Ozark School District
High School Handbook

2025-2026

Ozark School District High School
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Welcome

Welcome to the new school year. Ozark High School (OHS) is very excited about the opportunities that await us in the upcoming school year. To our students, always be willing to challenge yourself, try your best, and work hard. Hold high expectations and standards for yourself. On behalf of Ozark High School, we wish you all the very best in this upcoming school year.

Parents, should you plan to visit the school, remember to bring your ID and sign in at the main office. Please note that visitors are not allowed to meet with teachers or students unless prior arrangements have been made and the office notified.

Communication and involvement are the keys to success in your student's education. We strongly encourage you to participate in your student's education. At any time, if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email us at Ozark High School.

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* *To search this document, use the CTRL and F function to seek keywords and phrases.*

A+ Scholarship Program

The *A+* Scholarship Program provides scholarship funds to eligible graduates of *A+* designated high schools who attend a participating public community college or vocational/technical school, or certain private two-year vocational/technical schools.

A+ financial incentive students must meet the following requirements:

1. Enter into a written agreement with the school prior to high school graduation.
2. Attend a designated *A+* School for two consecutive years prior to high school graduation.
3. Maintain at least a 95% overall attendance for grades 9 through 12.
4. Graduate from high school with an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale (unweighted).
5. Perform 50 hours of unpaid, school-based tutoring, or mentoring for younger students.
6. Maintain a record of good citizenship, as defined by the student handbook, avoid the unlawful use of drugs and/or alcohol or violate the Ozark District student alcohol/drug abuse policy. Refer to school board policy JFCL and JFCH.
7. Achieve a score of proficient or advanced on the Algebra 1 End of Course Exam (EOC) or other MDHE approved Mathematics score listed in the following table.

ACT Math Score		High School GPA
17 or greater	and	2.5 or greater
16	and	2.8 or greater
15	and	3.0 or greater

Attendance Policy

Participation in the *A+* Schools Program is both an honor and a privilege. To qualify for the *A+* Financial Incentive, a student must have at least a 95% attendance record for the four years of high school. A student who has less than 95% attendance for four years will not qualify for the *A+* financial incentive.

Citizenship Policy

An important component of the *A+* Schools Program is the fostering of good citizenship in the District's students. A student demonstrates good citizenship by showing respect for self, law, property, and the rights of others.

To qualify for the *A+* financial incentive, a student's behavior shall be in compliance with Board Policies, the guidelines in the student handbook, the *A+* Schools guidelines, the Safe Schools Act, and state and local regulations and laws.

Citizenship Update

The assistant principals update SIS with each student's citizenship status as required. The updated information is verified each semester or as needed by the *A+* Coordinator and is used to satisfy the citizenship requirements of the *A+* Schools Program.

Citizenship Eligibility

Student discipline records are maintained throughout the four years of high school. These records are reviewed at the end of each semester by the *A+* Coordinator. In-school suspensions, office-assigned after-school detentions, and out-of-school suspensions are cumulative over the four years a student attends high school. Citizenship/discipline violations that may jeopardize a student's *A+* eligibility include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. *Five Days In-School Suspension, Office-Assigned After-School Detentions, and/or Out-of-School Suspension* - Any student who accumulates any combination of five days of in-school suspension, office-assigned after-school detentions, and/or out-of-school suspension will be counseled by *the A+* Coordinator with regard to their *A+* eligibility status.
2. *Ten Days In-School Suspension, Office-Assigned After-School Detentions, and/or Out-of-School Suspension* - Any student who accumulates any combination of 10 days of in-school suspension, and/or out-of-school suspensions (with the exception of out-of-school suspension stated below) will be counseled by the *A+* Coordinator and be placed on warning status.
3. *Eleven Days Out-of-School Suspension* - Any student who accumulates 11 days of out-of-school suspension will be immediately removed from the *A+* Schools Program.
4. *Fifteen Days In-School Suspension, Office-Assigned After-School Detentions, and/or Out-of-School Suspension* - Any student who accumulates any combination of 15 days of in-school suspension, office-assigned after-school detentions, and/or out-of-school suspensions will be immediately removed from the *A+* Schools Program.

Review/Action

Students who are removed from the *A+* Schools Financial Assistance Program and their parent/guardian will be notified via certified mail that their student has been removed from the *A+* Schools Financial Assistance Program and will not be eligible for the *A+* financial assistance.

A review committee (consisting of the principal, assistant principals, a counselor, two teachers, and the *A+* Coordinator) will review any appeals regarding placement in a warning status or removal from the *A+* Schools Financial Assistance Program.

Automatic Ineligibility

In compliance with the regulations of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's *A+* Schools Financial Assistance Program, a student will be removed immediately from the program and thus forfeit the opportunity to receive funds through the program for any of the following:

Drugs/Alcohol/Substance Abuse

1. Violated the Ozark School District's drug/alcohol/substance abuse policy outlined in Board policy JFCH during the *A+* agreement time.
2. Unlawfully used or possessed drugs, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol on or off school property during the four-year period immediately prior to graduation.
3. Formally charged, pled guilty or nolo contendere (no contest) to, receive a suspended imposition of sentence or suspended execution of sentence for, agree to a deferred prosecution for, or been convicted or found guilty of unlawful possession, under the influence or selling of drugs, paraphernalia or alcohol.

Violation of Local, State or Federal Criminal Laws

1. Convicted of a felony.
2. Pled guilty or nolo contendere (no contest) to, received a suspended imposition of sentence or suspended execution of sentence for, agreed to a deferred prosecution for, or been convicted or found guilty of a misdemeanor or felony.

Participation Agreement, Discipline, and Appeal

All students wishing to participate in the *A+* program must submit a completed *A+* participation agreement. If the coordinator determines a student who has submitted a participation agreement has violated the terms of that agreement or District policies or procedures regarding *A+* participation, the coordinator will notify the student in writing and may put the student on probation or dismiss the student from the program. The student or the student's parents/guardians may appeal dismissals from this program, in accordance with written District procedures, to the Board of Education or to a committee of Board members appointed by the president of the Board and given the authority to act for the Board. The Board or the Board's committee will hear the student's appeal in closed session and will notify the student of its decision. Policy JFCL

Academic Expectations

Ozark High School believes every student has the right to an education free from disruptions in a safe and orderly environment. The teachers at OHS will use the best practices in education and set high but achievable standards for their students. OHS expects all students to put forth the effort necessary to achieve at the highest level, ask for help when needed, and to complete all assigned work. Academic dishonesty is outlined in board Policy JG-R1.

Academics Explained

Earning Credits

To fulfill the graduation requirements of Ozark High School, students must complete a minimum of 30 units of credit during grades nine and above. The student's program must be cooperatively planned and approved by the student, his or her parents, and the school. The program shall include courses of study in social studies, English, mathematics, science, fine arts, practical arts, and physical education, as specified below.

- To receive credit for a course during any semester, the student must enroll in the course during the first two weeks. This requirement is not intended to apply to students transferring into the school from another with matching or similar offerings.

- A secondary student may take up to a maximum of two credits on a pass-fail basis during his/her four years. The course, if passed, will count as credit toward graduation, but will have no effect on grade point average or class rank.

- *The student must request permission from the teacher and counselor asking to take a class Pass/Fail within the first two weeks of the semester.*

Academic (Graduation) Requirements
Policy IKF

English	4
Social Studies	3
Mathematics	3
Science	3
Fine Arts	1
Practical Arts	1
Physical Education	1
Health	0.5
Academy Exploration*	0.5
Personal Finance	0.5
Electives	12.5
Totals	**30**

A student must have completed at least seven semesters of high school (not including summer school) in order to graduate early.

English must include English I, II, plus additional English courses to equal four credits of English; it may include one unit of speech and/or debate.

Practical Arts include business, industrial technology, agriculture, family and consumer science, vocational/technical courses, CCE/Marketing, A+ Tutoring, and JROTC.

Fine Arts include art, vocal and instrumental music, and drama.

Science includes Physical Science (9th) and Biology (10th). The additional unit of science may be obtained through a science elective, or through a third Vocational Agriculture class, chosen from a combination of the following classes: Ag Science I, Forestry, Animal Science, Intro to Horses, Fish & Wildlife Management, Horticulture (Greenhouse Management), and Landscaping.

Social Studies US History (9th), World Cultures (10th), and Government (11th).
In addition to the program of study for graduation, a student must pass proficiency exams covering the United States Constitution, the Missouri Constitution, and Missouri Civics Initiative Test to qualify for graduation from the district.

Mathematics includes Algebra 1 or Concepts of Algebra 1A/1B is a required course for all students, plus additional mathematics to equal three credits. If high school elective credit was earned for JH Algebra I, three additional math credits are required.

Physical Education Students must have 1 credit of P.E.

College Preparation
College-bound students are strongly urged to select additional elective units from the core curriculum areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies, as well as a foreign language.

OHS counselors recommend the following courses for college-bound students:
4 credits English
4 credits of Math (Algebra I and higher)
3 credits of Social Studies
3 credits of Science
2 credits of the same Foreign Language
Additional electives from the areas listed above

Advanced Placement Offerings
Students enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) courses may take the College Board exam for the corresponding course. OHS students who score a 3 or higher (on a scale of 0-5) may be eligible to receive college credit from a cooperating college or university. Students are urged to check with their intended college or university as policies on accepting AP scores vary. The AP exam is given in May at Ozark High School. Students will be provided information about registering for AP exams in their classes.

Courses offered:
AP English Language & Composition
AP English Literature & Composition
AP Precalculus
AP Calculus: AB and BC
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics I & II
AP Psychology
AP United States Government & Politics
AP French Language & Culture
AP Spanish Language & Culture
AP Art & Design: 2D Art & Design, 3D Art & Design, and Drawing

OHS Online Information
OHS Online Education Agreement

Dual Credit
Missouri State University
MSU dual enrollment offerings are available to juniors and seniors. Instructor permission is necessary. MSU dual enrollment classes are not weighted. See OHS Academic Planning Handbook for a list.

Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC)
Some OTC Courses are given weighted GPA credit at OHS. See OHS Academic Planning Handbook for a list.

Eligibility:
Juniors and seniors at OHS with a 3.0 GPA may take up to two approved OTC classes per semester (fall and spring). Each class will replace one of the student's eight blocks of attendance. Students who have earned an F in a previous OTC class are not eligible for classes the following semester.

Attendance Policy:
After more than two weeks of absences per class (or inactivity for online classes) during the semester, OTC can administratively withdraw you from the course due to your lack of effort. Students who are administratively withdrawn will receive a grade of F on their high school transcript and will be responsible for reimbursing the school for the cost of the class.

Grades:
All grades earned (including F's) at OTC will be reflected on the student's OHS transcript. In addition, withdrawing or being dropped from a class after the first week of OTC classes will also result in an F on the OHS transcript.

Payment:
Students will be liable to pay for the class(es) and the OHS student account will be charged for the following situations at the end of the semester:

- Failing a course
- Dropping a course after the first week of OTC classes
- Being administratively withdrawn due to attendance

To drop an OTC course before the semester begins, you MUST fill out a course request change form from the OHS Counseling Office. Failing to attend class does NOT constitute an official withdrawal and will result in the student being administratively withdrawn and course fees charged to their account.

Interested students should attend informational meetings at Ozark High School. Check online or in the Counseling Center for times and dates.

Books and lab fees are the responsibility of the student. Books can be obtained from OTC, bookstores, or online sources.
Transportation is the student's responsibility. Thus, a driving waiver must be on file in the office for students wanting to take OTC classes at the Richwood Valley campus.

Articulated Credit
Students enrolled in Articulated Courses may qualify for OTC credit after high school graduation and upon enrollment at OTC. There is no charge to obtain the OTC credit for these classes. See OHS Academic Planning Handbook for the list of classes.

Additional Credit Opportunities

- Additional credit will be accepted toward graduation under these provisions:
    - Only courses completed from an accredited secondary or postsecondary school will be accepted.

- No more than two credits will be accepted.
- Grades will be reported on the high school transcript based on the OHS grading scale. Weighted credit will not be given for any additional credit earned.
- Courses must be pre-approved by the student's counselor.
- Courses must be completed prior to the end of the graduating semester.
- All course fees are the responsibility of the student.

Home School Credit

Ozark High School will follow the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recommended guidelines for accepting homeschool credit.

If a parent decides to home school, he or she shall offer 1,000 hours of instruction during the school year with at least 600 hours in the basics, which will be in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science. At least 400 of the 600 hours shall occur in the home location. A completed credit towards high school graduation is defined as 100 hours or more of instruction in a course. A parent who is homeschooling a child must maintain the following records:

1. A plan book, diary, daily log, or other written record indicating the subjects taught and the activities engaged in with the student;
2. A portfolio containing samples of the student's academic work;
3. A record of evaluation of the student's academic progress; or
4. Other written or credible evidence equivalent to 1, 2, or 3.

Homeschool courses with proper documentation will be awarded a Pass grade on the student's transcript. Students who receive a Pass grade on their transcript may not graduate with Honors.

Transfer/Home School Credits

OHS awards transfer credit to students who have earned credits at accredited schools. Transfer grades and credits are recorded on a student's transcript. Credits earned at unaccredited schools, including home school, will be recorded as Pass/Fail on the student's transcript. One-half credit will be awarded for each 50 documented hours of instruction, not to exceed nine credits per calendar year. Students receiving unaccredited transfer credits, including homeschool, may not graduate with honors.

Grades

A weighted grade system is used to reward students for taking higher-level academic courses. The system gives a one-point bonus to students receiving an A, B, or C in the following eligible courses:

English	**Science**	**Social Studies**
Honors English I Honors English II AP Eng. Lit. and Comp. AP Eng. Lit. and Lang.	Honors Physical Science Honors Biology AP Biology Chemistry AP Chemistry Anatomy and Physiology AP Physics I AP Physics II	Honors US History Honors World Cultures Honors Intro Am. Govt. AP US Govt & Politics AP Psychology

Mathematics	Foreign Language	Other
Honors Geometry Honors Algebra II AP Precalculus AP Calculus DC Algebra for Calculus	AP Spanish Lang & Culture AP French Lang & Culture	OTC College Now Courses AP Art & Design

The following grading scale is used to calculate the grade-point average of both weighted and regular courses:

Letter Grade	Grade Points	High School Weighted Points
A	4	5
B	3	4
C	2	3
D	1	1
F	0	0
Incomplete		
Pass/Fail		

The following system will be used for evaluating scholarship:

A	Excellent
B	Superior or above average
C	Average
D	Inferior or below average
P/F	Pass-Fail
CR	Individual achievement based on academic potential
F	Unsatisfactory work (No credit allowed; work is not acceptable according to student's ability)
Y	Successful completion of Missouri and U.S. constitution requirements
I	Incomplete work (Work must be made up or completed within the following quarter, or it becomes an "F" grade. Incomplete grades must have prior clearance from the building principal.)

Quarter grades serve only as an indicator of the student's progress for a specific period of time. Only semester grades become part of the student's official transcript, and these are based upon the student's performance throughout the entire semester. Quarter or progress report grades do not affect a student's GPA or class rank.

All classes taken for credit during the semester as a part of the student's daily schedule will be counted toward the student's grade point average, with the exception of P/F and CR courses.

Academic Recognition

In an effort to reward and recognize students at OHS who have excelled in their classroom work, academic honors are awarded in the following manner:

- Students must have at least a 3.85 cumulative GPA to qualify

- 10th-12th grade students with a 4.0 or greater will receive an academic medallion
- Awards earned: First year- Academic Letter, Subsequent year(s)- Academic Bar

Transfer students are immediately eligible for the academic awards if transferring from an accredited institution. If transferring from an unaccredited institution or homeschool, the student must attend OHS for two consecutive semesters.
These awards are based on the student's grade point average at the end of the fall semester each year.
*Students who obtain a 3.85 GPA after the fall cut-off must notify the front office for verification, then the student will be awarded at a later date.

Class Rankings/Honors
In the interest of encouraging and recognizing outstanding achievement, students meeting established criteria may graduate with honors. To be eligible for honors, a student must meet the following criteria listed in Policy IKC.

Diploma & MVA Distinction
A Market Value Asset (MVA) is a cornerstone experience that prepares a student for future learning and employment. MVAs are authentic previews of the world of work or post-secondary education. While the professional and academic worlds are ever-changing, the skills students develop when they work on authentic projects with real employers and mentors are durable enough to benefit them throughout their lives. It is the goal of OHS for all graduating seniors to graduate with a diploma & MVA.

Academies
Ozark High School has created six overarching Academies for students to choose from based on their interests, talents and plans after high school. Within each Academy are programs known as pathways, which will guide students through their high school curriculum. More information about the academy model can be found on the Academies page of our website. The six academies are:

- Health Sciences
- Industrial and Engineering Technology
- Human Services
- Natural Resources and Agriculture
- Business and Computer Technology
- Arts and Communication

Accidents in School
All accidents which occur in school, whether serious or not, must be reported to the school nurse immediately. The school nurse administers first aid, immediate temporary care, and notifies parents whenever it is deemed necessary. No student will be sent or taken home early unless an adult is present to assume responsibility for the student.

AMI (Inclement Weather Procedures)
In case Ozark School District needs to cancel school, use late start procedures or early release procedures due to inclement weather, we want you to be informed of the process. Student and

faculty safety is the primary concern in making the call for canceling versus late start or early release. See the district procedures in the link above.

Assemblies

Attending school assemblies is a privilege. Failure to abide by assembly rules will result in removal from the assembly plus any other consequences as determined by the administration.

Attendance

Daily attendance at school is the first and most important part of any student's success in his or her educational program. For this reason, each student under the guidance of a parent/legal guardian shall make every attempt to maintain the highest possible attendance. This commitment to attendance has given the Ozark School District a level of participation of which everyone can be proud. There are, however, certain conditions that may make attendance impractical.

The District is committed to providing the best possible educational program for all students and is committed to working constructively with parents toward this goal.
School officials are charged under Missouri Revised Statute Sections 167.031, 167.081, and 167.111 with overseeing that each child is in compliance with state school attendance laws. Each school district in Missouri is expected to meet and/or exceed the goal that 90% of all students attend school at a rate greater than 90%.

With these considerations in mind, the following attendance rules apply to Ozark High School:

- Students who need to leave campus during the school day for any reason must provide parental permission to the office prior to leaving.
- Subject to the following conditions, students are expected to make up any work missed.
    1. A reasonable amount of time may be allowed for this work, as determined by the teacher.
    2. The make-up work will approximately equal to what is missed but will not necessarily be of identical content.
    3. The opportunity to make up work must not interfere with the rights of those who are present to proceed with their involvement in the educational process. Therefore, the teacher will schedule make-up work at the teacher's discretion and judgment.
    4. Students must understand that not all learning can be "made up." Class participation, discussion, and the like may not be repeated or reconstructed. Experiences of this kind must be recognized as simply "missed."

- Occasionally instances may occur which constitute truancy or willful and unnecessary absence. Such instances are addressed as disciplinary incidences and are subject to investigation and handling by school officials. Every effort will be made to work with the parents and keep them informed in the event of such circumstances.
- As absences accumulate, a systematic approach to communicating with the student and their family becomes more and more critical. The Ozark High School will follow the attendance guidelines, listed below, to ensure that communication is integral to maintaining the highest level of attendance.

1. An informational letter is sent notifying the parent that student absences have increased. The purpose of this letter is to inform parents and students about the importance of regular attendance.

2. A second letter informs parents there is a growing concern with regard to student absenteeism. The District can provide support and assistance to parents as needed.

3. A third letter is to inform the parents that the number of student absences has increased to the point of being critical, and action is needed to correct the situation. The District will take appropriate action to assist the parents in correcting their student's poor attendance. This could include but is not limited to attendance plans, meetings with parents/guardians to resolve issues, and include outside agencies to assist in supporting the parents to resolve the situation.

4. A fourth letter is to inform parents that the situation has reached a critical level. The District may require parents to meet with the attendance committee. This committee is composed of the executive director of student services, a building level administrator, and a school resource officer. The purpose of this committee is to review all documentation and ensure the student, parents, and District are doing everything possible to resolve the situation.

The District's primary goal is to encourage attendance, not punish absences. With this in mind, teachers, parents, and students should maintain and improve the educational opportunities and experiences available to all students of the Ozark School District.

College Visits & Military Processing

Students are encouraged to visit potential post-secondary options. College visits and military processing during a scheduled school day count as absences.

Bullying/Cyberbullying

In order to promote a safe learning environment for all students, the Ozark School District prohibits all forms of bullying. The District also prohibits reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying among or against students.

Bullying is defined as intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; that substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities or benefits of any student without exception; or that substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.

Cyberbullying is a form of bullying committed by the transmission of a communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone or other wireless communication device, or computer. The District has jurisdiction over cyberbullying that uses the District's technology resources, or that originates on District property, at a District activity, or on District transportation. Even when cyberbullying does not involve District property, activities or technology resources, the District may impose consequences and discipline for those who engage in cyberbullying if there is a sufficient

nexus to the educational environment, the behavior materially and substantially disrupts the educational environment, the communication involves a threat as defined by law, or the District is otherwise allowed by law to address the behavior.

Students who wish to report alleged incidents as bullying, either as a victim or witness, should report to the office and complete a student statement form. The assistant principal will review the student statement form and begin an investigation.

Upon conclusion of the investigation, the victim(s) of bullying will work with the assistant principal to develop a plan of support. As part of that plan, the victim(s) will have access to the school counselor for additional support. Policy JFCF

Bus Information

Please contact the Ozark Transportation Department for your student's bus assignment at (417) 582-4735. Riding the school bus is a privilege. *Students must ride their assigned bus only.* A student can only exit the bus at their assigned bus stop or assigned school, i.e., junior high students must not exit their bus at the high school. The driver is in charge of the bus and the students at all times, and his/her instructions are to be obeyed. Disciplinary violations will be reported to the building principal. *For the safety of all students, school policies are in effect while students ride the bus.*

Bus Rules and Regulations

The Ozark School District provides a student transportation service to the patrons of the community. The District believes this is a valuable service and places high expectations on the drivers and the students. The students share in the responsibility of maintaining a safe, orderly, and courteous environment. The driver is in charge of the students and the bus at all times during the route. The driver's relationship with the students mirrors that of the classroom teacher. The level of safety for the transportation of our students relies heavily on the cooperation of the students and the concentration of the bus driver. It shall be the duty of the driver to report to the school administration the names of any students who persist in violating the bus rules and regulations. The administration may find it necessary to withhold the privilege of riding the bus from those students who fail to cooperate accordingly.

Listed below are the minimum expectations for students on the bus transportation system during regular routes or activity trips. The driver reserves the right to establish seating assignments or other rules that enable them to safely and effectively transport the students.

- Students shall obey all instructions from the school bus driver.
- Students must occupy the seat assigned to them if seats are assigned.
- The same courteous conduct expected in the classroom must be observed while on the bus. Ordinary conversation is permitted. Loud and vulgar language is not permitted.
- Students must refrain from unnecessary conversation with the driver.
- Students must be on time at the designated bus stops.
- Students must not stand in the traffic lanes while waiting for the bus.
- Students will assist the driver in keeping the interior of the bus clean, sanitary, and in orderly condition. Students must not throw waste paper or trash on the floor or out of the windows of the bus.
- Students will not open or close the windows of the bus without the permission of the driver.

- Students must not, at any time, put their hands, arms, or head out of the windows.
- Students must not stand or move about inside the bus or try to get on or off a bus while it is in motion.
- Students must immediately report to the driver any damage occurring to the bus.
- Students must follow the instructions of the driver when entering or leaving the bus and when they must cross the road or highway.
- Students must ride their bus to their previously-designated bus stop. Students are not allowed to ride home with friends or get dropped off at other locations without prior permission.

Possible consequences for inappropriate behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Driver-student conference
- Assigned seating
- Administrator-student conference
- Administrator-student-parent conference
- Behavior contract
- Detention
- Loss of bus privileges
- Hourly in-school suspension
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Long-term out-of-school suspension
- Expulsion

Calendar

Ozark School District Calendar

Care of Computers, Books, Equipment & School Property

When students accept their school-issued computer, textbooks, or any other equipment, they are entrusted with the responsibility of caring for books and equipment beyond ordinary wear and tear. If students lose or damage books or other school-issued items, they are liable for the costs, allowing for normal depreciation. If school-provided supplies are stolen or misplaced, the student is responsible.

Cell Phones & Other Electronic Devices

At Ozark High School, our top priority is creating an environment that supports focused teaching and learning. To minimize distractions and ensure student engagement, the use of personal electronic devices—including but not limited to cell phones, smartwatches, and Bluetooth earbuds/AirPods—is restricted during the school day. For the purposes of our policy, any item is considered in use if it is visible or, in the case of electronics, turned on during the school day.

Therefore, students are required to turn off their phones and other electronic devices and put them "out of sight" between 7:00 AM and 2:50 PM. Any student who does not abide by this policy will have their item confiscated by a staff member and be subject to the following disciplinary consequences:

1st Offense - Device secured in the main office until the end of the school day

2nd Offense - Device secured in the office; student assigned two lunch detentions
3rd Offense - Device secured in the office; student assigned three days of In-School Suspension (ISS)

Any student who refuses to surrender their device to a staff member upon request will be assigned one day OSS for insubordination in addition to the other discipline appropriate for the infraction.

Students are to go to the office to make phone calls home and parents are encouraged to call the school office to contact their child. The high school office staff is excellent at relaying messages from parents to students. Emergency phone calls can always be made in the main office during school hours.
See policy JG-R1 (technology).

The Board desires to protect students' personal privacy in accordance with the law. Thus, students are prohibited from using devices to take photographs or to record photographic images, whether in digital or other forms, during any class or instructional period during the school day, unless the student receives advance permission to do so from the classroom teacher. Students are prohibited from using devices to take photographs or to record photographic images, whether in digital or other forms, of inappropriate school behavior. In addition, students are prohibited from using photographic devices in a facility or location at which students or others have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Examples include, but are not limited to, restrooms, locker rooms, and changing areas. This prohibition also includes the taking of a photograph of an individual, regardless of location on district property or at a district-sponsored event, when such photograph either invades or could be perceived as invading the privacy of an individual. Finally, students may not use photographic devices in staff offices, staff areas, or records storage areas.

Students who use their cell phones or any device to record (video/audio) another student or adult, regardless of the expectation of privacy, are in violation of school policy and will receive disciplinary consequences.

Students who use such camera phones/photographic devices to record photographic images in violation of this policy are subject to an out-of-school suspension for up to 180 school days for the first offense. In addition, the actions of such students may be reported to law enforcement.
Students are also warned that the transfer, distribution, or posting of images taken in violation of this policy may subject them to school disciplinary action and possible referral to law enforcement, even if such transfer, distribution, or posting occurs off-campus.

Specifics on audio/video recording can be found by reviewing policy KKB.

Electronic Device Acceptable Usage Policy Agreement

STAFF/STUDENT/PARENT/GUARDIAN
Ozark School District Technology Resources

Philosophy
It is the policy of the Ozark School District to maintain an environment that enhances the educational opportunities and achievement of District students. The District recognizes the

educational and professional value of instructional technology, both as a means of access to enriching information and as a tool to develop skills that students need. Use of the Ozark School District Wide Area Network (OSDWAN), the internet, or campus technology is a privilege, increasingly essential to learning that offers new freedoms and demands new responsibilities. The use of instructional technology will be for or in support of education, research, and enrichment of class assignments. (School Board Policy EHB)

Students and staff will follow good digital citizenship by utilizing instructional technology resources in a positive, appropriate, and legal manner that supports the District's mission and vision. The District expects a consistently high level of personal responsibility of all users granted access to the District's technology resources.

- Due to the ever-changing nature of technology, the District reserves the right to amend the Technology Usage Policy at any time to address the changing nature of the digital environment.
- The Ozark School District Technology Department is responsible for maintaining the District's technology resources and establishing requirements and procedures for the issuance of user accounts.
- The use of instructional technology is an integral part of daily instruction. Because students will consistently be exposed to and operate technology, they will be expected to demonstrate good digital citizenship.
- The District will take appropriate disciplinary action against any user who willfully and knowingly violates the Acceptable Usage Policy.
- The Ozark School District, in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), will utilize measures to block and filter internet access to visual depictions and other materials deemed to be obscene, child pornography, illegal, or harmful to minors.
- No filtering system is completely effective or efficient. Students should report any inappropriate content to their teachers, and teachers need to report inappropriate behavior or sites to their administration and the Ozark School District Technology Department.
- Students are encouraged to be safe, active members of the digital world. When students use electronic communication for instructional purposes or make digital content as part of the educational process, they need to utilize their school-issued account.
- Students are encouraged to utilize instructional technology. Users should expect only limited privacy in the contents of personal files on the Ozark School District's system.
- Parents have the ability at any time to investigate or review the contents of their child's files and browsing history. Parents have the right to request the termination of their child's network use at any time.
- All damages incurred by the District due to the misuse of the District's technology resources, including the loss of property and staff time, will be charged to the user. District administrators have the authority to sign any criminal complaint regarding damage to District technology.

<u>Acceptable Use</u>

Acceptable use of the Ozark School District Wide Area Network includes, but is not limited to, using the internet or campus technology for:

- Accessing only accounts and files for which students or staff have permission.
- Using appropriate language and being considerate of others when using digital tools and communication.

- Striving to be good digital citizens and following all copyright laws, including refraining from the illegal installation of copyrighted software and copying the work of others without permission.
- Use in a legal manner.
- Providing positive, truthful information and reporting any bullying or discriminatory language to the appropriate authorities.
- Being diligent in protecting the personal information of another person, including name, address, phone number, email address, social security number, account numbers, passwords, and other items used for identification.
- Being meticulous in actions to ensure normal network usage and service are not interrupted by avoiding the following: propagation of electronic viruses, distribution of chain letters or broadcast messages to multiple lists or individuals, violation of personal privacy, or unauthorized access to protected and private network resources.
- Using the District's network in support of education, research, public service, economic development, or government purposes.
- Staying on task and refraining from extensive private or personal use.

Restrictions for Students

- Any faculty or staff member may moderate restrictions on student use, including the amount of time spent online.
- There are areas on the internet that contain sites not appropriate for student use. Any student accessing these sites will be subject to student discipline in accordance with Ozark School Board Policy JG and JG-R.
- Students are not to reveal their personal home addresses or phone numbers.
- Students must notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) and instructor immediately if an individual is trying to make personal contact for illicit or suspicious activities.
- Giving out personal information about another person is strictly prohibited.
- Students who accidentally access unacceptable material shall immediately notify the appropriate school personnel. This disclosure may serve as a defense against allegations that the user has intentionally violated this policy.

Access

All staff and students (third grade and up) will receive a username and password to gain access to computer applications, email, and the internet. The system will prompt each user to change his/her Microsoft password occasionally to provide security to each account. Staff and student Google accounts will not prompt for a password change, and students should not change their password unless directed to do so by an administrator. It is important that users keep usernames and passwords confidential.

Equipment Use

Members of the technology staff will maintain all District equipment, and users are expected to exercise care in the use of this equipment. Misuse of equipment will result in a staff member's or student's denial of access to equipment.

Security

In addition to regularly changing passwords and keeping usernames and passwords confidential, additional security measures should be taken. Once logged in, a user should not leave the computer unattended without locking the computer. PCs can be locked by pressing

Ctrl-Alt-Delete and then clicking "Lock this computer." Once locked, only the person currently logged in can unlock the computer by pressing Ctrl-Alt-Delete and then entering his/her password. After entering the password, the user will return to the application he/she had been using before locking the computer. For the security of data, teacher and staff computers are automatically locked after 15 consecutive minutes of non-use; the staff member will be required to enter his/her password to reactivate the computer.

Software Licensing

It is illegal to install software without licenses; therefore, all software installed on District computers must have appropriate licenses. To standardize software across the District, all software purchases must go through the Ozark School District Technology Department. When purchasing new software, a record of all software licenses will be kept in the Ozark School District Technology Department and should also be kept at the building level.

Technology Usage Agreement: Student

The proper use of the Ozark School District network, the internet, and the educational value to be gained from the proper use of these is the joint responsibility of students, parents, and employees of the District. The Acceptable Usage Policy form must be read and signed by the user and the parent or guardian. The form must be filed with the school.

Use of the District's system is at the user's risk. The system is provided on an "as is, as available" basis. The District will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss, damage, or unavailability of data stored on District media, delays, or changes in or interruptions of service, information, or materials. The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of any advice or information obtained through or stored on the District's system. The District will not be responsible for financial obligations arising from unauthorized use of the District's system or the internet.

I have read, or had read to me, the Ozark School District Technology Usage Policy and agree to abide by its provisions. I understand that violation of these provisions may result in disciplinary action taken against me, including but not limited to suspension or revocation of my access to District technology, and suspension or expulsion from school.

I understand that my use of the District's technology is not private and that the District may monitor my use of District technology, including but not limited to accessing browser logs, email logs, and any other history of use.

I consent to District interception of or access to all communications I send, receive, or store using the District's technology resources, under state and federal law, even if the District's technology resources are accessed remotely.

As the parent or legal guardian of the student signing below, I have read the Ozark School District Technology Usage Policy. I understand that violation of these provisions may result in disciplinary action taken against my child, ward, or child within my care, in accordance with School Board Policies JG and JG-R.

I understand that my child's or ward's technology usage is not private and that the District will monitor my child's or ward's use of District technology, including but not limited to accessing browser logs, email logs, and any other history of use. I consent to District interception of or access to all communications sent, received, or stored by my child or ward using the District's

technology resources, under state and federal law, even if the District's technology resources are accessed remotely. I recognize it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the District, its employees, or its agents responsible for materials acquired on the internet. I accept responsibility for the guidance of internet use and setting and conveying standards for my child to follow when selecting, sharing, or exploring information and media.

I agree to be responsible for any unauthorized costs arising from my child's, ward's, or child within my care's use of the District's technology resources. I agree to be responsible for any damages incurred by my child, ward, or child within my care.

I give permission for my child or ward to utilize the Ozark School District's technology resources.

Closed Campus

The Ozark School District operates on the basis of a "closed campus." Visitors to the school must immediately report to the main school office. Students may not leave school grounds during the school day without parental permission AND checking out with the school office. Students traveling between the main campus, OIC, Career Center, A+, GOCAPS, OTC must travel directly to and from the campuses. Non-students or visitors may not eat lunch at school unless they have obtained prior administrator approval. Students may not go to their cars during the school day without office approval.
*Students should be in their assigned classrooms/areas at all times. *Those found to be in violation are subject to school discipline, including but not limited to detention and ISS.*

Counseling Services

The purpose of the guidance/counseling center is to help each student in his/her social, emotional, educational, vocational, and personal development. The counselors are in the office daily from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Conferencing with students is the counselor's first priority; thus, appointments may be scheduled as necessary.

The counselor may assist the student in the following ways:

1. Plan his or her schedule and school program.
2. Make realistic curriculum selections and suitable plans for the future.
3. Offer aid in adjustments or emotional stress — to listen to the student to discuss concerns.
4. Recommend materials the student may use to improve his or her study habits.

Schedule Changes

OHS wants all students to be enrolled in classes that are both valuable and enjoyable. Class schedules may be changed for academic reasons, such as a scheduling conflict, an unmet prerequisite, or to meet graduation requirements, etc. Class schedules will not be changed for non-academic reasons, such as teacher preference, having classes with friends, etc. Students in 9th-12th grade may request their classes during their initial spring enrollment and should strive to request courses that reinforce their ICAP.

Academic Records

OHS will maintain an official transcript for all students. The transcript lists courses taken, grades earned, grade-point average, standardized assessment scores, and graduation status.

Official transcripts can be issued directly to a college or institution, or to the student in a sealed envelope. Requests for official transcripts must be made to the Counseling Office through Naviance. Unofficial transcripts may be issued to the student upon request.

Naviance/Family Connections

Family Connections is a college and career readiness website for students, educators, and students' families to access powerful tools and resources available in the Naviance system. Students are expected to participate and utilize this tool with educator support. This website platform can also be accessed outside of the school setting. They will complete an Individual Career and Academic Plan, plan courses, and complete various college readiness activities and career assessments. Students will also have access to TestPrep, a tool to help them prepare for the ACT examination inside the Family Connection platform.

Counseling FAQs

May I repeat a course for graduation credit?

An academic course successfully completed with a passing grade cannot be repeated for credit, except in certain circumstances (see next question). Some electives such as band, choir, newspaper, weights, etc. may be repeated.

What if I have a lower grade in a course than I would like to have on my transcript?

A student may repeat a course if the grade earned was a D or F, but credit will not be given twice. Both grades will appear on the student transcript, but only the higher of the two will contribute to the GPA.

May I remove a grade from my transcript?

A transcript is an official record of your high school coursework and grades. Transcripts must accurately reflect all high school coursework, so grades may not be removed, except for summer school, zero-hour or junior high Algebra I. If a course is repeated or if a grade is "reprieved" (see above), the course and grade are reflected on the transcript.

What happens if I fail a semester of a required full-year (1 credit) course?

Credits are earned by the semester (.5 credit per semester). If a student fails a required course, he/she needs to earn that credit either by repeating the course during the school year until the credit is earned, through Summer School, or through credit recovery. Credits earned through credit recovery are assigned a Pass (P) grade rather than a letter grade. It is recommended that this be done as soon as possible. *Note: Failure of a first-semester class may result in removal from the second semester of the class.*

How can I earn extra credits in order to graduate early?

Credit may be earned in Summer School. In addition, two additional credits may be earned from an accredited school or university to satisfy graduation requirements. Each course counts as .5 credit. To receive credit for additional courses, a student must receive permission from a counselor before enrolling. The student is responsible for all costs. Other opportunities to earn credits outside of the regular school day are available through specific courses such as CCE, AOE, and Child Development II. See the course descriptions in the OHS Academic Planning Handbook for details.

May I take a class Pass/Fail?

A student may take a maximum of two credits on a pass/fail basis during his or her four years of high school. If passed, the course will count as credit toward graduation but will have no effect on GPA. The deadline for requesting a pass/fail for a class is within the first two weeks of a semester. Students must pick up a written request form and return it to a counselor. *Note: Students taking a class pass/fail will not be allowed to graduate with honors; In addition, NCAA will interpret a "P" grade as a "D" when determining eligibility.*

May I change my schedule if I don't like a class?

OHS wants all students to be enrolled in classes that are both valuable and enjoyable. Class schedules may be changed for academic reasons, such as a scheduling conflict, an unmet prerequisite, or to meet graduation requirements, etc. Class schedules will not be changed for non-academic reasons, such as teacher preference, having classes with friends, etc.

Dances

Attending any school-sponsored dance is a privilege awarded to students in good standing who have no Fs during the same semester as the dance, and must be present at school on the day of, for more than half the day. All handbook/ District policies, including but not limited to those regarding behavior, dress code, electronic devices, cell phones, and leaving the campus, are enforced at all school dances.

- Prom - the same rules as above apply. In addition to those rules, no 9th graders or 10th graders may attend prom.

Definition of Disciplinary Actions

The Student Code of Conduct is designed to foster student responsibility, respect for others, and to provide for the orderly operation of district schools. No code can be expected to list each and every offense that may result in disciplinary action; however, it is the purpose of this code to list certain offenses which, if committed by a student, will result in the imposition of a certain disciplinary action. **Any conduct not included herein, or an aggravated circumstance of any offense or action involving a combination of offenses may result in disciplinary consequences that extend beyond this code of conduct as determined by the principal, superintendent, and/or Board of Education.** In extraordinary circumstances where the minimum consequence is judged by the superintendent or his/her designee to be unfair or not in the interest of the District, the superintendent or designee may reduce the consequences listed in this policy, as allowed by law. This code includes, but is not necessarily limited to, acts of students on district property, including playgrounds, parking lots, and district transportation, or at a district activity, whether on or off school property. The district may also discipline students for off-campus conduct that negatively impacts the educational environment, to the extent allowed by law.

It is the policy of the Ozark School District to report all crimes occurring on school grounds to law enforcement. The principal shall also notify the appropriate law enforcement agency and superintendent if a student is discovered to possess a controlled substance or weapon in violation of the District's policy JGF.

In addition, the superintendent shall notify the appropriate division of the juvenile or family court upon suspension for more than ten (10) days or expulsion of any student who the District is aware is under the jurisdiction of the court.

Disciplinary Procedures

It is the responsibility of the student to be familiar with all policies and procedures. Students are expected to follow classroom and general school policies. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

1. Computer Usage Expectations:
    a. Computers are to be treated and used with respect.
    b. Only school-appropriate items, as deemed by the principal and/or teacher, should be produced using school computers.
    c. Any individual using the internet must have a signed acceptable use form on file.
    d. While on the internet, only school-appropriate sites and school email may be utilized. Individuals may not participate in chat rooms.
    e. Individuals may not download any items from the Internet unless pre-approved by the teacher.
    f. The teacher reserves the right to limit student time on computers to best serve the interest of the class.
    g. If computer lab rules are violated, disciplinary action will be taken.

2. Student Conduct:
    a. Certain standards of conduct are expected of students at school. These standards are necessary for the safe operation of a learning environment, for the development of respect for the rights of others, and to instill courtesy and good manners as a basis of personal conduct.
    b. Students are to show RESPECT for fellow students and teachers at all times. Bullying, name calling, and belittling are not tolerated.
    c. Teachers and supervisors are charged with the safety and behavior of students. Therefore, all reasonable instructions from school personnel are to be followed by all students. Refusal to do so constitutes a disciplinary violation.
    d. Students must not operate school equipment or use school materials unless it is done under the direct supervision of a teacher.
    e. If a student fails to report for a detention or ISS, a more severe consequence will result, including but not limited to detentions, hourly in-school suspension, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, or loss of privileges or incentives.
    f. In order to ensure safety in congested areas, no skateboards, skates or scooters may be ridden on campus. Bikes must be locked at the bike rack.
    g. Consistent with the decision of the Missouri Supreme Court in RMA v. Blue Springs, students will be required to use gender specific restrooms, locker rooms, hotel rooms, and similar accommodations that align with their birth sex.
    h. Students are not to be involved in the buying, selling, or trading of property at school. School approved fundraisers are permissible unless disruptive to the educational setting.
    i. Students must not arrive more than 30 minutes before scheduled events. Students must have a ride arranged for pick up immediately following events.
    j. While attending high school ball games, students are to be in the stands supporting the teams.

Discipline & Consequences - Defined

Student Discipline can be found in Policy JG-R1

Detention

Detentions are held either before school, during lunch, or after school with a staff member or in the office.

In-School Suspension (ISS)

In-school suspension is used for various violations of school policy. In-school suspension occurs when a student's behavior warrants removal from classes for a period of time, but suspension or expulsion from school is not recommended. It is an alternative to suspension or expulsion and is an effort by the administration to allow the student to work on classroom assignments in a restricted setting under the direct supervision of a staff member. Failure to abide by ISS rules, ISS classroom rules, or directions from the instructor will result in OSS.

- Students must report to the designated ISS room.
- Students must bring all books, notebooks, chromebook, charger, and other materials needed for assignments to the ISS room. Daily assignments must be completed on time. This includes the work assigned to address the inappropriate behavior.
- Students must stay in the designated area and may not leave unless permission is given. Restroom privileges will be granted only during class time when other students are not in the hall.
- Students may not visit with other students without permission.
- ISS students eat lunch in the ISS room. ISS students are given an opportunity to eat breakfast when breakfast is requested. The student is allowed to bring his/her own lunch.
- Students assigned to ISS are not eligible to represent the school in any extracurricular activities for the number of days assigned.
- Students assigned to ISS must be out of the building and off school grounds by 2:55 p.m. each day unless under the direct supervision of a teacher or an administrator.
- Full participation during AMI days can count towards the student's assigned ISS discipline at the administration's discretion.

Out-Of-School Suspension (OSS)

Out-of-school suspension is used when a student violates a significant school rule or commits repeated violations. During OSS, students are not allowed on school grounds, school buses, or to attend any school activity. Participation during AMI days does not count towards the student's assigned OSS discipline.

Dress Code

The Board of Education recognizes the value of allowing individual student expression as well as the necessity of protecting student health and safety and maintaining an atmosphere conducive to education. Student dress code procedures are designed with the goal of balancing these competing interests.

All dress code procedures will adhere to health and safety codes and comply with applicable law. Dress that materially disrupts the educational environment will be prohibited. No procedure will

impose dress and grooming rules based on gender in violation of Title IX. District procedures will specifically define ambiguous terms, and examples will be provided when practicable.

The Board of Education expects student dress and grooming to be neat, clean, and in good taste so that each student may share in promoting a positive, healthy, and safe atmosphere within the school district.

General Expectations

- Students must wear clothing that is clean and properly fitted.
- Clothing and grooming must not disrupt or interfere with the educational process, safety standards, or others' rights to learn.
- Final decisions on dress appropriateness rest with the school administration.

Required Standards

- Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be an appropriate length.
- No halter tops, muscle shirts (cut-off t-shirts), backless, see-through, or midriff-revealing tops.
- Clothing must fully cover private body parts and undergarments while standing, sitting, or moving.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- No house slippers, bathrobes, or blankets.
- Footwear should be safe for all school activities (e.g., no heelies, flip-flops for lab classes).
- Hoods and sunglasses are not allowed to be worn inside the building, except for medical or religious reasons or on designated spirit days.
- No bandanas or costume accessories unless pre-approved for school events.
- Face paint is not allowed during instructional time.
- Clothing must not display:
    - Profanity, obscene or sexually explicit content.
    - References to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or illegal activities.
    - Symbols or language that promote hate, violence, or gang affiliation.
    - Inflammatory or derogatory content toward any group or individual.

Enforcement & Exceptions

- Violations will result in a request to change clothes or call home for a change.
- Repeated offenses may lead to progressive disciplinary actions (e.g., detention, ISS).
- Spirit days or cultural attire must be approved in advance.

When, in the judgment of the principal, a student's appearance or mode of dress does not comply with the above criteria, the student may be required to make modifications. No employee or volunteer shall direct a student to remove an emblem, insignia, or garment, including a religious emblem, insignia, or garment, as long as it is worn in a manner that does not promote disruptive behavior.

Student dress code can be found by reviewing Policy JFCA

Emergency Drills

Fire, tornado, earthquake, and intruder drills are held at regular intervals during the year. Each student should learn the instructions posted in each classroom for proper procedures to use during these drills. **Please note that falsely pulling fire alarms results in severe disciplinary action.**

Emergency Notification

During severe weather situations, many factors are involved in the decision to close the school. The primary consideration is always the safety of the students. The decision, once made, is given immediately to the radio and television stations. Additional weather and school cancellation information will be disseminated through social media, the school website, and an automated phone call.

Enrollment Requirements

All students (including seniors) must be enrolled in eight blocks of courses. Of these eight courses, at least three must be core academic courses. One of these three credits may be the third course in a series from a career education program. Additionally, no more than two credits may be obtained in PE courses. To receive credit for a course during any semester, the student must enroll in the course during the first two weeks. This requirement does not apply to students transferring into the school from another district with matching or similar offerings. New enrollees and transfer students are responsible for completing any work they have missed from the last day of attendance at their previous school to the first day of attendance at OHS.

Extracurricular Activities and Athletics

The purpose of each of Ozark Schools Activity and Athletic Programs is to provide experiences for students to help them progress toward established educational objectives. Ozark School District is a member of the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). MSHSAA sets the eligibility standards for the ability to represent a school in interscholastic activities and can be found in the MSHSAA Official Handbook. Specifically, students participating in any extracurricular activity governed by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), must have passed 7 out of 8 classes of the prior semester. If a student is retaking a course, then the student must pass all classes. Each coach or program may have additional academic standards including probation and removal. See 2.3.2 Grades 9-12 Requirements in the MSHSAA Official Handbook.

Student Activities Citizenship

Student activities in the Ozark School District provide a program for students to pursue special interests in addition to the more formal class activities. The values students gain through participation in activities supplement and promote academic learning. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right or entitlement. Participants are expected to conform to a higher standard of conduct than is applicable to nonparticipants. Participants serve as representatives and leaders of the District, school, and community. Thus, they are expected to set a positive example for others.

As part of its activities program, the District has established written Regulations and Guidelines so that participants and their parents/legal guardians will be aware of the behavioral expectations attendant to participation in District activities. An important component of the Regulations and Guidelines is the Good and Creditable Citizenship Requirement.

Those students participating in any extracurricular activity governed by MSHSAA must complete a signed Citizenship Form. This form includes consent from parents/guardians to be included in the Random Drug Testing pool of names.

In addition, all athletic teams and many other OHS activities require an approved physical to be on file in order to participate. Both the MSHSAA and Ozark High School approved Physical form, and the MSHSAA Pre-participation Documentations must be completed and turned into the athletic office before a student is eligible for participation.

These activities include, but are not limited to:

Football	Soccer (Boys/Girls)
Baseball	Softball
Basketball (Boys/Girls)	Speech and Debate
Cheerleading	Swimming & Diving (Boys/Girls)
Cross Country (Boys/Girls)	Tennis (Boys/Girls)
Dance Team	Track and Field (Boys/Girls)
Golf (Boys/Girls)	Vocal Music
Instrumental Music	Volleyball
Scholar Bowl	Wrestling (Boys/Girls)

Further questions concerning Activities or Athletics, or the above information, may be directed to the Athletics and Activities office at (417) 582-5711.

Student Drug Testing

The Ozark R-VI School District recognizes that drug and alcohol abuse is a serious problem in the United States and that schools in the United States are experiencing an increase in this problem. Students participating in extracurricular activities are increasingly experimenting with controlled substances which they are legally prohibited from possessing, using, or distributing. Some student-athletes are also attracted to so-called "performance-enhancing" drugs, such as steroids, in misguided efforts to increase their strength and endurance.

The purpose of this policy is to help prevent substance abuse among students, to encourage treatment for students with substance abuse problems, and to ensure that students have the opportunity to attend school and participate in activities in a fair, safe, and healthy environment.

Ozark R-VI School District's drug testing policy and guidelines can be reviewed by clicking on the hyperlinks below.

Ozark R-VI School District Drug Testing Policy

Ozark R-VI School District Drug Testing Guidelines

NCAA/NAIA Eligibility: Student-Athletes Proceeding to College

NCAA

High school seniors who wish to play athletics at NCAA Division I, II, or III colleges must be registered and cleared by the NCAA Clearinghouse to receive eligibility.

The following links will provide more information:

Division I link
Division II link
Division III link

NAIA

Student-athletes must register with the NAIA Eligibility Center to play sports at an NAIA college or university.

NAIA link

Exams - State Mandated (EOC and College & Career Readiness)

All students will be required to take a summative End-of-Course exam (EOC) for each of the following courses: Algebra 1, (Honors) US History, (Honors) Biology, (Honors) English 1 & 2, and (Honors) Government. If a student took the Algebra 1 EOC in 8th grade, then that student will have to take the Algebra 2 EOC at the high school.

College & Career Readiness Exams - All graduating seniors must have a score on file from a qualifying College and Career Readiness exam, including ACT, SAT, ASVAB, or Work Keys.

Federal Programs (ESSA)

Please go to the following links for updated notifications:
Parent Letter
Complaint Procedure

Field Trips

Students may attend field trips for educational purposes. Students must use school provided transportation to and from each field trip. No field trips are allowed the week before or during state testing.

Finals

Content-related final exams are given at the end of each semester in all classes. Final exams will count for no more than 10% of the student's final grade. All students must take the assigned semester final. Students with at least 95.00% attendance (overall, not rounded), based on minutes attended, during the semester, no Ds or Fs, and no office assigned discipline may choose to exclude the test score from their final grade. No finals will be given early, unless there is a conflict with a school-sponsored event.

Flexible Seating

With teacher permission, flex seating areas available for student use include the commons on the main campus and the various porch areas within the OIC. Students may not use these areas during lunch. These seating areas are a privilege for students to use, violations of these expectations or Policy JGR may result in a loss of these privileges or school discipline, including but not limited to detention and ISS.

Foreign Exchange Students

Ozark High School recognizes the learning opportunities that foreign exchange students bring to all students while at OHS. In order to best serve the exchange and resident student populations, Ozark High School will limit the number of Foreign Exchange students to six per school year.

Gangs

At OHS, creating a positive and safe environment free from harassment, intimidation, and a "gang" influence is a top priority. A gang is defined as: A formal or informal ongoing organization, association, or group that has as one of its primary activities the commission of criminal or delinquent acts. Gang-related symbols or activities will not be tolerated. Symbols or activities may include but are not limited to: Particular clothing, tags, visible tattoos, jewelry, bandanas, written, hand, verbal or non-verbal communication, or anything else viewed by the administration as being gang related or intimidating to others. Display of any gang affiliation may result in suspension and referral to the police.

GOCAPS

Have you heard of GOCAPS, but you don't know much about it? GO CAPS gives juniors and seniors the opportunity to participate in job shadowing, internships, and business projects while learning professional skills that employers value.

Would you like to hear more? Visit the GO CAPS website at www.gocaps.org or Ozark's website on GOCAPS.

GO CAPS has two main goals. First is career exploration with an overview of a certain industry or field. Second is learning professional skills that are valued by area businesses. You accomplish this with job shadowing, industry tours, special projects with business partners, guest speakers, and more. You will learn about how businesses are run by participating and being mentored.

You will attend GO CAPS every day from either 8:00-10:30 am or from 12:00-2:30 pm. That gives you 4 credits for a year. It does not conflict with taking classes at OTC, but every individual is different, so you should see a counselor to find out if GO CAPS can fit with the courses you will need to graduate.

You should also consider the clubs, activities or athletics you are involved in. Talk to a counselor if you are not sure if there would be a conflict.

The GO CAPS classrooms are in Springfield, so you must have your own transportation. They follow the Springfield Public Schools calendar, so you are in session when they are in session.
You will enjoy GO CAPS if you are a student who:

- Is curious, innovative and creative
- Enjoys self-directed research
- Works well with other people
- Has an interest in the strand subject area
- Is a problem solver
- Is ready to recognize what it means to network professionally and build relationships with people who work in your field of interest as well as taking advantage of the opportunities being presented.

If you have any questions, you can contact the counseling center.

Health Services

A registered professional nurse with special training in public and school health is assigned to OHS. It is the duty of the nurse to counsel students with health problems, arrange for adjustments in the student's school program when health factors make this necessary, and offer assistance in case of an emergency. Parents are urged to inform the school nurse of any student health problems. It is very important that the Emergency Card is completed and returned to school as soon as possible after registering. Any medications must be dispensed from the office.

Medications

Some students require medication during the school day. Authorization for Medication forms must be filled out by a parent and/or physician. Forms are available from the school nurse. Administering medication to students during school hours is discouraged and restricted to necessary medication that cannot be given at home. If the physician's orders indicate that a medication must be given during school hours, the medication may be administered by complying with the following instructions:

Prescription Medications:

1. The parent or guardian must provide the medication in the original prescription bottle (the pharmacist will provide properly labeled containers).
2. The parent or guardian must provide written permission which includes: the student's name, date, name of medication, dosage, time of administration and a parent/guardian's signature.
3. The parent should not provide more than a one week supply at a time.
4. Long-term medications (longer than two weeks) must be accompanied by a Physician's Request form provided by the school.

Non-Prescription Medications:

1. The parent/guardian will provide the medication in the original container.
2. The parent should not provide more than a one week supply at a time. (Board Policies JHC & JHCD)

Parents/guardians are required to transport all medication. Please contact the
Parents should make the school aware of any medical condition a child may have. If a child has a temporary injury or condition and should be excused from or have limited participation in physical activities, we require a note from the parent.

ID Badges

All staff and high school students are required to properly display a visible ID badge during school hours. Properly displayed is defined as above the waist and on the front of the shirt. Students are financially responsible for replacing the ID badge and lanyard. An ID badge may be affixed using an approved lanyard, clip, or magnet. If a student does not have his/her ID, the student will be sent to the office to get a $5 replacement ID which will be immediately charged to his/her account.

Lockers

The school administration has the right to search lockers at any time. Each student may request a locker with a school lock for the storage of books and equipment. It is the student's responsibility to see that this locker is kept in good order at all times. Students are offered a locker in the locker room for physical education. Since lockers are a permanent part of the building, students are expected to keep them in good, usable condition.

Lunch/Food Service

The school cafeteria is a vital part of the health program of the school. To encourage good nutrition, a well-balanced lunch is offered at a reasonable price. Free and reduced-price meals shall be served to those students eligible as determined by the family size/income scale. No discernable distinction is made between paying and non-paying students who receive meals at school. **Applications for free and reduced-price meals may be picked up in the office.**

All students eat in the school cafeteria. Students may buy lunch or may bring lunch from home. Students may not order food to be delivered to the school. No student may leave school during the lunch period. Food or drink may not be taken from the cafeteria. Lunch money can be placed electronically on RevTrak or should be brought to the business office in an envelope labeled with the student's name and ID number. Lunch money is credited to each account during 1st block; therefore, any money turned in after 1st block will be credited to the student's account on the following day. Lunch purchases may be tracked on the parent portal; see the school office for details.

Media Center Policies

The Ozark High School Library Media Center offers students resources to prepare them with 21st-century research and literacy skills. The Ozark High School techbrarian and staff work to empower students to become prudent researchers and partner with the other libraries within the District and county. Students have access from school and home to the most up-to-date resources, including academic databases with peer-reviewed and peer-edited journals and articles. Students are encouraged to read for pleasure, which promotes cognitive growth and development.

The entire library's collection can be accessed from the school website through Destiny Quest. The website features information about Missouri's award-nominated books: Truman Awards Nominees and Gateway Award Nominees and other library resources and happenings. The technology help desk is also located in the Media Center, where students can access tech support for their school-issued Chromebooks, Google Apps For Education accounts, Canvas accounts, and any other school-related programs or websites.

Students may access the media center before school 7:00-7:30 a.m., after school until 3:00 p.m., and during the day when teachers permit. English classes visit the library on a regular basis, as well. Students are responsible for any materials checked out under their names. If they are lost or damaged, then students will be charged replacement costs. We do not charge overdue fees, but we do encourage students to renew any resources they have from the library for an extended period of time.

MOCAP

Ozark School District strives to provide students with access to a wide array of learning opportunities, including online courses. Offerings for all grade levels may be available through selected online vendors through the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP). In accordance with 161.670 RSMo and School Board policies, IGCD and IGCE, registration and payment for online courses will be completed by the Ozark School District.

Any parents or students interested in online courses should work with the school counselor to create the best plan of action for the individual student. For more information, please visit the counseling page of the OHS website and the MOCAP website.

Nondiscrimination

For details on the district's Nondiscrimination Policy, as well as how to file a grievance, please see Policy AC.

Office Phone Use

The school telephones in the office are for school business only. They may not be used for social purposes. Students will not be called to the telephone during class time except in cases of emergency.

Return Check Policy

Ozark School District has contracted with eTech Transaction Solutions Inc., to facilitate the District with a check recovery plan effective July 1, 2007. Please note that returned checks are presented to the bank electronically; additional fees are applied for returned checks. Call the Ozark High School Business Office at (417) 582-5714 with questions.

Student in Good Standing

During the year, special event opportunities arise for students to attend or participate in activities outside the traditional school curriculum. Some examples include community service projects, incentive days, dances, etc. To attend such events, a student must be in good standing both academically and behaviorally. To be eligible, a student must be on track for timely graduation, not currently serving an ISS assignment, must not have received an OSS assignment during the

semester, have 90% or higher attendance for that semester. A student with multiple ISS assignments, OSS assignments, or discipline involving drugs, alcohol, or weapons is automatically ineligible to attend special events for the remainder of the semester. This is determined by building administration.

Student Records

In order to provide students with appropriate instruction and educational services, it is necessary for the district to maintain extensive and sometimes personal information about students and families. These records must be kept confidential in accordance with the law, but must also be readily available to district personnel who need the records to effectively serve district students. To view the full policy, click on the following link Policy JO: Student Records

Testing Fees

Students taking AP or other external exams are subject to a fee if they register, but do not take the exam.

Tardy Policy

Students may be tardy to each class three times per quarter without penalty. The penalty for subsequent tardiness is as follows:

- 4th tardy – a 30-minute detention, before school, lunch, or after school. If the student does not attend detention, he/she will receive one day of ISS.
- 5th and 6th tardy – two before school, lunch, or after school detentions.
- Subsequent tardies – appropriate discipline will be assigned at the discretion of the administrator, including, but not limited to, ISS.

Students late to school will be considered truant if more than 10 minutes late to the first block.

The following will NOT count as a tardy or truant, as long as appropriate documentation is provided to the Attendance Office within two school days of the event:

- Doctor and dentist appointments
- Late buses
- Parental verification of attendance of funerals
- Extenuating circumstances as approved by school administrators.

Students intentionally missing classes or any part of the school day to avoid a tardy will be addressed accordingly. The school reserves the right to require documentation from doctors and dentists. Students should be aware that the school will investigate and address suspected cases of truancy and/or falsification of documents.

Visitors

In order to maintain proper security, we request that all visitors follow these procedures:

- All visitors entering Ozark High School are required to sign-in at the main office.
- Visitors are required to wear an identification sticker.
- All identification stickers are to be returned to the office at the time of departure.

- No student visitors are permitted during the school day without prior administrative approval.

Thank you for helping OHS maintain a safe school environment.

Ozark High School thanks you for your support while the school works

to help students become productive members at home, at school, and in society.