT:** The student-athlete and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) must complete forms required by the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) concerning its performance-enhancing substance testing program and concussion protocol implemented in accordance with State law, before the student may participate in an athletic competition sponsored or sanctioned by IHSA.

4. FEES—All Junior High School athletes will be charged \$20 per activity they choose to participate in. If a student participates in multiple activities, the amount is capped at \$40 for the year.

### **ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL**

Any student who misses more than twenty minutes at the beginning of the school day (after 7:50 am) or any part of the remainder of the school day will not be allowed to participate in that activity by the coach/director/advisor. Medical and dental appointments are approved absences and must be confirmed in writing from doctors' or dentists' offices (e.g., bring back an appointment card). Funerals are excused, and appointments confirmed through the principal and/or athletic director may be excused.

Any student who is suspended will not be allowed to practice/rehearse or participate in games/meets/performances on the day(s) of the suspension.

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

To be academically eligible for an extracurricular activity, participating students must satisfy the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed all required work.
2. Beginning with the fourth week of each new semester, students' grades will be calculated weekly on a cumulative basis throughout the semester and submitted to the principal's office on the first school day of each week. Any student who has two or more failing grades will be declared ineligible. Ineligibility will run from Tuesday through the following Monday and until grades are resubmitted, whereby the student can earn back his/her eligibility. Any student who is ineligible for any three weeks of a junior high season (not necessarily consecutive) will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

To retain eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities at East Dubuque Junior High School, students must conduct themselves as good citizens both in and out of school at all times throughout the calendar year. Students who represent the school in an activity are expected to serve as good role models to other students and to members of the community.

A student is alleged to have violated any of the rules mentioned in this Code of Conduct if he/she:

- Is observed by one or more staff members employed by the East Dubuque School District.
- Is observed by one or more school board members of the East Dubuque School District.
- Is charged by a law enforcement official.
- Admits to violating any of the standards.
- Is found, by a preponderance of evidence, to have violated any of the standards.

Any alleged violation of the Code of Conduct must be presented in writing to the athletic director and/or principal and must state the alleged violation, the time and place of its occurrence, and must be signed by the person who witnessed the alleged violation.

Prior to the determination of a violation of the Code of Conduct, the athletic director and/or principal will hold a meeting at which the student shall be confronted with the allegation and given an opportunity to tell his/her side. Any student who is then found to have violated the school's Code of Conduct will be deemed ineligible for a period of time as described in this policy. A student will lose eligibility under the Code of Conduct for any of the following behaviors: □

\*\*Being in attendance at a function or party where the student knows or has reason to know that alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors and failing to leave despite having a reasonable opportunity to do so.

\*\*Possession, use, or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the student's age.

\*\*Possession, use, or purchase of alcoholic beverages. Only for church services is alcohol (e.g., wine) permitted.

\*\*Possession, use, or purchase of drugs (e.g., Marijuana, CBD, Heroine, Methamphetamine)

\*\*Unauthorized possession, use, or purchase of otherwise lawful drugs or products (e.g., "huffing" paint).

\*\*Unauthorized possession, use, purchase, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any product composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form or any illegal substance (including mood-altering and performance enhancing drugs or chemicals).

\*\*Unauthorized possession, use, purchase, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is a look alike weapon. This prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in athletics, such as archery, martial arts, target shooting, hunting, and skeet.

\*\*Haze or bully other students.

\*\*Engaging in any act that results in an arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses.

\*\*Flagrant misbehavior in class; flagrant disrespect of school personnel in or out of school; stealing in or out of school; vandalism in or out of school; disorderly conduct (as defined by state law) in or out of school.

A student may also lose eligibility for conduct unbecoming to an extracurricular participant and representative of our school. Since the continuum of inappropriate behaviors varies in its degrees of seriousness, a corresponding degree of latitude will be given to school administration in dealing with those involved.

### **Consequences**

When the administration believes it is more likely than not that the student violated the Code of Conduct during the school year or summer, the student is subject to a loss of eligibility as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> violation: Game/meet/performance ineligibility period equivalent to one-third of the season's dates (calculated at the student's highest level of participation) and anything that falls in between with a minimum performance penalty of one. Each tournament date will be considered one date of ineligibility.

Admission Prior to the Inception of an Investigation: If a student comes forward to a coach/director/advisor, athletic director, or principal to admit (self-report) a violation of the Code of Conduct prior to the inception of an investigation by the principal and/or athletic director, the student's 1<sup>st</sup> violation consequence may be reduced from "one-third" to "one-fourth."

A student who has a violation of the alcohol or drug provision of the Code of Conduct will be required to seek an evaluation and, if recommended, treatment from a recognized substance abuse facility at the student's or parent/guardian's expense. The appointment must be made before the student will be allowed to participate and must be scheduled within ten business days of a conference with school officials. This facility must be pre-approved by the Board or their designee before the initial evaluation. The student must agree to waive confidentiality to allow the facility to report back to the principal or his/her designee regarding recommendations for treatment or follow-up care. Eligibility will be reinstated as soon as the game/meet/performance consequence has been satisfied, as long as the student also completes the treatment program recommended by the substance abuse facility. If the student does not make a good faith effort to complete the treatment program, as determined by the principal or designee, the student will be declared ineligible until he/she completes the treatment program in full.

2<sup>nd</sup> or subsequent violations: One calendar year of ineligibility from the date school officials confirm a violation.

### **Additional Information Regarding Penalties**

- All violations of the Code of Conduct are cumulative in grades 7-8 for the purpose of determining the appropriate consequence(s). For the purposes of this policy, students are considered East Dubuque Junior High School students from the last day of school of their 6<sup>th</sup> grade year.
- If the period of time between a violation and the start of an activity is twelve calendar months or more, the student shall not serve an ineligibility period for the violation.
- The period of ineligibility attaches immediately upon the finding of a violation if the student is currently engaged in an extracurricular activity and, if not completed during the current activity, is carried over to the time the student next seeks to go out for an activity. Game/meet/performance consequences that are carried over from one activity to another will be prorated by the principal.
- If a student violates the Code of Conduct while currently engaged in an extracurricular activity and chooses to drop out of the activity prior to completion of the ineligibility period, the full penalty will attach when the student next seeks to go out for an activity, subject to the twelve-month limitation above.
- If a student violates the Code of Conduct while not currently engaged in an extracurricular activity, the penalty will carry over to the time the student next seeks to go out for an activity. If the student chooses to drop out of this activity after the completion of the ineligibility period but prior to the completion of the activity, then the full penalty will attach when the student next seeks to go out for an activity, subject to the twelve-month limitation above. In other words, if a student satisfies any portion of an ineligibility period during an activity, that student must remain an active member in good standing through the completion of the activity to satisfy the ineligibility requirement.
- For students involved in both athletics and fine arts or multiple athletic or fine arts activities -- if the ineligibility period cannot be satisfied within athletics or fine arts activities without an overlap of public performances, then the number of public performance dates for which the student will be ineligible will be the greater of the two; however, all public performances will count toward that total.
- An ineligible student may attend all practices/rehearsals and games/meets/performances, but may neither "suit up" nor participate/perform.
- If a violation occurs during an ineligibility period for a prior offense, consequences will be served consecutively rather than concurrently.

Any student declared ineligible under a prior school district's Code of Conduct and then, without having completed the full period of ineligibility at that school, transfers to the East Dubuque School District, will not be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities in the East Dubuque Schools until the full period of ineligibility has been completed. Once that time period of ineligibility has been completed, the student is then immediately eligible for participation in extracurricular activities in the East Dubuque Schools as far as any Code of Conduct is concerned.

### **Academic Consequences**

Unless the student violated the Code of Conduct while on school grounds, at a school event or activity off school grounds, or the violation may reasonably be considered to cause a material and substantial disruption in the orderly operation of the school, there will be no academic consequence (e.g., suspension from school) for the violation. Otherwise, additional consequences will apply as per the student handbook.

### **Appeals**

Any student who is found by the administration to have violated the Code of Conduct may request a review of the determination by contacting the superintendent in writing within seven calendar days of being advised of the violation by the principal and/or athletic director. The ineligibility consequence will remain in effect pending the superintendent's determination. Present at the hearing will be the superintendent, principal, student, and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). At this appeal hearing:

1. The athlete will be provided with an opportunity to testify and present other evidence on his/her behalf.
2. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be provided with an opportunity to present their opinions at the hearing.
3. Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

## **AWARDS**

1. A student must finish the activity in good standing.
2. If a student athlete chooses to participate in two activities during the same season (for example—Basketball and Drama), the coach/advisors and parent will meet at the beginning of the season to discuss potential conflicts and have a plan in place prior to the beginning of games/events.
3. Under special or unusual circumstances (for example, four years in an activity, illness, value to the program, etc.), a coach/director/advisor may recommend an award be given though the specific award requirement is not met. In athletics, this must meet with the athletic director's approval.
4. Any time a student is suspended for an entire season or activity, he/she forfeits his/her opportunity to receive awards directly related to that sport or activity.

## **CARE OF EQUIPMENT**

1. Each student is responsible for the proper care and safekeeping of all equipment issued to him/her.
2. Any lost equipment must be paid for by the student. The price will be determined by the coach/director/advisor.
3. School equipment is to be worn only at school-approved events unless otherwise authorized by the coach/director/advisor. At the conclusion of an activity, all equipment must be turned into the coach/director/advisor.

## **HAZING**

Soliciting, encouraging, aiding, or engaging in hazing is prohibited. "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed against a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization, club, or athletic team whose members are or include other students.

Students engaged in hazing will be subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

- Removal from extracurricular activities.
- Conference with parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Referral to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

Students engaging in hazing that endanger the mental or physical health or safety of another may also be subject to suspension for up to ten days and possible expulsion for the remainder of the school term.

## **SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION TO ACTIVITIES**

A student is required to ride school transportation to an activity in order to compete or participate, unless prior approval is granted by the administration. Students arriving at any activity by means other than those authorized by the school are ineligible for that activity and will not be allowed to participate.

Students who take school transportation to a school activity must return by the same means. However, a parent/guardian may sign-off his/her student in the presence of the coach/director/advisor at the event, or a parent/guardian may give permission for his/her student to ride home with another specified adult if the following occurs:

1. A written note from the parent/guardian is given to the coach/director/advisor at least one day prior to the event. This note must include the name of the specified adult.
2. The specified adult must be pre-approved by the principal or his/her designee.
3. The student is signed-off on site by the specified adult in the presence of the coach/director/advisor.

Failure of a student to return on school transportation or by a means approved in this policy will result in his/her suspension from school.

## **EARLY DISMISSAL**

When it is necessary for school officials to cancel school or dismiss school early as a result of inclement weather or other emergency conditions, practice sessions related to extracurricular activities are not permitted. As soon as all students have left the building, it will be secured.

If a game/contest is scheduled for a day when school is cancelled or dismissed for inclement weather, the decision to play the game or participate in the contest will be determined by the administration from all schools involved.