

Elmwood Park High School 2025-2026 Student Handbook



401 

ELMWOOD PARK
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Elmwood Park Community Unit School District #401

2025-2026 School Calendar

July 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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28	29	30				

October 2025						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Early Release Days: Every Monday ○ First and Last Day of School △ Parent Teacher Conferences

July 4	INDEPENDENCE DAY - STATE HOLIDAY	Jan. 16	End of Semester 1 (grades 9-12): 89 Days
Aug. 18	Institute Day: a.m. & Teacher Work Day: p.m.	Jan. 19	MARTIN L. KING, JR. DAY - NO SCHOOL
Aug. 19	Institute Day: a.m. & Teacher Work Day: p.m.	Feb. 11 & 12	Parent Teacher Conferences for All Schools
Aug. 20	First Day of School	Feb. 13	NO SCHOOL (conference exchange)
Sept 1	LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL	Feb. 16	PRESIDENTS DAY - NO SCHOOL
Oct. 13	COLUMBUS DAY - NO SCHOOL	Feb. 27	End of Trimester 2 (Grades K-8): 59 Days
Nov. 10	Institute Day	Mar. 17	E-LEARNING - ELECTION DAY
Nov. 11	VETERAN'S DAY - NO SCHOOL	Mar. 23-27	SPRING BREAK
Nov. 12	End of Trimester 1 (grades K-8): 57 Days	April 3	Institute Day
Nov. 12 & 13	Parent Teacher Conferences for All Schools	May 25	MEMORIAL DAY - NO SCHOOL
Nov. 14	NO SCHOOL (conference exchange)	May 29	End of Semester 2: 85 Days/Trimester (K-8) 58 Days
Nov. 26-28	THANKSGIVING BREAK	June 1-5	Emergency Days
Dec. 22-Jan. 2	WINTER BREAK	June 19	JUNETEENTH - STATE HOLIDAY
Jan. 5	Institute Day		

Board of Education Approval: December 18, 2024

Our official calendar has five emergency days at the end of the year on June 1-5. There may be a need to dismiss school due to inclement weather and will require the use of the make up days indicated in June. Please do not make any travel/vacation plans during those dates.



**ELMWOOD PARK HIGH SCHOOL
BELL SCHEDULE 2025 – 2026**



Regular Bell Schedule (Tuesday – Friday)			
Period	Start Time	End Time	Class Time
1	7:40 AM	8:25 AM	45 min
2	8:30 AM	9:15 AM	45 min
Tiger Time	9:20 AM	9:55 AM	35 min
3	10:00 AM	10:45 AM	45 min
4	10:50 AM	11:35 AM	45 min
5	11:40 AM	12:25 PM	45 min
6	12:30 PM	1:15 PM	45 min
7	1:20 PM	2:05 PM	45 min
8	2:10 PM	2:55 PM	45 min

Early Release Schedule (Monday)			
Period	Start Time	End Time	Class Time
1	7:40 AM	8:22 AM	42 min
2	8:27 AM	9:13 AM	42 min
3	9:18 AM	10:00 AM	42 min
4	10:05 AM	10:47 AM	42 min
5	10:52 AM	11:34 AM	42 min
6	11:39 AM	12:21 PM	42 min
7	12:26 PM	1:08 PM	42 min
8	1:13 PM	1:55 PM	42 min

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board of Education Vision Statement

To inspire minds in the pursuit of excellence.

Board of Education Mission Statement

Elmwood Park CUSD 401, a unit district in a suburban community with a small town feel, strives to cultivate:

- Individualize Social-Emotional learning processes
- Rigorous academics fostering inquisitive minds prepared for critical thinking
- Active, engaged partnerships with the community and parents
- Innovative uses of 21st century technologies for teaching and learning.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Frank J. Parisi, President
Mr. Peter A. Volpe, Vice President
Mrs. Jennifer P. Ranallo, Secretary
Ms. Monica F. Doyle
Mr. Timothy P. Loughnane
Mr. Jason Shipinski
Ms. Michelle J. Silver

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Leah Gauthier, Superintendent of Schools	(708) 583-5831
Dr. Mark Orszula, CSBO	(708) 583-5840
Dr. Kimberly Ontiveros, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources	(708) 583-5834
Ms. Kristy Mikol, Director for Student Services	(708) 583-5836
Mr. Darek Naglak, Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction	(708) 583-5835

Elmwood Park CUSD 401 prohibits unlawful discrimination in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the designated youth groups. Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. Further, the District will not knowingly enter into agreements with any entity or any individual that discriminates against students on the basis of sex or any other protected status, except that the District remains viewpoint neutral when granting access to school facilities under Board of Education Policy 8:20, *Community Use of School Facilities*. Any student or parent/guardian may file a discrimination grievance by using Board Policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Inquiries regarding the School District's nondiscrimination policies can be directed to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator or a Complaint Manager.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Dr. Leah Gauthier, Superintendent
Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401
8201 W. Fullerton Ave., Elmwood Park, IL 60707
708-583-5831

Title IX Coordinator:

Ms. Kristy Mikol, Director for Student Services
Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401
8201 W. Fullerton Ave., Elmwood Park, IL 60707
708-583-5836

Complaint Managers:

Dr. Kimberly Ontiveros, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401
8201 W. Fullerton Ave., Elmwood Park, IL 60707
708-583-5834

Mr. Darek Nagak, Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction
Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401
8201 W. Fullerton Ave., Elmwood Park, IL 60707
708-583-5435

Vocational Opportunities will be offered by Elmwood Park CUSD #401 without regard to race, color, national origin, gender or disability.

ELMWOOD PARK HIGH SCHOOL MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

Our **MISSION** is to help develop students to become critical thinkers, life-long learners, and productive members of society.

Our **VISION** is to become a school where ALL students will graduate prepared for their post-secondary pursuits.

ELMWOOD PARK HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Amanda Brode-Rico, Principal, ext 6211
Ms. Angela Andrews, Assistant Principal, ext 6212
Mr. Anthony Sylvester, Assistant Principal for Athletics and Activities, ext 6213
Mr. Manny Zervos, Dean of Students, ext 6217
Ms. Michaela Vasey, Dean of Students, ext 6216

STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION

A school may publish student directories listing student names, addresses and other identifying information. However, parents have the right to exclude their child's information from such a directory. Parents wanting to exclude a child's information from a directory should make such a request, in writing, to the building principal of the school the child attends.

ACADEMIC GRADING PRACTICES

The faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Education of Elmwood Park High School are committed to providing a comprehensive high school education which, through its curricular and extracurricular programs, meets the individual and collective interests and needs of its students, and prepares them to be productive citizens of a diverse, global, and interdependent society. In particular, this learning community is committed to the flexible teaching and scheduling patterns, and resources necessary to stretch each student to the limits of his/her academic and personal potential; and to provide the knowledge, problem-solving, and personal skills required for post-secondary education, employment, leisure, and family life. Graduates should be grounded in our American heritage of respect for human dignity and optimistic in regards to their role in improving the quality of life for all people. For more information, please visit our [College and Careers Pathways academic website](#).

Graduation Requirements

EPCUSD 401 requires all students complete 23.0 credits of coursework in order to graduate. The credits must minimally consist of coursework in the subject areas listed below.

Each semester-long class successfully completed will count as 0.5 credits and each year-long class will count as 1.0 credits (0.5 credits for each semester successfully completed).

There will be three possible graduation distinctions for students to receive based upon the courses they successfully complete: General Studies, Career Pathway, and Distinguished Scholar.

The EPHS minimum graduation requirements for all distinctions will include the following:

Class of 2023 & Beyond Grad Requirements	
English	4.0 credits
Math	3.0 credits
Science	3.0 credits
Social Studies	3.0 credits
Kinetic Wellness (Phy Ed)	2.0 credits
Fine Arts	1.0 credit
Business	1.0 credit
Additional Courses	6.0 credits
Total	23.0 credits

* High School credits received as a part of a middle/junior high school acceleration program will count towards the total credits for graduation as Additional Courses (Elective Credits) and the grades issued will be calculated in the student's HS GPA/Class Rank. The student is still required to complete the minimum subject credits in the high school setting as listed in the school's graduation requirements (see above).

General Graduation Requirements include the following typical course sequences:

English	Eng. I, II, III, Senior Seminar
Math	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II
Science	Biology, Chemistry, Physics
Social Studies	World History, U.S. History, U.S. Government
Kinetic Wellness	KW I, II, III, IV
Fine Arts	Includes Art, World Language, and Music courses
Business	Includes 0.5 credits in Consumer Education and all CTE courses
Additional Required	Health

* All requests to replace or take general studies courses out of sequence must be approved by the student's teacher, administration, and/or through the building's MTSS process.

GRADUATION DISTINCTIONS

EPHS Graduate will receive an EPCUSD 401 diploma with one of the following Distinctions: General Studies, Career Pathways, or Distinguished Scholars. Based on coursework, some students could receive both the Career Pathway AND Distinguished Scholar Distinctions.

General Studies

In order to receive an EPCUSD401 Diploma with a General Studies distinction, a student's transcript shows all graduation requirements have been completed, but they have not completed enough courses within a sequence to receive the Career Pathway or Distinguished Scholar Distinctions.

Career Pathways

In order to receive an EPCUSD401 Diploma with a Career Pathways distinction, a student's transcript must include

- completion of at least 5.0 credits within one specific Career Pathway and
- successfully completing the Career Pathway Capstone course.

Distinguished Scholars

In order to receive an EPCUSD 401 Diploma with a Distinguished Scholars distinction, a student's transcript and high school national testing results must include the following:

- completing 10 or more honors/AP/Dual Credit courses with a C or better,
- meeting/exceeding English and Math Standards on state test (ACT), and/or
- receiving a 3 or better on at least 2 Advanced Placement exams.

In addition to the EPCUSD Graduation Distinctions, ISBE has created a new College and Career Pathway Endorsements award high schools can issue to qualifying graduates. Students earn endorsements issued on their transcripts by completing an individualized learning plan, a career-focused instructional sequence, and professional learning opportunities. For more information, please visit [ISBE College and Career Pathway Endorsement](#).

GRADING SYSTEM

The following grades and percentage ranges are used to indicate scholastic progress:

Grade	Percentage	Descriptor
A	90-100%	Excellent
B	80-89.9%	Good
C	70-79.9%	Average
D	60-69.9%	Poor
F	0-59.9%	Failure
P	No %	Pass
I	No %	Incomplete
W	No %	Withdrawn

GRADE WEIGHTS

The grade point average is computed by adding the grade points received in all subjects and dividing by the number of units attempted. This grade-point average is calculated at the end of each grading period. It is used to determine the honor roll each grading period and the class rank.		
Advanced Placement A = 6 points B = 5 points C = 4 points D = 1 points F = 0 points	Honors A = 5 points B = 4 points C = 3 points D = 1 points F = 0 points	Regular A = 4 points B = 3 points C = 2 points D = 1 points F = 0 points

Grading Topic	Academic Performance (Assessments)	Student Habits (Assignments)
Types of Activities	Tests, Projects, Quizzes, Essays, Labs	Homework, Class Participation, Classwork, Bell Ringer, Exit Slip
% Value in Class	General - 70% Honors - 80% AP - 90% Dual Credit - College Requirement	General - 30% Honors - 20% AP - 10% Dual Credit - College Requirement
Frequency	Minimum - every 4 weeks (4 or more for the semester)	Minimum - every 2 weeks
Late/Missing Work	<p>A student who does not complete an Academic Performance assessment will be issued an overall semester grade of an 'I' for incomplete. The overall semester percentage will also be removed until all assessments have been completed for the semester.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a student is absent for a test, the teacher will mark the test and overall semester grade 'Incomplete' until the student completes the test. • If a student does not turn in their final draft essay, lab write-up, the teacher will mark the activity and overall semester grade 'Incomplete' until the student completes the assessment. 	<p>Students will be able to complete Student Habits assignments late for up to full credit until the teacher's determined date prior to the Academic Performance (ie. unit exam).</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A student can turn in their rough draft late up to 3 days prior to the final draft's due date. • A teacher issues a student full credit for a late Student Habits assignment because the class has not reviewed it, but only 60% credit if they have gone over the answers on the assignment in class. • A teacher allows the student to complete their review packet, binder, notes, homework completion, etc. up to the day of the exam for full credit.
Retakes	<p>Students are allowed to redo or retake an Academic Performance task to improve their grade and, more importantly, their understanding, if they receive a score below 60%. Additional learning must occur before a redo or retake and it must be done within a timely fashion as designated by the teacher.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A student scores below 60% on a test and the teacher allows the student to retake the test for up to full credit provided the student has completed all missing unit assignments and has met with that teacher 3 times before/after school to review the unit materials. • A student scores below 60% on an Academic Performance assessment and the teacher allows the student to take an alternative version of the assessment for up to full credit. • A student scores below 60% on the 	<p>With teacher discretion, students will be able to retake or complete alternative Student Habits assignments if they receive a score below 60% until the teacher's determined date prior to the Academic Performance (ie. unit exam).</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teacher determines the Student Habits assignment is vital to the student's success on the Academic Performance and allows the student to redo that assignment for up to full credit. • The teacher does not provide a retake opportunity to yesterday's bell ringer or exit slip activity to a student who scores below a 60%. • A student scores below 60% on a Student Habits assignment and the teacher provides an alternate assignment to the student.

	Academic Performance and is allowed to complete corrections to that assessment to receive a 60%.	
Lowest Grade	<p>Students will have up to a 2-week extension after the end of a semester to complete all 'Incomplete' Academic Performances. After that extension, if a student still has not completed all Academic Performances, the student's overall grade for the semester will be turned into an 'F' for that course and they will not receive credit.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A student did not complete their Unit 3 test by the end of the 2-week extension after the semester, that student's semester grade will be changed from an 'Incomplete' to an 'F'. • A student has an 'Incomplete' essay or lab write-up due to it being submitted partially completed. If the student does not complete the assessment by the end of the 2-week extension, the course grade will be changed from an 'Incomplete' to an 'F'. <p>*Final grades for second semester seniors will be stored and finalized on the last day of school for seniors.</p>	<p>If a student has not completed a Student Habits assignment by the Academic Performance, and there is no teacher or school-approved extension, that teacher may issue a '0' for that Student Habits assignment.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teacher can change all missing Student Habits assignments in Unit 4 from 'Incomplete' to '0' after the Unit 4 exam. • If a student has approved absences or an approved teacher extension, a student can complete Student Habits assignments after the unit Academic Performance.
Academic Dishonesty	<p>The student will be issued a zero without the ability to make-up the assignment. The teacher would log this into PowerSchool and contact the parent. If the behavior is repeated, further discipline will follow.</p>	<p>Based upon the severity and/or type of academic dishonesty, a range of behavioral consequences may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student issued a zero with the ability to make up an alternative performance task - at the teacher's discretion • Check-in & check-out of technology • Social consequence • Suspension • Removal from class <p>The teacher will log this into PowerSchool and parent would be contacted.</p>

Additionally, the Elmwood Park High School Staff has collectively committed to the following Academic Grading Practices:

1. In order to better align grades to academic performance and achievement, EPHS will eliminate extra credit/bonus points.
 - a. Teachers will no longer issue extra credit/bonus points for non-academic work or anything not related to course objectives.
 - i. This includes attending an extracurricular event, bringing in supplies, bathroom & homework pass usage, donations, etc. that are not directly related to the course.
 - b. Teachers can still provide eligible students with enrichment opportunities to enhance learning and/or additional or alternate academic opportunities to demonstrate learning.
 - i. This includes retaking assessments, conducting additional research on a course topic, providing additional evidence of learning a course goal, etc.

2. A student's letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) will be defined clearly by the collective measure of a student's growth toward and attainment of each designated learning standard in the class. A clear description of achievement expectations will be indicated on the course syllabus, unit guide sheets, assessment rubrics, etc.
3. Reported grades will be based solely on individual learning and achievement of course standards, not on a bell curve, and not based on other students' performance in the class.
4. All grades in the course will be based on reliable, viable common assessments.
 - a. This includes assessments with appropriate and clear targets tied to standards, well-written items, sufficient items on each target, and avoidance of bias.

To see a full listing of our courses and policy on important things such as: what it is to be a full-time student, how to drop a class or early graduation, please click [here](#) to be taken to our **Course Description Guide**.

EPHS ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Perfect attendance and punctuality should be goals of all EPHS students. The Board of Education believes that an educational system is organized on the basic premise that all students shall regularly attend school. Attendance is essential for developing the academic proficiencies required to pass coursework and earn credits. Attendance is important for developing good lifelong habits. If a student is absent, the absence shall be treated as *excused* or *unexcused*.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

A parent or legal guardian is required to phone the Attendance Voicemail **every day** the student is absent from school. If the call is **NOT** received on the Attendance Voice Mail **before 9:00 am** on the day of the absence, the absence will be considered UNEXCUSED. Parents should be prepared to leave the following information on the **Attendance Voice Mail: (708) 583-6400**. Parents can also submit through **email (ephsattendance@epcusd401.org)** or PowerSchool to report a student's absence and should include the following information:

1. Student name and year in school.
2. Student ID number.
3. Date of absence.
4. Reason for absence, and the name and daytime phone number of the parent calling.

Attendance

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

SwipeK12 System

To enter the building all students will need to present their valid school issued student ID or the SwipeK12 Student ID Card App to scan into our Swipe K-12 System attendance system.

Student Absences

There are two types of absences: Excused and Unexcused.

Excused absences include: Illness (including mental or behavioral health of the student), observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Board of Education, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety, or other reason as approved by the building principal.

In the event of any absence, the student's parent/guardian is required to contact the school before 9:00 am to explain the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an Unexcused Absence. Upon request of the parent/guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

Students who have an Excused Absence from school will be given the same number of days excused to make up missed homework and classwork assignments. A student and the student’s parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student’s teachers prior to or during any excused absences and for ensuring that such assignments are completed and submitted by the student prior to or upon his or her return to school.

Planned absences of more than five (5) consecutive days must be pre-arranged and approved by the building principal in order to be considered Excused Absences. A student will be excused for up to 5 days in cases where the student’s parent/guardian is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. The Board of Education, in its discretion, may excuse a student for additional days relative to such leave or deployment.

If a student accumulates more than ten (10) Excused Absences or more than five (5) consecutive Excused Absences, the school may require documentation explaining the reason for the student’s absence prior to granting any additional absences as Excused.

Absences not designated as Excused are considered Unexcused Absences. For all Unexcused Absences, students may not be given opportunities to make up missed work and are subject to school interventions and discipline.

Truancy

If a student misses all or part of a day without a valid reason (Unexcused Absence).

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Absenteeism, or Truancy, the action of staying away from school without good reason is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district.

Students who miss more than 1% but less than 5% of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause are considered truant.

Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered interventions and resources aimed at improving a student’s attendance.

If chronic truancy persists after interventions and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action, including:

- Parent Contact (may include phone call, letter, and/or home visit)
- Conference with student and parent
- Referral to the West 40 Truancy Outreach Advocate
- Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act
- Appropriate school discipline

A student who misses 15 consecutive days of school without valid cause and who cannot be located or, after exhausting all available support services, cannot be compelled to return to school is subject to expulsion from school.

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

Tardies

It is important for students to be on time for school and class. Tardiness to class creates a disruption to the learning environment and takes away from class activities. Students are expected to be in class at 7:40 AM to be marked present. Should a student arrive after the 7:40 AM bell, they must receive a pass from the SWIPE machine located outside of the security office before going to their first class.

Tardiness to school and/or class multiple times results in the following consequences:

Weekly Tardy Discipline	
5 Tardies	1 Detention

6-9 Tardies	2 Detentions
10+ Tardies	In-School Suspension
Chronic Tardy Discipline	
20% of Year to Date #1	Parent contact with warning of possible in-person meeting
20% of Year to Date #2	Require a parent meeting for student to attend school (Contract Completed)
20% of Year to Date #3	OSS (Insubordination) with parent re-entry meeting

Hall Sweeps

In the efforts of ensuring a safe and non-disruptive learning environment, it is important for students to be where they are assigned/scheduled to be at all times. Hall sweeps will be administered when administration makes an announcement that all teachers are to not allow students in their class without a pass. Security and administration will redirect all students to receive a Swipe generated hall sweep pass that will be required in order to gain admittance into classrooms and the cafeteria. Hall sweeps can be called at any time throughout the school day, including the start of the school day.

Weekly Hall Sweep Response	
1 Hall Sweep	Warning issued with parent contact
2 Hall Sweeps	1 Detention with parent contact
3 Hall Sweeps	1 day In-School Suspension with parent contact
4+ Hall Sweeps	Discipline assigned at Dean discretion with parent contact

First Period Attendance Policy

Swiping into the building 15 minutes or more late will be considered a cut class.

1st and 2nd cut of first period class each week will result in a detention for each offense.

3 - 5 cut classes of first period will result in an automatic 1 or more day(s) of In-School Suspension.

EPHS CONDUCT OF STUDENTS

CONDUCT OF STUDENTS: PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATION

Elmwood Park High School recognizes its role in the development and socialization of the adolescents in its charge. As stated in our mission, we are to help prepare students to be “productive” citizens in a democratic society. High school is the final, formal institutional setting in which adolescents learn and practice the ideals of a democratic society before becoming legal adults. Part of that preparation includes formal and informal education of various situations that will promote self-reliance, rules and regulations, and policies.

As such, we as educators are cognizant of the environment in which students learn to live and work by themselves, others, and the systems that teach individual responsibility and self-discipline. The behavior and discipline code outlined in the following pages reflects the belief that school is a learning ground for adolescents to practice their individual freedoms while maintaining personal responsibilities. It is our belief that the following policies, rules and regulations at school will translate to acceptance of various laws and policies once our students become productive members of society.

The discipline code is grounded in individual student ownership, accountability, and responsibility. The notion that all individuals must be held accountable for their actions is one students will face in society. Discipline is structured so that the inherent dignity and

worth of each person is recognized and honored. The behavior code, subsequent policies, and rules and regulations governing EPHS stem from the premise that respect must exist between people and toward the institution and its policies, rules and regulations if we are all to work together to achieve goals successfully. It is from this premise that we have developed this list of personal rights and responsibilities that apply to all persons within the EPHS community.

CONDUCT OF STUDENTS: PERSONAL RIGHTS

1. All individuals have the right to be safe from physical, mental, and emotional harm while at school.
2. All individuals have the right to facilitate (teachers/staff) or receive (students) an education that will promote intellectual, social, and emotional growth and development.
3. All individuals have the right to express their ideas and feelings within the bounds of good taste and with respect to the rights of other people.

CONDUCT OF STUDENTS: PROHIBITED

Students may be disciplined for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale, tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, vapes and other oil based vaping devices.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school, or school functions, and are treated as though they are in possession of alcohol.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:
 - a. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, medical cannabis and hashish.)
 - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner prescription.
 - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's, most currently banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician or licensed practitioner prescription.
 - d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician or licensed practitioner's instructions. Parents or guardians have the ability to administer a "cannabis-infused product" to their child on school property or on a school bus if both parent and child have been cleared to use the product by the state's medical marijuana law.
 - e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
 - f. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
 - g. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are used to, or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or other controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or other controlled substances.

***Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.**

4. Using, possessing, controlling or transferring a "weapon" or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.
5. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), Bluetooth enabled speakers or other Bluetooth enabled device, or similar electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device or cellular telephone, commonly known as "sexting." The use of cellular phones, smartphones, and other electronic devices need to be silenced and put away during the regular school day. They may be used in the classroom if: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's Individualized Education program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan; (c) it is used during the student's lunch period; or (d)

it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals

6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
7. Using hate speech of any kind, this includes and is not limited to verbal expressions, written expressions, visual representations, and/or innuendo that may be offensive. This is applicable to each student in the building regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, or persuasion. (Hate speech: abusive or threatening speech or writing that expresses prejudice on the basis of ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or similar grounds.)
8. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a staff member's request to stop, directive to report to an office, present school identification, or submit to a search.
9. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
10. Engaging in or encouraging other students to engage in hazing, bullying of any kind, or any type of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff member or another student. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, cyberbullying, or other comparable conduct.
11. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), sexual communication of any kind, sharing of sexual images, and sexual assault.
12. Engaging in teen dating violence.
13. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
14. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
15. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (calling 9-1-1); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
16. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret organization.
17. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including gang symbols or paraphernalia.
18. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, vandalism, and hazing.
19. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; of (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.
20. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
21. Operating an unarmed aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the building principal.
22. Engaging in any activity that is determined to be a prejudice-motivated or "hate" act. This would be a person targeting another because of an actual or perceived protected characteristic. Incidents may involve physical assault, damage to property, bullying, harassment, verbal abuse/insults (which includes slurs), or any other inappropriate behavior that is determined to be motivated by bias against a person or group of people based on actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, ethnicity, physical appearance, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, citizenship, immigration status, language, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by law.

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

When and Where Rules Apply:

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

1. Any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to, on, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or

4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

EPHS CONDUCT OF STUDENTS: RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following are specific rules and regulations governing individuals at EPHS. They are designed to provide a sample of the type of behavior expected of Elmwood Park High School students and staff and do not necessarily cover all situations.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic dishonesty and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. All student work must be original. The first offense will result in a failing grade for that assignment and a parent-teacher-student conference. An additional incident of cheating and/or plagiarism during a student's four years at Elmwood Park High School may result in loss of credit with a grade of F for that course. All incidents of these infractions will be reported to the dean of students with possible disciplinary actions.

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Students are prohibited from using AI tools in the following ways. First, they may not engage in plagiarism and academic dishonesty by submitting AI-generated content as their own original work. Misrepresentation is also prohibited, including using AI to create false information, alter images or videos deceptively, or impersonate others. Additionally, students are not allowed to use AI for cheating, such as completing tests, quizzes, or other assessments unless specifically permitted by the teacher. Finally, students must avoid data privacy violations by refraining from inputting sensitive personal information or confidential school data into AI platforms.

Violations of this will be handled according to the EPHS Code of Conduct. Consequences may include receiving a zero on the assignment, losing AI privileges for future assignments, and facing detention or other disciplinary measures as outlined in the student handbook.

ATHLETIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

All students participating in Athletics and/or Extra-curricular Activities are expected to adhere to the Tiger Athletic and Extracurricular Code of Conduct found on the district's website. All student participants are representatives of our school and therefore have greater responsibilities than the average student. Participating in sports and extra-curricular activities is a privilege that provides our students with an opportunity to gain recognition and other benefits that result from participation. All students, participating in athletics and/or extracurriculars, and their parents/guardian, will be required to review and sign off on the Tiger Athletic and Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Students will not be allowed to participate until the signature form has been submitted. The [Tiger Athletic and Extracurricular Code of Conduct](#) is available on the district's website.

The Tiger Athletic and Extracurricular Code of Conduct is in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day, every day of the calendar year. The commitment that the signature forms represented by the student, and his/her parent or guardian, will remain in effect for one calendar year from the date of the last participation by the athlete.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

As a general policy, students are expected to:

1. Maintain regular daily attendance
2. Be on time to all of their classes
3. Conduct themselves in a manner which reflects courtesy, decency, and a sensitivity to the rights of others
4. Respond courteously and promptly to the requests of faculty and staff
5. Help keep the school clean and safe
6. Refrain from loud noises or conversations that are disruptive to the school's environment
7. Use electronics and technology appropriately and at the teacher's discretion

BULLYING/HARASSMENT

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Each school district and non-public, non-sectarian elementary or secondary school shall create and maintain a [policy on bullying](#), which the [policy](#) must be filed with the State Board of Education.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

The district provides bus transportation to and from school for all students north of the Elmwood Park Metra Railway or any student that lives greater than 1.5 miles away from the school. A list of bus stops will be published at the beginning of the school year before student registration. Parents must, at the beginning of the school year, select one bus stop at which a student is to be picked up, and one stop at which a student is to be dropped off. Students are not permitted to ride a bus other than the bus to which they are assigned. Exceptions must be approved in advance by a building administrator.

While students are on the bus, they are under the supervision of the bus driver. In most cases, bus discipline problems can be handled by the bus driver. In the case of a written disciplinary referral, student bus problems will be investigated and handled by a building administrator.

Students are expected to follow all school rules while on the bus. Students may be suspended from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for violating school rules or for engaging in other gross disobedience or misconduct. The school Board may suspend the student from riding the school bus for a period in excess of 10 days for safety reasons. The district's regular suspension procedures shall be used to suspend a student's privilege to ride a school bus.

A student who is suspended from riding the school bus and who does not have alternative transportation to school shall be allowed the opportunity to make up all missed work for equivalent academic credit. It is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternative transportation to school.

In the interest of the student's safety and in compliance with State law, students are also expected to observe the following:

1. Dress properly for the weather. Make sure all drawstrings, ties, straps, etc. on all clothing, backpacks and other items, are shortened or removed to lessen the likelihood of them getting caught in bus doors, railings or aisles.
2. Arrive on time at the bus stop, and stay away from the street while waiting for the bus.
3. Stay away from the bus until it stops completely and the driver signals you to Board. Enter in a single file without pushing. Always use the handrail.
4. Take a seat right away and remain seated facing forward. Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
5. Talk quietly on the bus. No shouting or creating loud noises that may distract the driver. Tablets, iPods®, iPads®, smartphones, speakers, and other electronic devices must be silenced on the bus unless a student uses headphones.
6. Help keep the bus neat and clean. Keep belongings out of the aisle and away from emergency exits. Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus.
7. Always listen to the driver's instructions. Be courteous to the driver and other students. Sit with your hands to yourself and avoid making noises that would distract the driver or bother other passengers. Remain seated, keeping your hands, arms, and head inside the bus at all times.
8. Wait until the bus pulls to a complete stop before standing. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
9. Stay out of the danger zone next to the bus where the driver may have difficulty seeing you. Take five giant steps away from the bus and out of the danger zone, until you can see the driver and the driver sees you. Never crawl under a bus.
10. If you must cross the street after you get off the bus, wait for the driver's signal and then cross in front of the bus. Cross the street only after checking both ways for traffic.
11. Never run back to the bus, even if you dropped or forgot something.

***Video and audio cameras may be active on buses to record student conduct and may be used for the purposes of investigation into misconduct or accidents on the bus.**

***For questions regarding school transportation issues, contact the Deans' Office at (708) 583-6215.**

CAFETERIA BEHAVIOR

Appropriate behavior is expected in the school cafeteria including: using proper etiquette; clearing tables and surrounding areas; and refraining from throwing food or other objects. Food and drink may not be taken from the cafeteria. If these expectations are not met, students may be assigned seats, detentions, clean-up duty, and/or suspensions. Fast food may not be delivered or brought into school by anyone other than a parent/guardian wishing to drop-off lunch for their student. Additionally, for safety and cleanliness reasons we prohibit open drink containers, this also applies to students bringing any other drinks (i.e. outside coffee). Ensure that your student is delivered a drink with a closed cap. Students' lunch time is reserved for the stated lunch time on their individual schedule.

Weather and staff permitting, students may have the opportunity to participate in outdoor lunch. All students must remain in the supervision of the designated outdoor lunch supervisor for the duration of the lunch period. Outdoor lunch will be determined on a day to day basis.

CLOSED CAMPUS POLICY

Students are not permitted to leave the Elmwood Park High School campus during their school day without permission from the administration or nurse. This includes In-School Suspension and lunch periods. If a student feels ill, the student is expected to check in with the school nurse and/or administrator before contacting a parent or guardian to leave for the school day.

DANCES AND PROM REGULATIONS

1. A student attending a dance must hold a valid student ID.
2. Students will be admitted at a reasonable time and may leave whenever they desire. When students leave, however, it is understood they will not return.
3. Students with guests should make them aware of the regulations established for EPHS students. Guests will be expected to comply with all rules and regulations set for EPHS students.
4. All prom guests must meet EPHS guidelines to attend.
5. Prom tickets may only be purchased by a student with a junior or senior class status. All school fees and debts must be paid prior to purchasing tickets.
6. Students' guests attending prom or any school dance, must be no older than 19 years of age to attend.
7. Students and their guests attending a dance are expected to wear acceptable dress.

DISRUPTIVE ACTS

Students are expected to behave so that classrooms, halls, and other school areas are not disrupted or endangered.

DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS:

As per Elmwood Park Community Unit School District 401 Board Policy 7:160 students' dress and grooming must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with maintaining a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety and decency.

- Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or picture alcoholic beverages, illegal or legalized drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images.
- Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols, including gang symbols.
- Students are required to wear the following at all times:
 - A shirt that covers the front, back, sides under the arms, and includes straps over the shoulders
 - A bottom such as pants, sweatpants, shorts, skirts, dresses, or leggings
 - Shoes appropriate for school; specific footwear may be required for certain activities (e.g., Physical Education)
- Clothing must provide coverage of the chest, torso, buttocks, nipples and undergarments at all times.
- Clothing, and accessories that pose a safety hazard are not permitted in designated areas of the school building.
- For safety and identification purposes, hats are not allowed to be worn inside the building. While students may wear hooded sweatshirts, hoods must remain down throughout the school day. Clothing designed for outerwear—such as coats, jackets, gloves, sunglasses, sweatbands, bandanas, non-religious head coverings and blankets—must be stored in lockers during the school day. All clothing should be appropriate for the school setting and weather conditions. Clothing must be appropriate for school and the weather, unless there is a spirit day or medical need which has been communicated to building administration.
- Appropriateness of clothing is at the discretion of the administration.
 - Students who are found to be in violation of any of the above mentioned could be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of building administration.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones are only allowed to be used during passing periods and in the cafeteria before and after school and during the student's lunch periods. All other times, cell phones should not be in use. All electronic devices will be stored upon entry of each class throughout the school day in a teacher caddy. All electronic devices will be retrieved at the end of the class period throughout the school day. Electronic devices include but are not limited to: cell phones, headphones, smart watches that have cellular service or phone connectivity. The administration reserves the right to amend this policy during the year. Headphones may be worn during passing periods and during lunch but they must be seen at all times and one ear needs to be fully exposed for safety. This is in conjunction with Elmwood Park Community School District Board Policy 7:190.

FALSE ALARMS

No student will sound any alarm except in case of an actual emergency. The specific penalty for this offense may result in a

recommendation for expulsion from school and referral to the River Grove Police Department.

GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY PROHIBITION

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

GUESTS

If a parent wishes to conference with a teacher, an appointment should be made for a time outside school hours. Children living outside the district, who are not of school age, are not permitted to visit classes without an administrator’s approval. All visitors are:

1. Required to check in at the security desk.
2. Must present and submit a valid picture ID.
3. Will receive a guest lanyard that must be worn at all times when in the building.
4. Be escorted to and from their destination.
5. Upon leaving, visitors must check out at the security desk and will return the guest lanyard to retrieve their picture ID that was submitted.

HAZING

Hazing is defined as any physical, mental, emotional, or psychological act which subjects a student who is joining, or affiliating with a student organization to any situation or expectation which may potentially abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass, harm, intimidate a student, denigrate either an individual or another group or compromise a student’s inherent dignity as a person. Hazing includes a situation in which an older student participates voluntarily participating in a hazing incident does not alter the high school’s prohibition on such conduct.

Hazing will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension/expulsion and police involvement if warranted. Students who are associated with teams/activities who consider engaging in acts against other students on a team or in an activity should understand that the school considers such behavior as hazing.

I.D./LANYARDS

Each student will be issued a new school I.D. at the beginning of the school year. Students are expected to have a physical I.D. or a virtual copy of their I.D. on their person at all times while in the school building.

SWIPEK12 SYSTEM

To enter the building all students will need to present their valid student ID to scan into our Swipe K12 System attendance system. Any school personnel may require a student to produce his or her I.D. Some specific situations, which require the student to use their I.D., are:

- Needed for students to enter the school building.
- When leaving any classroom while school is in session, except during passing time.
- When borrowing materials from the library.
- When purchasing student admission tickets for school events or student activities.
- A valid student I.D. is required to board school buses.
- To purchase lunch in the cafeteria.

INSUBORDINATION TOWARD SCHOOL PERSONNEL

No student will be insubordinate to or mistreat any Elmwood Park High School faculty or staff member. Acts of insubordination by a student may result in disciplinary actions, including but not limited to a parent contact and a restorative conference.

ISOLATED TIME OUT, TIME OUT AND PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student’s behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

LOCKERS

A student's locker and lock are the property of the school and must be used for the purpose intended: a storage area for books, school supplies, and outdoor garments. If school officials believe that the student has illegal or dangerous materials or substances in their assigned locker, school officials may search the locker with or without the student's knowledge or consent. School officials or police officers may search lockers at any time. Students are responsible for **all** items in their assigned locker, and may not share lockers. Students may not use personal locks on their assigned school lockers, or PE lockers, that have not been assigned to them by the school. All backpacks, coats and athletic gear must be stored in a student's locker as these items are prohibited throughout the school day. Students will not carry anything larger than a pencil case in the hallways and a pencil case shall have dimensions no larger than 8 inches x 6 inches x 2 inches.

LOITERING AND PRESENCE IN UNAUTHORIZED AREAS

Students are not to loiter in the school building, in the washrooms, or on the grounds and are not to be found in unauthorized areas of the building without permission and supervision.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGULATIONS

Students must operate cars, motorcycles, and bicycles in a responsible manner and consistent with state, local, and school regulations. Students are to park in designated STUDENT PARKING ONLY. Students are not to park in the Visitor's section, the Reserved parking sections, or in fire lanes. STUDENT PARKING WITH AN EPHS PARKING PERMIT ONLY, IS ALLOWED BETWEEN WHITE LINES ONLY. Any student who parks illegally or in unauthorized student parking areas is subject to having their vehicle ticketed or towed at the owner's expense. Any vehicle parked in the school parking lot will be required to register the car with the district.

SAFE2HELP

Safe2Help Illinois is available 24/7, and at no cost to all school districts in the state. In the absence of a trusted adult, students can use a free app, text/phone, or the website to share school safety issues in a confidential environment.

Call: 1-844-4-SAFE- IL

Text: Safe2

Website: www.Safe2HelpIL.com

SEARCH AND SEIZURE (7:140)

For the safety and supervision of students in the absence of parent(s)/guardian(s), to maintain discipline and order in schools, and to provide for the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, school authorities are authorized to conduct searches of students and their personal effects, as well as District property.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE: PERSONAL EFFECTS OF STUDENTS

Certified employees and school administrators may search a student and/or the student's personal effects (e.g., purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the District's student conduct rules. The search itself must be conducted in a manner which is reasonably related to its objectives and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction. When feasible, the search should be conducted as follows:

1. in the presence of a school administrator or adult witness;
2. by a certified employee or administrator of the same sex.

Following a search, a document will be created if the results of the search indicate a violation of school policy. The parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student shall be notified of the search as soon as possible.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE: SCHOOL PROPERTY

School property, including, but not limited to, desks and lockers, is owned and controlled by the District and may be searched by school authorities at any time. School authorities are authorized to conduct area-wide, general administrative inspections of school property (e.g., search of all student lockers) without notice to or consent of the student and without a search warrant.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE: SEIZURE OF PROPERTY

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

SUICIDE AND DEPRESSION AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

The district has a suicide and depression awareness and prevention policy. The policy can be found by clicking [here](#). If a student expresses suicidal ideation or thoughts of hurting themselves or others, the student may be referred to the School Threat

Assessment Team and/or a SASS (Screening, Assessment and Support Services) agency. When a student requires medical/mental health care, parents/guardians are responsible for obtaining appropriate care for the student. In instances of medical neglect, school personnel (as mandated reporters) will be required to report the situation to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). A student who experiences a mental health crisis at school may be required to provide a doctor's note before returning to school, in order to ensure that it is safe and appropriate for the student to return.

For additional information, see Board of Education Policy 4:190 (Targeted School Violence Prevention) and Policy 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention).

VAPE DETECTOR ACTIVATION

Upon receiving a notification of an activated vape detector, the administrators will respond promptly, follow all necessary policies and in a timely communication with the parents/guardians, outlining the incident, actions taken, and any next steps, including disciplinary actions and educational interventions. eared from the bathroom to conduct an investigation (questioning and search of person and belongings)

WEAPONS PROHIBITION

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

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, a weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The expulsion period may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis.
2. A knife, brass knuckles, pepper spray, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including "look alikes" of any firearm as defined above. The expulsion requirement may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

SAFETY DRILLS

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school administration team. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with directives of the school officials during emergency drills. The district will follow what is required by the Illinois State Board of Education including fire drills, severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, law enforcement drill, and bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration.

EPHS DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

STUDENT CONDUCT GUIDELINES

These guidelines apply during the school day, en route to or from school, at a school-sponsored event or activity, adjacent to the school, or on school district property.

OFFENSES AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The following list consists of offenses which might occur in high school and for which the school Board and administration structured a discipline policy. As per school Board policy 7:190, those grounds for disciplinary action apply whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during or after school hours or at any other time when the school is being used by a school group;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, or event, or any activity or event which bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member, or an interference with school purposes or an educational function.

Although the list of offenses and suggested actions is not to be exhaustive, it does provide a guideline to the type of discipline that may be enforced by the administration. The administration reserves the right to impose disciplinary actions for offenses not listed or to take any other disciplinary actions appropriate to the situation.

In all instances, the administration may determine that a parent and/or teacher conference, behavior contract, counseling services (school), or peer mediation is necessary. Other recommendations may be made as deemed suitable for the situation. Students who are absent on days when they are assigned to detention must serve their assignment on the first day back to school, or an alternative day deemed appropriate by school personnel.

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

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

1. Student Conference
2. Notifying parents/guardians
3. Use of restorative practices
4. Disciplinary conference
5. Withholding of privileges
6. Temporary removal from the classroom
7. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen or damaged property.
8. In-school Supervision
9. Before school, lunch, and after-school detentions provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified
10. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
11. Suspension of bus riding privileges
12. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds
13. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed two (2) calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds
14. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State Law
15. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substance), "look-alikes," alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

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

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

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

DESCRIPTION OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

LOSS OF PRIVILEGE

Attendance of extracurricular events (ie: Homecoming, Prom, athletic events, etc.) is a privilege. Attendance to all such events are at the discretion of the Deans' Office. Criteria may include, but is not limited to: attendance, behavior, credits, debt, and grades. Other loss of privileges during the school day may include, but are not limited to unescorted classroom breaks and passing periods, lunch in the cafeteria, bus transportation, Chromebook use, and extracurricular activities.

DETENTIONS

Detentions are the assignment for an additional period of school to be served before or after school, or during lunch. Students are assigned to detention primarily for minor disciplinary violations. Students may serve a detention the following day it is issued.

Students must report for detention on time and will not be admitted without an I.D. or study material.

A detention not served due to absence is automatically rescheduled for the day the student returns to school.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION PROCEDURE

Detentions are intended to provide a method of disciplining Elmwood Park High School students for violations of the School Behavior and Discipline Code. Administrator-assigned detentions and teacher-assigned attendance-related detentions will be served at the designated time before or after school and during student lunch periods. Detentions are to be served either the day of the assignment, or the next school day in the assigned detention room. Consequences for failing to serve detention(s) are outlined under Class I Infractions. Students may serve detention from 7:00 - 7:45 am, during their lunch period, or 3:05 - 4:00 pm.

The following rules and regulations apply to detentions:

1. Students must arrive at the detention room on time.
2. Students must give their current student ID to the detention supervisor upon entering the detention room.
3. Students may not leave their assigned seats nor talk to other students without permission.
4. No personal entertainment devices, cell phones, iPods, cards, or other recreational items will be allowed in the room.
5. No food or beverages will be allowed in the room, unless they are serving their detention during their lunch period.
6. Students will be informed of any other reasonable rules and regulations that may be established by the detention supervisor.

DETENTION OR IN-SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Students are required to attend a detention or In-School Supervision on the day assigned. If the absence from the detention or In School Supervision is due to an excused reason, the detention or In School Supervision will be rescheduled for the next possible day.

*** Friday Afternoon Detention-Dean assigned three-hour detention is scheduled from 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM.**

Any violation of the Friday detention rules will result in further disciplinary action.

IN-SCHOOL SUPERVISION (ISS)

ISS is a disciplinary option being provided for students of Elmwood Park High School. It is designed as an alternative to an out-of-school suspension and is a privilege rather than an automatic right. Students involved in more serious violations of the school policy, such as fighting, insubordination, or repeated disciplinary infractions, will be suspended out-of-school.

A student who fails to report for an ISS on the date assigned due to an excused absence will be automatically assigned an ISS for the next regularly scheduled ISS day or an alternative day deemed appropriate by school personnel.

A student who fails to successfully complete an ISS on the date assigned will be suspended out-of-school for the remainder of that school day. A re-entry conference involving the parent/guardian, student, and student's dean must be held before the student is permitted to return to school.

Academic assignments must be completed during ISS and all school rules and procedures are in effect during the ISS; including the following. Students must attend ISS from 7:50 am - 3:00 pm. If the student is tardy on the day of their assigned ISS, they will stay until 4pm. In addition:

1. Students must be seated in the ISS room by 7:50 am They will be released at 3 pm
2. On the day of the In-School Suspension, the student is NOT permitted to participate and/or attend any extracurricular events. This includes sports, practices, clubs, plays, dances, etc.
3. Students must relinquish their current school ID and cell phone to the ISS supervisor upon entering the ISS room.
4. The ISS supervisor may establish rules he/she deems necessary to maintain order and safety.
5. Student work will be checked by the ISS supervisor.
6. Students may not put their head down or sleep.
7. Students may not communicate verbally or nonverbally with other students.
8. Students will not be allowed to go to their lockers or the cafeteria.
9. Students may not bring or use cell phones, tablets, MP3 players, cards, or other recreational/entertainment devices.
10. Students may not consume food or beverages.
11. Students will be given one supervised break in the morning and one supervised break in the afternoon.
12. Lunch will be eaten in the ISS room.
13. It is the student's responsibility to come adequately prepared, i.e. books, writing utensils, papers, Chromebook, etc.
14. Students will complete a reflection assignment designed to identify their misbehavior and ways to make better choices in the future.
15. Any violation of the ISS rules will result in the student being sent to the Deans' Office and an out-of-school suspension will be assigned for the remainder of that day. The time served in ISS will be forfeited.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION

A single suspension will not exceed ten (10) consecutive school days. The out-of-school suspension is to begin at the time suspended and end following the re-entry conference. It is the obligation of the student to contact each of his/her instructors regarding work missed on the day he/she returns to school. A student is allowed a minimum of one day for each day suspended to make up missed work.

When a student is suspended, every attempt will be made to notify the parent(s) on the day of the suspension. The student will not be released from school until the parent has been contacted or until the student's regularly scheduled school day has ended. A student completing an out-of-school suspension must attend a re-entry conference with their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and dean before resuming his/her normal class schedule. A letter will be mailed to confirm the suspensions.

There are offenses of such a nature that will result in immediate suspension and recommendation for possible expulsion. Students are not to be on school property during the time of their suspension. This will be constituted trespassing and the River Grove Police Department or Elmwood Park Police Department may be contacted.

Students are not allowed to participate in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities. (This includes athletic events, musical production, and all other school-affiliated activities either home or away.) Attendance at co-curricular and extra-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right. If the suspendable offense occurs at either one of these types of activities, the administration may use their discretion to further prohibit attendance at co-curricular or extracurricular activities for the remainder of the season, semester, or school year.

Students whose behavior demonstrates their willingness to follow school rules and policies may petition the assistant principal, in writing, for permission to attend extra-curricular/co-curricular activities.

SOCIAL SUSPENSION

A socially suspended student may not attend or participate in any school functions while serving the social suspension. Any student who has been out of school suspended is automatically placed on social suspension for the length of the suspension. Students can also be socially suspended for inappropriate behavior which is displayed while attending extra-curricular activities and events. Depending upon the nature of the offense, the suspension may include the semester in which the offense was committed as well as the following semester. Students whose behavior demonstrated their willingness to follow school rules and policies may petition (in writing) to building administration for permission to attend special extra-curricular activities such as homecoming, prom, senior luncheon, graduation, etc.

EXCESSIVE OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS

Depending on finding of the Deans' recommendations for Tier 2 or Tier 3 interventions, or a recommendation for initial evaluation for special education services may be made.

If the student is currently receiving services under an individualized education plan or Section 504 plan, all applicable laws governing special education will be followed. Continued violation of school code could result in a recommendation for expulsion.

EXPULSION

In cases of gross disobedience or misconduct, the principal may recommend to the Board of Education that expulsion proceedings be initiated. These offenses are defined as, but not limited to, any conduct, behavior, or activity, which causes, or may reasonably lead school authorities to believe, substantial injury or disruption with school activities, or the rights of other students or school personnel may occur. The Board has the authority to remove a student from school for a period not to exceed two calendar years.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

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

EPHS GENERAL INFORMATION

ACCESS TO STUDENT SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination.

FEES

School fees were approved by the School Board with the expectation that they would be paid by each family at registration. A \$30 fee will be assessed for all returned and NSD checks. The registration fees along with other monies due to the school (lost books, book fines, miscellaneous fines, etc.) must be paid in full by **October 1** (or 30 days after registering a new student to the District).

FEES: School fee refunds will be calculated as follows:

Less than or equal to 1st week of school 75%

Less than or equal to 2nd week of school 50%
Less than or equal to 3rd week of school 25%
Less than or equal to 4th week of school 0

For the purpose of this policy, “**school fees**” or “**fees**” mean any monetary charge collected by the District from a student or the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a student as a prerequisite for the student’s participation in any curricular or extracurricular program of the District. The District does not impose a “fee” when it requires that a student provide his or her own ordinary supplies of materials (e.g., pencil, paper, notebooks), which are necessary to participate in any curricular or extracurricular program.

FEES: “School Fees” include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. All charges required for textbooks and instructional materials.
2. All charges and deposits collected by a school for use of school property.
3. Charges for field trips made during school hours, or made after school hours if the field trip is required or a customary part of a class or extra-curricular activity (e.g., annually scheduled trips to museums, concerts, places of business and industry or field trips related to instruction in social studies, the fine arts, career/vocational education, or the sciences).
4. Charges or deposits for uniforms or equipment related to a physical education class, varsity and intramural sports, or to fine arts programs.
5. Charges to participate in an extracurricular activity.
6. Graduation fees (e.g., caps, gowns).
7. School records fees.
8. Driver’s education fees assessed pursuant to Section 27-23 of The School Code.

FEES: “School fees” do not include:

1. Library fines and other charges made for the loss, misuse, or destruction of school property (e.g., musical instruments, signage, lanyards, etc.)
2. Charges for the purchase of class rings, yearbooks, pictures, diploma covers or similar items. Changes for optional travel undertaken by a school club or group of students outside of school hours (e.g., a trip to Spain by the Spanish Club or a senior class trip).
3. Charges for admission to school dances, athletic events, or other social events.
4. Optional community service programs for which fees are charged (e.g., preschool, before and after school child care, recreation programs).

FEES: WAIVER OF FEES

Students whose parents are unable to afford the school fees may request a fee waiver if you meet Federal Eligibility Guidelines. Applications for fee waiver may be submitted from parents/guardians by completing an application form available online in the District’s website at www.epcusd401.org and click on Student Registration which is found under PowerSchool.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The Board of Education of School District 401 recognizes that every student who attends a school within the district, should have equal access to participate in all appropriate educational offerings of the district as well as access to the district facility in which the educational offering is provided. The Board does not guarantee that each facility shall be equally accessible to the disabled, but that within the school district, a disabled student will be able to receive equal educational opportunities. If the building to which a student would normally be assigned for reason of residence does not provide the accessibility necessary for a disabled student, that student may be assigned to another school for convenience of accessibility and shall be transported to that school.

The parent of a disabled student shall forward to the Superintendent a letter from a licensed physician qualified to practice medicine in the State of Illinois, stating the type and severity of the disability and his/her recommendation as to specific architectural needs.

When it is necessary for disabled adults (parents/guardians) to attend school activities in a school where there may be architectural barriers, the school shall amend its usual procedure and provide a meeting place which is accessible to the parent/guardian.

When a student or an adult (parents/guardians) or staff member believes that some phase of the educational program is inaccessible to him/her, the following grievance procedure shall be followed:

1. The student, parent/guardian, or staff member shall discuss the alleged case of discrimination with the immediate supervisor of the facility.
2. If the case of the alleged discrimination is not satisfactorily dealt with in step 1, the alleged case of discrimination shall be submitted in writing to the person designated by the Superintendent to handle grievances.

3. Following administrative review by the Superintendent, alleged cases of discrimination which still remain unresolved shall be referred in writing to the Board of Education for review.
4. If there is still no resolution to the problem after the Board of Education review, the case shall be referred to the State Board of Education review, the case shall be referred to the State Board of Education.

HALL PASSES

No student will be allowed to leave class without a hall pass. If a student needs to see a teacher during an advisory, they should get a pre-written pass from that teacher. If a student is late to class due to a teacher detaining them, they need to get a written pass from that teacher. Hall passes will not be given 5 minutes after class starts or 5 minutes before class ends to keep the hallways clear and safe.

HEALTH & MEDICATIONS

Accident Care

Students who have injuries, or are not feeling well will be sent to the school nurse. The school nurse, principal, or principal designee will treat minor injuries and send students back to class. Moderately sick or injured students will be provided care and parents will be called. In the case of a severe injury, emergency personnel will be contacted.

Communicable Disease

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding communicable diseases. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has a communicable disease. In certain cases, students with a communicable disease may be excluded from school or sent home from school following notification of the parent or guardian. The school will provide written instructions to the parent and guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the communicable disease. A student excluded because of a communicable disease will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings to the school a letter from the student's doctor stating that the student is no longer contagious or at risk of spreading the communicable disease.

CPR/AED Training Video (105 ILCS 25/1.10)

The Illinois High School Association has posted, on their website, a training video on hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillators. Parents/guardians are encouraged to view the video which can be accessed at: <https://www.ihsa.org/Resources/Sports-Medicine/CPR-Training>.

Dental Examination

All students entering kindergarten, second, sixth and ninth grades must present proof by May 15 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

Designated Caregiver Administration of Medical Cannabis

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act allows a parent/guardian of a student who is a minor to register with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) as a designated caregiver to administer medical cannabis to their child. A designated caregiver may also be another individual other than the student's parent/guardian. Any designated caregiver must be at least 21 years old and is allowed to administer a medical cannabis infused product to a child who is a student on the premises of his or her school or on his or her school bus if:

Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH:

Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the District; and

That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a School Medication Authorization Form – Medical Cannabis, Medical cannabis infused products (Product) includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited.

After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver shall immediately remove it from school premises or the school bus. The product may not be administered in a manner that, in the opinion of the District or school, would create a disruption to the educational environment or cause exposure of the product to other students. A school employee shall not be required to administer the product.

Diabetes Care

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

- a. Inform the school in a timely manner of any change which needs to be made to the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school for their child.
- b. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.
- c. Sign the Diabetes Care Plan.
- d. Grant consent for and authorize designated School District representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the Diabetes Care Plan.

Emergency Aid to Students

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

Eye Examination

All students entering kindergarten or the school for the first time must present proof by October 15 of the current school year of an eye examination performed within one year. Failure to present proof by October 15, allows the school to hold the student's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

Food Allergies

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the school nurse at 708-583-6206. Federal law protects students from discrimination due to a disability that substantially limits a major life activity. If your student has a qualifying disability, an individualized Section 504 Plan may be developed and implemented to provide the needed support so that your student can access his or her education as effectively as students without disabilities. Not all students with life-threatening allergies and life-threatening chronic illnesses may be eligible under Section 504. Our school district also may be able to appropriately meet a student's needs through other means. For additional information on the district's policies with respect to the Food Allergy Management Program, please click [here](#).

Head Lice

Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has head lice. Per the Illinois State Board of Education, head lice is not a basis to exclude students from school.

Health and Immunizations

All students are required to present appropriate proof of a health examination and immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases within one year prior to:

- Entering kindergarten or first grade;
- Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
- Enrolling in an Illinois school for the first time, regardless of the student's grade.

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Students between the ages of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, an age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year may result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.

New students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess an epinephrine injector (EpiPen®) and/or an asthma inhaler prescribed for use at the student’s discretion, provided the student’s parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form. The school and district shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student’s self-administration of medication or epinephrine injector or the storage of any medication by school personnel. A student’s parent/guardian must agree to indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student’s self-administration of an epinephrine injector and/or asthma inhaler, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

Students who are diabetic may also self-carry and self-administer diabetic testing supplies and insulin. Students who are diabetic must also have a Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school. For additional information on the district’s policies with respect to administering medicines to students and self-administration of medication, please click [here](#).

Student Medication

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student’s health and well-being. When a student’s licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child by completing a “School Medication Authorization Form.”

No school or district employee is allowed to administer to any student, or supervise a student’s self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student’s parent/guardian. No student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure. All medication shall be stored in an appropriate locked cabinet. In all cases, the school retains the discretion to reject a request for administering medicine. For additional information on the district’s policies with respect to administering medicines to students and self-administration of medication, please click [here](#).

Undesignated Medications

The school may maintain the following undesignated prescription medications for emergency use: (1) Asthma medication; (2) Epinephrine injectors; (3) Opioid antagonists; and (4) Glucagon. No one, including without limitation, parents/guardians of students, should rely on the school or district for the availability of undesignated medication. This procedure does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these medication(s).

Vision Screenings

Vision screenings are conducted annually for all children enrolled in the school district. A vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor. Your child is not required to undergo this vision screening if an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report form indicating that an examination has been administered within the previous 12 months. Please let us know immediately if you do not wish for the school district to conduct a vision screening for your child.

LIBRARY

Most books are circulated for two (2) weeks; reference books are overnight. Fines accrue at 10-25 cents a day per book and are payable upon return. Unpaid fines are subject to an additional late fee at the end of the year. Replacement fees for books which have been damaged or lost are as follows:

Paperback fiction:	\$10.00	Hardcover fiction:	\$20.00
Paperback nonfiction:	\$20.00	Hardcover nonfiction:	\$30.00
Reference:	Actual replacement cost		

LUNCH GUIDELINES

Students need to maintain a positive account balance. Cash or checks made payable to Aramark. Please note a \$30.00 fee will be assessed for all returned checks. Elmwood Park CUSD#401 is offering MySchoolBucks, an online payment service, which provides a quick and easy way to add money to your student’s meal account using a credit/debit or electronic check. Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com and register for a free account.

REMIND

This two-way communication platform creates a consistent message for all families and serves as the primary method that the

district will utilize for urgent communications. It allows communication through the Remind mobile applications, SMS text, email, or the Remind website.

RESIDENCY

Elmwood Park High School will admit only students residing in Elmwood Park. Below is our current residency information that is required at the time of registration. ALL DOCUMENTS MUST CONTAIN CURRENT ELMWOOD PARK ADDRESS ALONG WITH THE NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN.

RESIDENCY: CATEGORY A. PROVIDE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

1. Real estate tax bill from current calendar year.
2. Current mortgage statement/closing statement or letter from the county assessor.
3. Entire lease dated within the last 12 months that shows the name, signature, address and telephone number of the landlord and signature of the tenant(s). **It must list all persons living in the household.**
4. Notarized Letter of Residence Form. (Used if you don't have a lease or live with friends or relatives.) **Include names of all persons living in the household.**

RESIDENCY: CATEGORY B. ALSO PROVIDE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

1. Current water, electric, gas, internet, satellite provider or cable bill with Elmwood Park service address.
2. Valid Illinois or Elmwood Park vehicle registration **with** Illinois driver's license citing Elmwood Park address.
3. Valid public aid card or document from DHS or DCFS with Elmwood Park address.
4. Homeowner's or renters' insurance document with Elmwood Park address.
5. Recent pay stub from your employer with Elmwood Park address

RESIDENCY: CATEGORY C. ALSO PROVIDE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS

(Proof of Personal ID)

1. State issued photo ID (IL driver's license if you own/drive a car with Elmwood Park address or IL state ID with Elmwood Park address)
2. Federal issued photo ID (passport)
3. Other photo ID with Elmwood Park address

ONE document from CATEGORY A, ONE document from CATEGORY B, and ONE document from CATEGORY C must be presented to register your child for school. A total of THREE documents must be presented.

DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR AND NATIONAL ORIGIN PROHIBITED (BOARD POLICY 2:270)

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin negatively affect a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from such discrimination and harassment is an important District goal. The District does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, or national origin in any of its education programs or activities, and it complies with federal and State non-discrimination laws.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT - STUDENT OR STAFF (7:20)

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: DEFINITION

The determination of what constitutes sexual harassment will vary with the circumstances. It may include physical assault; physical contact; threats; direct sexual propositions; subtle pressure for sexual activity; a pattern of sexually explicit statements, questions, jokes, or anecdotes; offensive personal remarks of a sexual nature; or other unwelcome sexual advances or conduct of a sexual nature, when such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's learning or education, or creating a hostile learning or educational environment.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: VIOLATION

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to abuse another student or staff member through any sexually harassing conduct or communications whether such behavior occurs on school grounds, at school events, on the school bus, and/or electronically. Also, a student who takes any form of reprisal against any student or staff member who has rejected or reported sexual harassment shall have violated this policy.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: COMPLAINTS

Students or staff members who feel they have been sexually harassed may report problems or complaints to any teacher, counselor, or administrator who shall immediately report the matter to the principal.

Any school personnel who believe a violation of this policy may have occurred shall immediately report the matter to the principal for review and investigation. Child Reporting Act (IL Rev. Stat. 1985 ch. 23, pars. 2051 et seq.) requires a report to be made to the Child Abuse Hotline number (1-800-25-ABUSE) whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that a student has been abused.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: TIME LIMITS

The student or staff member should raise questions or complaints about sexual harassment as soon as possible while facts are known and potential witnesses are available. School personnel must report infractions to the principal within two (2) days after they have cause to believe that this policy may have been violated.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Upon receiving a complaint or report of a possible violation of this policy, the principal shall promptly review the incident. The principal may decide to refer the parties for counseling or mediation to resolve problems of alleged sexual harassment. If the principal determines that an administrative investigation is necessary, it shall be done promptly to determine whether the alleged violation has occurred. The investigation may include review of any relevant evidence and interviews with the student or staff member, the alleged offender, and any person believed to have pertinent knowledge. The accused shall have a full opportunity to tell his/her side of the story. The principal shall take steps to maintain the confidentiality of the investigation.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: PENALTIES

If, after considering all the evidence, the principal determines that there has been a violation of this policy, the following penalties will be instituted.

1. **FIRST OFFENSE**

First time violator(s) of this policy may be suspended from school for a period of up to five (5) days and a parent conference held, except where aggravated circumstances establish gross misconduct.

2. **SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE**

A second violation may constitute gross misconduct.

3. **GROSS MISCONDUCT**

Where there is a finding of gross misconduct, the offending student(s) may be indefinitely suspended pending a conference with the principal. After review by the principal, a recommendation for expulsion may be made to the Board of Education.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: LEGAL REF.: Title VII, Sex Discrimination under the Civil Rights Act of 1994.

Title IX, Non-discrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs and Activities Receiving or Benefiting from Federal Financial Assistance of the Educational Amendments of 1972.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: POLICY OF NON-RETALIATION

A student or staff member's good faith action in reporting a complaint, reporting evidence, or giving testimony of sexual harassment will not adversely affect the student's education, grades, curriculum, record, or the staff member's employment status. However, a student, staff member, or witness found to have been intentionally dishonest or malicious is making allegations or testifying shall be subject to discipline.

Throughout the complaint process, every effort will be made to protect the complainant and witnesses from reprisals and to protect the alleged offender from irresponsible complaints.

STUDENT SERVICES

McKinney-Vento (Students who are Homeless; Board Policy 6:140)

Children who are homeless are provided equal access to the district's educational programs in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act and State law. District procedures are intended to remove barriers to enrollment by homeless children. In addition, the district has designated a liaison for children who are homeless. The liaison coordinates services to facilitate the enrollment of children who are homeless and the provision of opportunities for academic success.

The District's Homeless Liaison is:

Ms. Kristy Mikol, Director for Student Services
Elmwood Park CUSD 401
8201 W. Fullerton Ave.
Elmwood Park, IL 60707
708-583-5836

Home & Hospital Instruction (Board Policy 6:150)

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rules governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services. Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from: (1) a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, (2) a licensed physician assistant, or (3) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

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

Documentation from the medical professional is required. For information on home or hospital instruction, contact the School Principal.

Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities (Board Policy 8:70)

Elmwood Park CUSD 401 accommodates individuals with disabilities with the opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, and activities on an equal basis as those without disabilities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the building principal or Superintendent if they have a disability that requires special assistance or services, and what services are required. The notification should take place as far as possible before the school-sponsored function, program or meeting.

Section 504/Education of Children with Disabilities (Board Policy 6:120)

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

If it is determined that a child has a disability (as defined under IDEA) and needs special education and related services by reason of the disability, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed for the child. This applies to children between ages 3 and 21 (inclusive). For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the ISBE *Special Education* rules.

Parents/guardians have the right to inspect and/or obtain a copy of their child's school student records prior to any IEP meeting. Written requests to inspect and/or copy the student records should be submitted to Stephanie Paris-Colon, Student Services Secretary, at pariscolons@epcusd401.org or Elmwood Park CUSD 401, 8201 West Fullerton Avenue, Elmwood Park, IL 60707.

Qualified interpreters are available at IEP team meetings upon request for parents/guardians whose native language is other than English. If a qualified interpreter is not available, the district may use outside vendors, including telephonic interpreters.

Parents/guardians, including parents/guardians who are deaf, may request an interpreter at IEP team meetings by contacting the Special Education Coordinator. Parent/guardian requests for an interpreter at IEP meetings should be made at least 10 days before such meetings whenever possible.

Parents/guardians have the right to request that the bilingual interpreter provided at an IEP meeting by the district serve no other role in the IEP meeting than as an interpreter, and the district will make reasonable efforts to fulfill this request.

Parents/guardians may contact the Student Services Department at 708-583-5854 with any questions or complaints about interpretation services.

In addition, it is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA. A student who does not qualify for an IEP under IDEA may qualify for services under Section 504 if the student has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, or has a record of a physical or mental impairment, or is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

The District has established a system of procedural safeguards for those students who, because of disability as defined by Section 504, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services. The procedural safeguards cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. The system includes notice, an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

The District may maintain membership in one or more cooperative associations of school districts that shall assist the District in fulfilling its obligations to the District's disabled students. If necessary, students may also be placed in nonpublic special education programs or education facilities.

Copies of publications explaining the procedural safeguards under IDEA and Section 504 may be obtained from the District Office.

Inquiries regarding the identification, assessment, and placement of children with disabilities should be directed to:
Department for Student Services
Elmwood Park CUSD 401
8201 W. Fullerton Ave.
Elmwood Park, IL 60707
708-583-5854

Isolated Time Out, Time Out and Physical Restraint

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

Students with Disabilities/Individualized Education Plans

Per Illinois legislation, the following serves as a notice for the parents/guardians of students with disabilities who may receive related services as part of their individualized education programs (IEPs). District 401 will maintain related service logs that record the delivery and number of minutes of the related service(s) administered to such students.

Parents/guardians of students with disabilities may request copies of their child's related service logs at any time. If you have any questions, please contact your student's related services provider or the Student Services Department at 708-583-5854.

Misconduct by Students with Disabilities (Board Policy 7:230)

The School District complies with all applicable legal requirements governing discipline of students with disabilities, including the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's *Special Education* rules. A student with a disability will not be expelled from school if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

The School District has developed and implemented policies and procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for students with disabilities. Behavioral interventions will be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. A copy of the District's policies and procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for students with disabilities may be obtained from the School District office.

EPHS TECHNOLOGY POLICY- DISTRICT
USE OF INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES ELMWOOD PARK COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #401

These policies below are available online at www.epcusd401.org or in the Principal's Office.

Chromebooks & Other District Devices

Students and their parents should carefully review [Board Policy 6:235 Access to Electronic Networks](#) and the *Acceptable Use and Internet Safety* regarding permissible use of District technology resources. Parents and students acknowledge this Agreement during registration. The District's rules and regulations are set forth in the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. Students will be allowed to use District technology resources, including computers and access the Internet, pursuant to the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. Students and their parents/guardians are responsible for reviewing the [Chromebook Agreement](#) on the district's website.

The focus of the District Technology Initiative at Elmwood Park CUSD 401 is to provide tools and resources for the 21st century learner. Excellence in education requires that technology is seamlessly integrated throughout the educational curricula. Increasing access to technology is essential to build upon college and career readiness skills. The individual use of Chromebooks & other district devices is a way to empower students to maximize their full potential and to prepare them for college and the workplace.

The policies, procedures, and information within this document apply to all Chromebooks & other district devices used at Elmwood Park CUSD 401 considered by the Administration to come under this policy. Students and their parents/guardians are reminded that use of technology is a privilege and not a right and that everything done on any device, network, or electronic communication device may be monitored by the school authorities. Inappropriate use of the technology can result in limited or banned computer use, disciplinary consequences, removal from courses, loss of credit, receiving a failing grade, and/or legal action.

All District students, regardless of grade level, are issued a District-owned Chromebook or other district devices.

Chromebooks, Chromebook chargers, and Chromebook cases not returned to the District, when requested, and in unsatisfactory condition will be charged a reasonable fee for needed repairs, which will not exceed the replacement cost of the Chromebook, Chromebook charger, and Chromebook case. Failure to return the Chromebook will result in a theft report filed with the police department.

Charges for the replacement of lost or damaged equipment are as follows:

- Chromebook lost or not returned \$300
- Chromebook Damaged \$50
- Replacement Power Supply \$20
- Replacement Stylus \$20
- Replacement Bag \$20