

Medicine Crow Middle School

“Welcome to the Wolfpack!”

WELCOME

Welcome to Medicine Crow Middle School! We are all – staff and students – very fortunate to have the opportunity to be members of the MC Wolfpack! Our goal is to make MCMS the very best place for us all to learn, work, play and grow TOGETHER. After all, a wolfpack is a family made up of distinct individuals of all ages, skills and abilities.

As the “Wolfpack”, we will strive to follow the way of the pack:

- * **Demonstrate loyalty** and devotion to the ‘pack’ or family by looking out for and supporting each other.
- * **Safeguard our territory** by taking excellent care of our school and grounds.
- * **Create teamwork** as a family unit to help, guide, encourage and keep each other safe.

To create this environment, we emphasize students to be **Respectful, Accountable, Safe and Determined**. Our vision is a place for students to learn in an environment where they know the adults care for the welfare and learning of every student; where students strive for their very best, while supporting and being positive to one another, knowing that every adult in the building is pulling for their success.

Ultimately, Medicine Crow Middle School will be the place we make it. Be proud of it. Take good care of it. Enjoy your time here. Make a successful journey through middle school!

The entire staff welcomes you to the Wolfpack!

Michael Thomas, Principal
Traci Doll, Associate Principal

Main Office: (406) 281-8600

MEDICINE CROW MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:

Striving for excellence today, empowering for success tomorrow.

MEDICINE CROW VISION

- Provide a challenging, standards-based educational program, preparing students for success.
- Create an environment of educational excellence using differentiated instructional strategies and activities to address the varied learning strengths of our students.
- Promote a caring, nurturing school community in which everyone can feel emotionally, intellectually, and physically safe and supported.
- Build positive characteristics such as perseverance, integrity, cooperation, and honesty, while encouraging respect for individual differences.

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GRADUATION

SUNDAY, MAY 24TH, 2026

Skyview 10:00 am

Senior 2:00 pm

West 6:00 pm

○	First and Last Day of School. September 2nd: K-6th, 9th & all new 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade students. September 3rd: All K-12 students in session. The last day of school is May 29 for all grades. Last day of school for seniors is May 22nd.
*	Vacation or Holiday
T	PIR/Trade Days (Trade Professional Development for Teachers) - No school.
P	PIR Days (State Required Pupil-Instruction-Related Training for Teachers) - No School.
N	NPR Days (Professional Development Non-Pupil-Related Training) - No School.
	Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences - Elementary Early Release. Note: Nov. 25 is Parent Teacher Conferences for Elem. and 6 week grading for MS & HS, and end of trimester for Elem.
	Snow Day - This will be a vacation day unless we are required to make-up a school day lost due to poor weather earlier in the year. If we are required to make-up a day, this vacation day will become a required day of attendance.
	Wednesday - PLC (Professional Learning Community) - Dismissal 1 hour early
	Middle School Early Release - October 23rd & 24th
	High School Semester Testing - HS Early Release
☆	Elementary End of Trimester
✦	Six-Week Grading Period for MS & HS

GENERAL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Medicine Crow students are expected to be Respectful, Accountable, Safe, and Determined at all times. I am expected to respect the authority of administration, staff, and all adults in the building. This means I will be courteous, use an appropriate tone of voice, and follow directions immediately, without argument. I am also expected to treat peers with respect and politeness. Please do not call others names, spread rumors, push in the halls, make fun of another student, or be unkind in general. We all have a responsibility to make Medicine Crow a safe and enjoyable place to be every day. Respectful, Accountable, Safe and Determined are the Medicine Crow standards and apply to all areas of life at Medicine Crow.

LANGUAGE

As a student at Medicine Crow, I know that the use of improper or profane language in school and/or at school activities is prohibited.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

At Medicine Crow, attending school regularly and being on time for classes affect what I learn and are necessary for success in school and on the job later in life.

When it is NECESSARY to miss school:

⇒ My parent/guardian will call the attendance office by 10:00 AM.

⇒ Excused absences include:

- Illness
- family emergencies
- school-sponsored functions
- other absences approved by the school administration.

⇒ To excuse absences, my parent/guardian will make a phone call or write a note to the attendance secretary.

⇒ If I know in advance that I will be absent, I will notify my teachers and get assignments ahead of time.

⇒ If I am absent for more than 2 consecutive days, my parent/guardian may call Mrs. Schaefer, our attendance secretary, and request assignments.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

- Some examples include: leaving the building without checking out with the office, not reporting to detention, oversleeping, or missing the bus.
- Repeated absences due to the same reason will result in a conference with building personnel.

When I am absent, whether it is excused or unexcused, I am responsible for all make-up work. I can receive full credit for anything I have missed if turned in on time. For every day missed, I will have one day to make up the work

TARDY PROCEDURE

A student will be considered tardy if not in the classroom and/ or seat when the tardy bell rings 1st period, or at the start of class the rest of the day. Repeated tardiness will be subject to consequences.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Starting time - 8:00 am

End time - 3:20 pm

- Students are released every Wednesday at 2:20 pm. School buses will run at that time as well.
- Time to get extra help is from 7:40 am - 8:00 am and/or 3:20pm - 3:30 pm or as arranged by the teacher.
- If I ride a scooter, bike or skateboard to school I need to place it in the appropriate rack. Students must provide their own locks, as the school is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- If I arrive at school before 8:00, I may eat breakfast or socialize outside with my friends. I may not use my phone in the building at this time.
- If I am not in activities or with a teacher after school, I need to be out of the building at 3:30.

SCHOOL GROUNDS AND APPOINTMENTS

When I am dropped off at school, I am to remain on school grounds until the time I am dismissed for the day. If I need to leave, I will bring a note to Mrs. Schaefer, the attendance secretary, so she can excuse me for the time of my appointment. A parent or guardian who is on my contacts list must check me out. If I arrive at school late from a morning appointment, I will bring a note from my appointment and check in with the attendance secretary.

LUNCH

- 30 minute lunch period
- Lunch money needs to be deposited on your account before school.
- After I am finished eating, I am responsible for cleaning up after myself.

**Parents may bring me lunch or takeout, however, I may not order the takeout myself.

**Medicine Crow has a closed campus which means that I may not leave for lunch unless I am with my parent/guardian or other authorized adult.

*****Restaurant/takeout delivery orders are NOT allowed to be received at school*****

VISITORS

Parents and authorized adults are always welcome to visit the school. All visitors must check in at the main office prior to their visit to receive a visitor's badge. To avoid disruptions, we do not allow students to bring student visitors to school.

BUSES

Students wait in a designated area while waiting for their bus. Disciplinary behaviors on the bus will result in consequences both with the bus company and at school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

The Medicine Crow dress policy is designed to provide an appropriate, distraction free learning environment. Just as adults will dress appropriately for work, students are expected to dress appropriately for school, as that is their "job." Please see the SD2 Handbook Dress Code Policy #3203.

Basic Guidelines at MCMS:

- ⇒ Shirts will be long enough to cover the stomach/back. They must touch the top of the bottoms.
- ⇒ Tank tops-think sleeveless shirt! Straps must be at least 2 inches wide on the shoulder. No spaghetti straps.
- ⇒ All undergarments - bras (sports or otherwise), boxers, briefs, etc. - need to be covered at all times.
- ⇒ All shorts and skirts must adequately cover the front, back, and sides, and the pockets must not be longer than the shorts.
- ⇒ Shoes with hard soles will be worn, no slippers.
- ⇒ Leggings with sheer panels and jeans with cut-out holes need to be school appropriate and not show any under garments.
- ⇒ Suggestive/inappropriate slogans, advertisements for drugs/tobacco/alcohol/marijuana are prohibited.
- ⇒ School administration reserves the right to final decisions regarding gang related attire.
- ⇒ Hats may be worn to school but need to be removed and placed in my locker by 8:10. I may not wear it on my belt during the school day. Hats are allowed during lunch only.
- ⇒ I may not wear a coat or jacket to class. Hooded sweatshirts are OK, but I must remove the hood while in the building.
- ⇒ My backpack/purse needs to stay in my locker. If I'm headed to and from my PE class, I may take my drawstring bag.

REPORT CARDS AND MID-TERMS

Report cards will be issued two times a year, at Semester and the Final Report Card will be mailed. Throughout the year parents may view student progress through Power Schools.

1/16/26 (Semester)

5/29/26 (Final-Mailed)

WOLF PACK PRIDE

Our mission of Wolf Pack Pride is to promote and celebrate our students' individuality, academic excellence and development of positive relationships with peers and adults. As part of this mission, we will model and create a school environment where academic achievement, continuous improvement, individuality and citizenship are promoted and recognized. We will strive to celebrate not only students who are already successful academic achievers, but also those who are making improvements in all aspects of Wolf Pack Pride. The following are components of Wolfpack Pride:

HONORS TEA

Students are honored for achieving high honor roll every report card period in middle school and at the end of their 8th-grade year. Medicine Crow celebrates these students for their outstanding academic achievement by recognizing them with the Honors Tea Ceremony. To achieve this honor, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher for every report card period in middle school. Spring 2025 semester is not included for Honors Tea consideration.

POWER OF THE PACK

The *Power of the Pack* shall be awarded to students at the end of the year who have earned 120 points for the following achievements/activities:

- Honor Roll = 40 points/semester
- Athletics = 20 points/sport
- Clubs/Activities = 10-40 points for each club/activity participated in

The below three categories qualify for points for **Power of the Pack**:

Academics, Clubs/Activities

Honor Roll, Pokemon Club, Art Club, Student Council, Book Club, Yearbook, SHOCK2, Tech Ed Club, reACT Club, All Nations, Chess Club, Math Club, Equality Pack, Library, Leadership

*Clubs may be added or deleted depending on student interest

Music

Solo and Ensemble Festival, before/after school Choir/Band/ Orchestra groups

Athletics

6th - Cross Country, Softball, Wrestling, Volleyball, Track

7th - Cross Country, Football, Softball, Wrestling, Basketball, Volleyball, Track

8th - Cross Country, Football, Softball, Wrestling, Basketball, Volleyball, Track

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Medicine Crow Middle School encourages its students to broaden their skills, knowledge, and citizenship by participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities.

Boys' Athletics: Boys in the sixth grade are able to participate in Cross Country, Wrestling, and Track, and will have the chance to try-out for the competitive basketball teams. Seventh and eighth-grade boys have the opportunity to compete in football, cross country, wrestling, basketball, and track.

Girls' Athletics: Girls in the sixth grade are able to participate in Cross Country, Softball, Volleyball, and Track, and will have the chance to try out for the competitive basketball teams. Seventh and eighth-grade girls have the opportunity to compete in Softball, Cross Country, Basketball, Volleyball, and Track.

	<u>START</u>	<u>END</u>
Cross-Country	09/2/25	10/15/25
Football	09/2/25	10/15/25
Softball	09/2/25	10/15/25
Girl's Basketball	10/20/25	12/11/25
Wrestling	10/20/25	12/11/25
Boy's Basketball	01/05/26	02/24/26
Volleyball	02/23/26	04/16/26
Track	04/14/26	05/26/26

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

In order to participate in such school activities a student must maintain a passing grade in all courses in which he/she is currently enrolled. However, if a student receives a deficiency (failing grade), he/she may continue to participate as long as there is improvement in the student's performance from the previous week. This guideline applies to all interscholastic and instructional athletic teams, musical productions, clubs and student government. It will be enforced as follows:

1. Each of the five sport seasons is seven weeks long. The first grade check will be on Monday following the completion of three weeks of practice (which is the instructional/ non-competitive portion of the season). The next grade check will be after each week until the end of the season.
2. Grade eligibility checks for clubs, student government, etc. will be on the same dates. Staff members will keep students and coaches informed as to the student's pass/fail status in each class.
3. If a student is deficient (failing in any class), the following will occur:
 - For the first deficiency, the student will be put on probation and given one week to achieve eligibility. Parents will receive a call from the teacher.
 - If the deficiency is not corrected at the conclusion of one week, the student will be allowed to practice but not participate in any contest activity. Coaches will call parents regarding this second deficiency.
 - Individual cases of eligibility will be reviewed by the coach/sponsor, teachers, and an administrator.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

- No student who is suspended out-of-school will be allowed to practice or participate on the days of the suspension. Students who spend time in ISS will be allowed to practice, but not participate in any game/concert.
- The suspension rules apply to Friday and Saturday activities.
- Three unexcused absences from practice will result in the student's suspension from the activity.
- ALL participants in athletic activities must have a parent consent form, a current physical on file in the main office, and have paid the participation fee before being allowed to participate in any activity.
- Attendance: Students must attend the last half-day of school on the day of a game or an activity, or receive approval from the principal to participate in an activity on that day. This also applies to Saturday games.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Library hours are 7:40 am - 3:30 pm. Books are checked out for 3 weeks and any book checked out in my name is my responsibility. If it is lost or stolen, I am still responsible for the value of the book.

CHROMEBOOK GUIDELINES

- **ANYTHING** you do on your school chromebook is monitored, even at home!! The school will be notified of any

inappropriate content or misuse of the chromebook. You and your parents will sign an acceptable use agreement and any violations of that agreement will have consequences.

- If your chromebook is not working, see Dawn in the main office.
- **DO NOT** put any stickers or gum wrappers on your chromebook.
- **DO NOT** pick off keys. Students will be charged for any damage/loss/theft of chromebooks or chargers. Fines must be paid before a new chromebook/charger can be taken home.
- **DO NOT** share your chromebook with anyone else.
- Make sure all food/drink containers in your locker are sealed tight! You don't want to have to buy a new chromebook because of a spill.

LOCKERS

I will respect my locker as it is on loan to me for my years at Medicine Crow. My locker is property of the school district and may be inspected at any time by school personnel. To respect my locker:

- I will keep the combination to myself
- I will NOT write on mine or anyone else's locker
- I will NOT place stickers in/on my locker
- If my locker is decorated for my birthday, I will remove the decorations and tape at the end of the day
- I will be responsible for any and all valuables that I may place in my locker
- I will be financially responsible for any mistreatment of my assigned locker

ELECTRONIC DEVICES-AWAY FOR THE DAY

"Away for the Day" means just that. Student cell phones, iPods, earbuds, smart watches, or other electronics with Internet access are put away in backpacks and lockers from 7:50am - 3:20pm. When students are eating breakfast or come in from outside to go to lockers in the morning at 7:50am, cell phones/ electronics are turned off and put in backpacks. The backpack, with the phone/electronics, is then left in the student locker. If students have their phones out between these times, they will be asked by any adult in the building to turn over their phone to that adult. The adult takes the phone to the Main Office, where the student picks it up at the end of the school day. If smart watches are being used as a watch, students may wear them. If the watch is used for apps or for communication, the student will be subject to consequences. Consequences will occur with repeated offenses, see below. You might be asking why, in this age of technology, would we make such a policy and fight this battle. Simple, current research on the development of the teenage brain - especially at the middle school age - shows that too much screen time is detrimental to brain development, attention span, ability to focus, and face to face social development. The self control to avoid looking at and responding to the phone at every ding and chirp throughout the day is just not developed. The distraction to learning and social development is too great. If you are curious about an "Away for the Day" cell phone policy, please search: <https://www.awayfortheday.org/> for more information.

Any time a device is confiscated by a staff member, it will be sent to the office with the student's name where the phone will be stored. Consequences will occur with repeated offenses as follows:

- 1st offense: Pick up phone at the end of the day
- 2nd offense: Phone will be picked up at the end of the day along with a lunch detention.
- 3rd offense: Phone will be picked up at the end of the day by parent or guardian along with after school detention.
- 4th offense: Phone will be picked up at the end of the day by parent or guardian along with after school detention. A conference will take place with the family and administration to establish a plan.
- Further Offenses: Subject to Administrator discretion as per the Billings Public Schools District Acceptable Use Policy.

TELEPHONE

If I need to contact my parents/guardian in the case of an urgent matter, I may ask to use the telephone at the attendance office or in any of the classrooms.

MEDICATION

The school nurse or school staff do not dispense medication of any kind, including over-the-counter medications. Over the counter medications may be kept in my locker, but may not be shared with other students. If I need to take medication during school hours, I will notify the nurse or attendance clerk. I will leave my prescription medicine in the attendance office in the original container with only the required number of doses to be taken at school and will go to the office at the prescribed time to take my medicine. My parent or guardian must sign a parent permission slip for the school to store my medication.

COUNSELING/SOCIAL SERVICES

My school counselors provide social/emotional support and informational services to individual students, as well as group guidance throughout the school year via classrooms. I may request to see the counselor by submitting an electronic form. Parents and teachers

may contact counselors with concerns as well.

⇒ Haley Pardy - All 6th grade

⇒ Jolene Laughery - All 8th grade

⇒ Jyton Schrottenboer- All 7th grade

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- I may not bring a laser pen to school.
- Fireworks are not school appropriate and not allowed on campus.
- Any item that is a distraction to my learning or the learning of my peers may be taken away until the end of the school day by any adult in the building and the issue will be addressed by staff and/or administration. Items will be returned at the end of the day. If this is a repeated event, parents may be requested to pick up the item.
- No squirt guns, toy guns or any replica weapons.

DETENTION/SUSPENSION

If I am sent out of a class, I will be sent to the ISS room. While there, I will complete all work given. I will be expected to make up all work or missed assignments. During an out-of-school suspension, students are responsible for completing all class work assigned during the suspension. The student can hand in all assignments on his/her first day back at school for full credit. If assignments are handed in after that 1st day, reduction in grades are subject to the teacher's discretion.

MEDICINE CROW MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE MATRIX

Depending on the severity of the offense, an administrator may impose any level of disciplinary action that is warranted to ensure an orderly educational atmosphere and promote health and safety for all.

Minor Behaviors:	Major Behaviors:
• Arguing • Defiance • Disrespect: Rude or Dismissive language or actions • Disrupting class: Low intensity • Dress Code • Misuse of Technology • Not following directions • Off-task: hallway, bathroom, or classroom • Physical Contact or aggression: inappropriate but not serious • Property Misuse: Low intensity • Stealing • Teasing, name-calling, or deliberately annoying peers • Unprepared for class	• Assault • Cheating • Destruction of Property • Fighting • Harassment, intimidation, bullying, threat, sexual contact • Inappropriate Sexual Contact • Inappropriate technology use: High-intensity • Insubordination • Possession of vapes, drugs or alcohol • Profanity • Repeated minor behaviors • School Threat • Truancy/Skipping Class • Weapons

Minor Behaviors

Behavior	Definition
Arguing	Talking back, disagreeing with no compromise (can be peer to peer or student to teacher).
Defiance	Refusing to comply, choosing to not follow guidance, ignoring directions
Disrespect	Purposeful lack of showing care and courtesy towards others

	(can be words and actions, cussing, ignoring, lying, tone of voice, body language).
Disrupting Class	Behavior stops the flow of learning (can be words or actions, blurting, screaming, laying on the floor, noises etc.)
Dress Code	No undergarments or private parts showing. Anything with reference to drugs, paraphernalia, profanity, innuendos, or abbreviations for profanity is unacceptable.
Misuse of Technology (Examples- cell phones, airpods, and computers)	Wrong website, personal technology use during school hours, unsafe use of devices, games, and music.
Not Following Directions	Would require multiple prompts to be included in the other behavioral definitions. To be counted as a minor when it is interfering with the group or flow of learning.
Off-Task	Any action that is not related to the task at hand (side conversations, staring off into space, disengaged, doing things other than the expectation).
Physical Contact/Aggression	Inappropriate, non-serious horseplay or hands-on behavior towards another person.
Property Misuse	Carelessly damaging property, smearing soap, snapping pencils, purposefully putting water on the floor, drawing on desk/carpet/wall/friends/self.
Public Displays of Affection	Inappropriate physical contact. (Ex: hand holding, kissing, hugging.)
Stealing	Taking items of minimal value from peers/teachers.
Tease/Deliberately Annoy	Purposefully provoking others, bothering others for positive or negative attention, or invading space while not adjusting behavior when asked.
Unprepared For Class	Coming to class without required learning materials(ie. Paper, pencil, planner, computer, textbook, etc.)

Major Behaviors

Behavior	Definition
Assault	Physically attacking an unwilling participant
Cheating	Copying or lying to try to make academic gains, to claim someone else's work as your own, i.e. plagiarism. The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is also a form of cheating/plagiarism and will be handled in the same manner.
Destruction of Property	Damaging, vandalizing or destruction of property (school, peer/adult or personal)
Fighting	Mutual participation in physical violence
Harassment (Including sexual, racial, religious, and/or derogatory slurs)	Disrespect in any format related to gender, ethnicity, sex, race, religion, disability, physical features, or other protected class.

	I.e. intimidation, bullying, threat, sexual contact
Inappropriate Sexual Contact	Inappropriate physical contact, gestures, or communications of a sexual nature directed at another person.
Inappropriate technology use-high-intensity	Multiple violations of cell phones, airpods, or cameras. Accessing non-school related material using Chromebooks. Destruction or damage of these items.
Insubordination	Defiance that disrupts the learning of self or others after multiple redirections
Possession of vapes, drugs, or alcohol	Use or distribution of drugs, alcohol and vapes, including nicotine
Profanity	Inappropriate language, gestures, or written messages
School threat	A threat of violence with the intent to cause fear, safety, and/or violence on school property.
Theft	Taking items of significant value from peers/teachers (ie. calculator, phone, computer)
Truancy	Skipping or leaving class without permission
Weapons	The possession of a gun, knife, or explosive. The use of any object with intent to threaten, harm, or intimidate another person, regardless of the object's primary function.

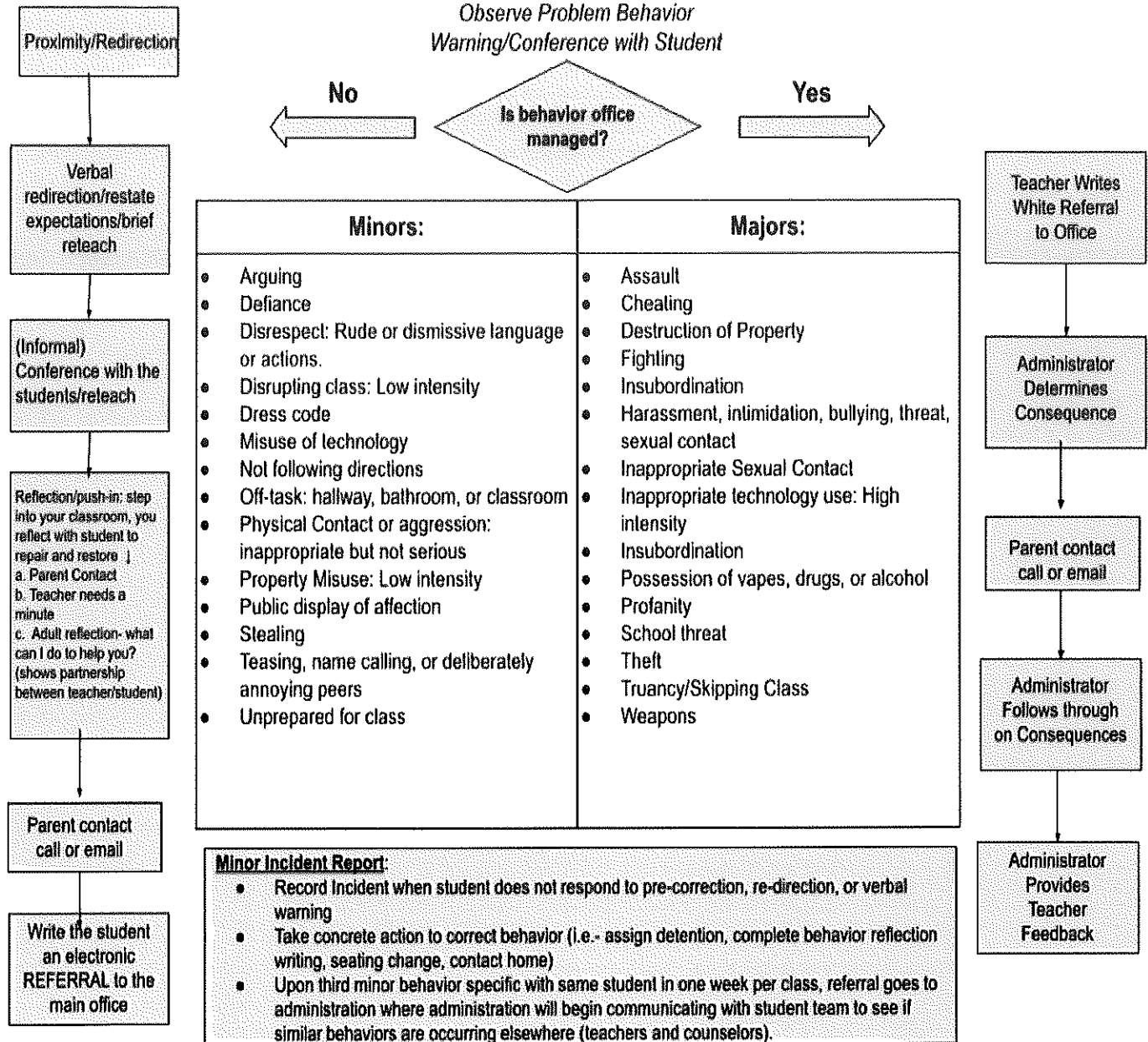
Possible Consequences

- Warning
- Detention (lunch, before or after school)
- Loss of Privileges
- In-School Suspension
- Out-of-School Suspension
 - Assigned to the Truancy center when seats are available
- No Tolerance Warning Letter
- Administrative Due Process Hearing
- Referral to Law Enforcement
- Referral to Riverstone Health INDEPTH Class

*Additional information regarding discipline procedures and expectation can be found in the District Parent/Student Handbook

Behavior Decision Flowchart

*Observe Problem Behavior
Warning/Conference with Student*



NOTE: Depending on the severity of the offense, an administrator may advance to any level of disciplinary action that is warranted to promote and ensure an orderly and safe educational atmosphere in the school.

In addition to this Medicine Crow Middle School handbook of procedures specific to our school, a district level **Student/ Parent Handbook** link is included below.. It is your obligation as a student in our district to know the contents of both and to understand that both the district's **Student/Parent Handbook** and the school's student handbook carry the weight of and contain adopted policies of the school district. Violations of district policy will be dealt with through disciplinary actions assigned by our building administrators as agents of the Board of Trustees. And, the assurances afforded by district policy will be provided to you by district administration and staff. Both rules and assurances are contained in the District's **Student/Parent Handbook**. The following policies and procedures are found in the District's **Student/Parent Handbook**. In addition, they may be located by accessing the district's website at: www.billingsschools.org and clicking on the **Parent's Tab** and then on the **District**

Contents of Student/Parent Handbook of Board Policies and Procedures

Please find the following policies, procedures and forms in the district's Student/Parent Handbook:

<https://www.billingsschools.org/parent-portal>

Policy 3120 Attendance Policy and Removal of Student during School Day Procedure 3120-P1 Compulsory Attendance

Procedure 3120-P12 Student Attendance

Form 3210-F1 Equal Educational Opportunity

Policy 3200 Student Rights & Responsibilities

Procedure 3200-P1 Student Due Process Rights

Procedure 3200-P2 Freedom of Expression

Procedure 3200-P3 Student Publications

Policy 3205 District-Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services & Networks

Procedure 3205-P1 Acceptable Use Procedure

Procedure 3224-P1 Student Dress-Gang Activity or Association Policy 3225 Sexual Harassment

Policy 3235 Video Surveillance

Procedure 3235-P1 Video Surveillance

Policy 3250 Student Discipline

Procedure 3250-P1 Hazing

Procedure 3250-P2 Student Conduct

Procedure 3250-P5 Gun-Free Schools

Procedure 3250-P6 Detention

Procedure 3340-P1 Chemical Use Policy

Form 3600-F1 FERPA Annual Notification

SD #2 Weapon's Contract