



Byron High School

Student Handbook

2026-2027

Amended 4/24/26

Table of Contents

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT	4
Preface	5
Introduction	6
Mission, Vision & Priorities	7
Hours for District Buildings & Facilities	7
Daily Class Schedule	8
PART I - INFORMATION	9
Arrival and Dismissal Hours	9
Calendar	9
Class Assignments	9
Complaints	9-11
Eighteen-Year-Old Students	11
Employment Background Checks [*]	11
Fees [*]	11-12
Food in the Classrooms	12
Fundraising	12
Gifts to Employees	13
Graduation Ceremony	13
Holiday Celebrations and Parties	13
Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies	13
Library and Media Center	13
Lunch	13
Messages to Students	13-14
Nondiscrimination [*]	14
Notice of Violent Behavior by Students [**]	14
Parent and Teacher Conferences	14
Parent Volunteers	14
Pledge of Allegiance [*]	14-15
Schedule	15
School Activities	15
School Closing Procedures	15
Searches	16
Lockers and Personal Possessions Within a Locker [*]	16
Desks	16
Personal Possessions and Student's Person	16
Vehicles on Campus [**]	17
Patrols and Inspections	17
Search of the Interior of a Student's Motor Vehicle	17
Student Publications and Materials	17
Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises [**]	17
School-Sponsored Student Publications	18
Student Records [*]	18

Student Surveys [*]	18-19
Transportation of Public School Students	19
Extracurricular Transportation	19
Video and Audio Recording	19
School Buses	19
Places Other Than Buses	19
PART II - ACADEMICS	20
Alternative Educational Opportunities	20
Cheating and Plagiarism	20
Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Platforms	20
Class Rank/Academic Standing	21
Early Graduation	21
Extended School Year Opportunities	21
Field Trips	21
Grades	21
Graduation Requirements [*]	22
Course Credits Required	23
Minnesota Academic Standards	24
School District Required and Elective Standards	24
Homework	24
Promotion and Retention of	24
Post-Secondary Enrollment Options	25
Summer School	25
PART III - RULES AND DISCIPLINE	26
Attendance [**]	26-27
Buses - Conduct on School Buses and Consequences for Misbehavior [**]	27
Cell Phones and Other Electronic Communication Devices	28
Discipline [*]	28
Dress and Appearance	28-29
Drug-Free School and Workplace	29
Harassment and Bullying Prohibition [*]	29
Bullying or Harassment Report Form	30
Hazing Prohibition [*]	30
Internet Acceptable Use	30
Parking on School District Property	31
Students	31
Visitors	31
Tobacco-Free Schools; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices [**]	31-32
Vandalism	32
Weapons Prohibition	32

PART IV - HEALTH AND SAFETY	33
Accidents	33
Asbestos Management Plan [*]	33
Emergency Contact Information	33
Health Information	33
First Aid	33
Communicable Diseases	33-34
Health Service	34
Immunizations	34
Medications at School During the School Day	34
Pesticide Application Notice [*]	35
Safety	35
Suicide Prevention Information	35
Visitors in District Buildings	35
APPENDIXES	
1. Policy Information	36
2. School District Policy Cross Reference Table	36-40
Parent/Guardian Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Assessments [*]	41-42
Acknowledgement Form	43

[] Notice required by statute*

*[**] Notice required by policy*

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT

This handbook is protected by copyright. If you wish to copy and use this Student Handbook you must obtain permission from Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) and Byron Public Schools. Call MSBA at 507-934-2450 or 800-324-4459 and 507-775-2383 for more information. Failure to receive such permission is a violation of our copyright.

Preface

This Student Handbook has been developed to help Byron Public Schools provide information and notices to students and parents/guardians. The handbook addresses many issues, and it can serve as a tool for students, parents/guardians and the District to work together effectively toward the common goal of an excellent education for students.

A handbook is an efficient and effective way to provide the notices required by law and/or policy. Notices required by statute are identified at the end of the heading for that topic by the symbol **[*]**. Notices required by policy are identified at the end of the heading for that topic by the symbol **[**]**.

Student handbooks reflect the individualities of our district and the students we serve.

Introduction

Welcome to the Byron School District. There are several things to keep in mind about this handbook. First, it contains general and specific information and guidelines. It is not intended to be comprehensive or to address all the possible applications of, or exceptions to, the general policies and procedures described. For that reason, if you have any questions, you should address specific questions to the principal.

The principal and dean of students expressly reserve the right to amend policies and procedures from time to time as it determines to be in the best interest of the school. Such amendments, as well as any new policies deemed to be in the schools interest, will be effective as of the date of their enactment unless the action itself specifies a different effective date and will be done in consultation with faculty and staff. The procedures, practices, policies and benefits described here may be modified or discontinued from time to time. We will try to inform you of any changes as they occur.

Although the policies and other statements found here cover a wide variety of subjects, readers should be aware that there are other important policies and procedures specific to the Byron Public Schools that should be consulted as the need arises. The handbook cannot and is not intended to address all circumstances at Byron High School.

We welcome your comments, suggestions, corrections, and questions regarding this handbook and any suggestions for other areas that might be addressed appropriately.

Thank you for your trust.

Malia Schroeder, Principal

Mission

Learn. Share. Innovate. Inspire.

Vision

Byron Public Schools: A community of learners committed to making the world a better place.



Priorities

- 1) Personalize learning in pursuit of academic excellence
- 2) Inspire students and staff to develop their character, share their talents, and apply their learning
- 3) Maintain excellence in resource management

HOURS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES *

The Byron District buildings are open Monday- Fridays from 7:30am-4pm. Byron School District encourages the use of the district facilities for community activities. Those wishing to use Byron facilities must complete and submit an application 10 days prior to the date of the requested rental. Renters can complete the application online or in person. The application can be found on the [Byron Public Schools](#) website.

DAILY CLASS SCHEDULE *

Byron High School is on a 4 period (block) schedule with an advisory period, each block is approximately 80 minutes in length with 3-7 minute passing times. The regular school day is 8:00 am – 3:00 pm. The 2026-2027 school year will consist of 4 quarters of scheduled classes.

REGULAR SCHEDULE

BLOCK 1 8:00-9:20	
Passing 9:20 - 9:26	
BLOCK 2 9:26 - 10:46	
Passing 10:46 - 10:52	
BLOCK 3A/B - Full Block (Eat 3C) 10:52 - 12:16	BLOCK 3A Skinny 1st Lunch 10:52 - 11:32
	Passing 11:32 - 11:36
BLOCK 3B/C - Full Block (Eat 3A) 11:36 - 1:00	BLOCK 3B Skinny 2nd Lunch 11:36 - 12:16
	Passing 12:16 - 12:20
	BLOCK 3C Skinny 3rd Lunch 12:20 - 1:00
Passing 1:00 - 1:06	
BLOCK 4 1:06 - 2:26	
Passing 2:26 - 2:30	
ADVISORY 2:30 - 3:00 Seniors released at 2:55 Juniors released at 2:57	

PART I – INFORMATION

Arrival and Dismissal Hours

School begins at 8:00 a.m. for students in grades 9th-12th. BHS dismisses Seniors at 2:55 p.m., Juniors at 2:57 p.m. and dismisses grades 9th-10th at 3:00 p.m. Please use the front circle drive to drop off and pick up students.

When students arrive at school, they should enter through the main doors. Students will have the option of sitting in the commons until the 7:55 a.m. bell. Students will then be allowed to go to their classrooms. Attendance will be taken at 8:00 a.m. Any student entering the building after 8:00 and or leaving the building before 3:00 will be required to scan in and out in the office.

Students will be dismissed from school by their teachers at the above referenced times. All students should leave through the front doors. Those students that need to be picked from the high school will need to be picked up from the front circle drive. Students are allowed to remain in the building for late departure but have to remain in the commons in order to be supervised.

Calendar

The school calendar is adopted annually by the school board. A copy of the school calendar can be found at bears.byron.k12.mn.us

Class Assignments

Once registration is complete, classroom assignments will be posted on Infinite Campus mid- August.

Complaints

Students, parents/guardians, employees, or other persons may report concerns or complaints to the school district. Complaints may be either written or oral. People are encouraged, but not required, to file a written complaint at the building level where appropriate. The appropriate administrator will respond in writing to the complaining party regarding the school district's response to the complaint.

Unfairness, misunderstanding, hurt feelings, and conflict are experiences common to us all. When children experience these problems at school, it causes difficulty for everyone – the children, parents, and school staff. How to successfully resolve such issues at school is what this guide is all about.

Take your concerns to the person closest to the problem.

Whether in the classroom or on the practice field, the quickest and easiest solution is usually found with the staff member most directly involved. It is best if you make

time to talk with the school personnel regularly before problems are encountered. Know who your children's teachers, bus drivers, and coaches are and how they may be contacted. Tell them when things are going well, and communicate any concerns you have quickly and openly. If you call for an appointment to see your child's teacher, please let them know the general nature of your concern before the meeting. When in doubt you can always contact the building principal or program supervisor and they will assist you.

Why take your concerns to the person closest to the problem?

For example, it gives the teacher an opportunity to ask other staff members for information that might relate to your problem or concern. If a personal visit isn't possible, please call or email and state the problem, and during that correspondence, offer to call or connect back at a time when you can both discuss the situation in more detail. The problem you or your child face may be the result of an oversight or misunderstanding that can be easily corrected once it is brought to the attention of the staff member most directly involved. Please, give the staff member a chance to tackle the issue first.

Present your concern to the next level.

The building principal is responsible for the supervision of staff within the buildings. The activities director supervises all school activities. The transportation manager supervises bus activity. Each one is an example of the next level of school personnel you should contact if the staff member closest to the problem hasn't been able to satisfactorily resolve the difficulty. Supervisory personnel will not always have ready access to the information they need to be of immediate assistance, and working through them will often require additional time. You may also contact them via the school district website.

Talk with the Superintendent.

Sometimes all the best intentions can't solve a problem. When you believe you've worked hard with those closest to the problem, and you have taken the problem to the next level but still haven't achieved a satisfactory outcome, the superintendent is the next place to go. By calling the superintendent's office and setting an appointment, you establish an opportunity to completely discuss the issue and steps previously taken. An alternative would be to explain the issue and steps you have taken through a voice mail or email requesting the superintendent to call you or designating a time you will call back. This provides the superintendent with an opportunity to research the issue.

Contact your school board members.

School board members are elected to represent the interest of all parents and district residents, and you should always feel free to tell them your point of view. School board members do not, however, have direct authority in day-to-day school

operations. All authority is the result of official actions by a majority of the board at meetings open to the public. The board's primary responsibility is to make policies that guide the school district.

When should board members be contacted and what can they do? Contact a board member after other means to solve a problem have been attempted. A board member may take one or all of the following actions: informally discuss the issue with the superintendent, request that the board review the specific policies that relate to the situation, or propose new policies for the board's consideration. It is the intention of all school staff and School Board members of the Byron School District to listen to and resolve issues of concern as quickly and effectively as possible.

The following procedures outlined may help to bring about what we all want for our children – a truly effective education in a safe and encouraging environment.

Eighteen-Year-Old Students

The age of majority for most purposes in Minnesota is 18 years of age. All students, regardless of age, are governed by the rules for students provided in school district policy and this handbook.

Employment Background Checks [*]

The school district will seek criminal history background checks for all applicants who receive an offer of employment with the school district. The school district also will seek criminal history background checks for all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, regardless of whether compensation is paid. These positions include, but are not limited to, all athletic coaches, extracurricular academic coaches, assistants, and advisors. The school district may elect to seek criminal history background checks for other volunteers, independent contractors, and student employees.

Fees [*]

Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided with state, federal, and local funds at no charge to a student. Students are expected to provide their own pencils, pens, paper, erasers, notebooks, and other personal items. Students may be required to pay certain other fees or deposits, including (not an inclusive list):

- ✓ Admission fees or charges for extracurricular activities, where attendance is optional and where the admission fees or charges a student must pay to attend or participate in an extracurricular activity are the same for all

students, regardless of whether the student is enrolled in a public or a home school.

- ✓ If the technology is found to be intentionally damaged it will not be covered under the district warranty and it will be the responsibility of the student/family for the repair.
- ✓ Cost for materials for a class project that exceeds minimum requirements and is kept by the student.
- ✓ Security deposits for the return of materials, supplies, or equipment.
- ✓ Personal physical education and athletic equipment and apparel.
- ✓ Items of personal use or products that a student has an option to purchase such as student publications, class rings, annuals, and graduation announcements.
- ✓ Field trips considered supplementary to the district's educational program.
- ✓ Admission fees or costs to attend or participate in optional extracurricular activities and programs.
- ✓ Voluntarily purchased student health and accident insurance.
- ✓ Use of musical instruments owned or rented by the school district.
- ✓ A school district-sponsored driver or motorcycle education training course.
- ✓ Transportation to and from school for students living within two miles of school.
- ✓ Transportation of students to and from optional extracurricular activities or post-secondary instruction conducted at locations other than school.

Students will be charged for textbooks, workbooks, and library books that are lost or destroyed. The school district may waive a required fee or deposit if the student and parent/guardian are unable to pay. For more information, contact the Byron High School Office.

Food in the Classrooms

Food and beverages (other than water) are not acceptable in the classrooms unless under specific instructions from the teacher. Some exceptions would be classroom activities, events that may include food and beverage, a 504 accommodation due to medical diagnosis.

Fundraising

All fundraising activities conducted by student groups and organizations and/or parent groups must be approved in advance by the principal. Participation in non approved fundraising activities is a violation of school district policy. Solicitations of students or employees by students for nonschool-related activities will not be allowed during the school day. ([See Appendix; Policy #511 and #511.1](#)).

Gifts to Employees

Employees are not allowed to solicit, accept, or receive a gift from a student, parent, or other individual or organization of greater than nominal value. Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to write letters and notes of appreciation or to give small tokens of gratitude.

Graduation Ceremony

Student participation in the graduation ceremony is a privilege, not a right. Students who have completed the requirements for graduation are allowed to participate in graduation exercises, unless participation is denied for appropriate reasons, which may include discipline. Graduation exercises are under the control and direction of the building principal(s).

Holiday Celebrations and Parties

Holiday parties or celebrations in the classroom are not required. If you wish to excuse your students from such celebrations or parties, please excuse them through the high school office.

Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies

Students may not be interviewed during the school day by persons other than a student's parents/guardians or school district officials, employees, and/or agents, except as provided by law and/or school ([See Appendix: Policy #519](#)).

Library and Media Center

The library/media center is open 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. Students may use the library/media center during the school day and before and after school only when a supervisor is present. Check with the media center paraprofessional for posted rules.

Lunch

Lunch is to be eaten in designated areas only. Lunch times vary by schedule. Students will be notified of their assigned lunch time once schedules are finalized and are available on Infinite Campus. Byron High School is not an open campus for lunch. Students are not allowed to leave during their lunch period to purchase food and bring that food back into the building. Students can bring their own lunch from home, or eat lunch purchased from the school.

A monthly menu is posted and available to all students and parents in the District. To enhance the variety of choice, an a la carte food line is available to the 9th-12th grade students.

Students who have insufficient funds to pay for a meal may receive an alternate meal. Details on negative account balances and unpaid meal charges can be found in the District Policies. ([See Appendix; Policy #534](#)).

Students may be eligible for free and reduced price lunches and/or breakfasts. Free and reduced price eligibility forms are available [on the Byron district webpage](#). For more information regarding eligibility for free and reduced price meals, contact the District Office at the [Byron District Business Office](#).

Messages to Students

Office telephones are not for students' personal use. Students will not be called out of class to receive phone messages except in the event of an emergency.

Nondiscrimination [*]

The school district is committed to inclusive education and providing an equal educational opportunity for all students. The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, parental status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, including gender identity and expression, or age in its programs and activities. The school board has designated Superintendent, Nate Walbruch, as the district's human rights officer to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination.

Notice of Violent Behavior by Students []**

The school district will give notice to teachers and other appropriate school district staff before students with a history of violent behavior are placed in their classrooms. Prior to giving this notice, district officials will inform the student's parent or guardian that the notice will be given. The student's parents/guardians have the right to review and challenge their child's records, including the data documenting the history of violent behavior.

Parent and Teacher Conferences

Parent and teacher conferences will be held four times a year. For more information, contact the building principal.

Parent Volunteers

Parents/guardians are welcome in the schools and are encouraged to volunteer in their children's classrooms. To volunteer in the school district, parents/guardians should speak to the District Office. To volunteer in the school building or classroom, parents/guardians should contact the high school office to ensure a background check has been completed and a volunteer opportunity has been approved. Parents/guardians who visit the school should sign in at the high school office

before entering a classroom. All volunteers are required to have a visible visitor badge while on school property. For more information, contact the building principal.

Pledge of Allegiance [*]

Students will recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America weekly. Any person who does not wish to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance for any personal reason may elect not to do so. Students must respect another person's right to make that choice. Students will also receive instruction in the proper etiquette toward, correct display of, and respect for the flag.

Schedule

Class registration takes place each winter for the following school year. Any requests for changes will be made through the counseling department.

[REGULAR SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE](#)

[FLEX FRIDAY INFORMATION](#)

School Activities

The school district provides opportunities for students to pursue special interests that contribute to their physical, mental, and emotional health. Formal instruction is the school district's priority.

Students who participate in school-sponsored activities are expected to responsibly represent the school and community. All rules pertaining to student conduct and student discipline apply to school activities.

All spectators at school-sponsored activities are expected to behave appropriately. Students and employees may be subject to discipline. Parents/guardians and other spectators may be subject to sanctions for inappropriate, illegal, or unsportsmanlike behavior at these activities or events.

The Byron School District is a member of the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL). Students who participate in MSHSL activities must abide by the MSHSL rules. The district will enforce all MSHSL rules during the school year and in the summer as applicable. [Click here to see the Student Activities Handbook.](#)

Employees who conduct MSHSL activities will cover applicable rules, penalties, and opportunities with students and parents/guardians prior to the start of an activity. For more information about the MSHSL rules and student eligibility requirements, contact the Activities Director at 507-775-2301.

School Closing Procedures

School may be canceled when the superintendent believes severe weather or other circumstances threaten the safety of students and employees. The superintendent will decide as early in the day as possible about closing school or school buildings. School closing announcements will be broadcast over *local media channels*.

Searches

In the interest of student safety and to ensure that schools are drug & weapon free, district authorities may conduct searches. Students violate school policy when they carry contraband on their person or in their personal possessions or store contraband in desks, lockers, or vehicles parked on school property. "Contraband" means any unauthorized item, the possession of which is prohibited by school district policy and/or law. If a search yields contraband, school officials will seize the item(s) and, when appropriate, give the item(s) to legal officials for ultimate disposition. Students found to be in violation of this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with the school district's "Student Discipline" policy, ([Appendix: Policy #502](#)), which may include suspension, exclusion, expulsion, and, when appropriate, the student may be referred to legal officials.

Lockers and Personal Possessions Within a Locker [*]

Under Minnesota law, school lockers are school district property. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of lockers provided for students' convenience. School officials may inspect the interior of lockers for any reason at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

Students' personal possessions within a school locker may be searched only when school officials have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law or school rules. As soon as practicable after the search of a student's personal possessions, the school officials will provide notice of the search to students whose lockers were searched, unless disclosure would impede an ongoing investigation by police or school officials.

Desks

School desks are school district property. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of desks provided for students' convenience. School officials may inspect the interior of desks for any reason at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

Personal Possessions and Student's Person

The personal possessions of a student and/or a student's person may be searched when school officials have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a

violation of law or school rules. The search will be reasonable in its scope and intrusiveness.

Vehicles on Campus []**

The purpose of this ([Appendix; Policy #527](#)) policy is to provide guidelines for use and parking of motor vehicles by students in school district locations, to maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the health, safety and welfare of students and school personnel.

Patrols and Inspections

School officials may conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and other school district locations and routine inspections of the exteriors of the motor vehicles of students. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

Search of the Interior of a Student's Motor Vehicle

The interior of a student's motor vehicle, including the glove and trunk compartments, in a school district location may be searched when school officials have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law and/or school policy or rule. The search will be reasonable in its scope and intrusiveness. Such searches may be conducted without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant. A student will be subject to loss of parking privileges and to discipline if the student refuses to open a locked motor vehicle or its compartments under the student's control upon a school official's request.

Student Publications and Materials

The school district's policy is to protect students' free speech rights while, at the same time, preserving the district's obligation to provide a learning environment that is free of disruption. All school publications are under the supervision of the building principal and/or sponsor. Non School-sponsored publications may not be distributed without prior approval.

Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises []**

The school district recognizes that students and employees have the right to express themselves on school property. This protection includes distributing nonschool-sponsored material, subject to school district regulations and procedures, at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner. For detailed information, see the complete "Distribution of Non School-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees" policy ([Appendix; Policy #904](#)).

School-Sponsored Student Publications

The school district may exercise editorial control over the style and content of student expression in school-sponsored publications and activities. Faculty advisors shall supervise student writers to ensure compliance with the law and school district policies. Students producing official school publications and participating in school activities will be under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the school principal. "Official school publications" means school newspapers, yearbooks, or material produced in communications, journalism, or other writing classes as part of the curriculum. Expression in an official school publication or school-sponsored activity is prohibited when the material:

- ✓ Is obscene to minors;
- ✓ Is libelous or slanderous;
- ✓ Advertises or promotes any product or service not permitted for minors by law;
- ✓ Encourages students to commit illegal acts or violate school regulations or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of school or school activities;
- ✓ Expresses or advocates sexual, racial, or religious harassment or violence or prejudice;
- ✓ Is distributed or displayed in violation of time, place, and manner regulations.

Expression in an official school publication or school-sponsored activity is subject to school district editorial control over the style and content when the school district's actions are reasonably related to legitimate pedagogical concerns. Official school publications may be distributed at reasonable times and locations.

Student Records [*]

Student records are classified as public, private, or confidential. State and federal laws protect student records from unauthorized inspection or use and provide parents/guardians and eligible students with certain rights. For the purposes of student records, an "eligible" student is one who is 18 or older or who is enrolled in an institution of post-secondary education. For more information on the rights of parents/guardians and eligible students regarding student records, see "Student Records" ([Appendix; Policy #577](#)). A complete copy of the school district's "Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records" policy may be obtained at the school's main office or district office. Students that are participating in College Now and or PSEO classes are subject to the [FERPA law](#).

Student Surveys [*]

Occasionally, the school district utilizes surveys to obtain student opinions and information about students. For complete information on the rights of

parents/guardians and eligible students about conducting surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical examinations, see “Student Surveys” ([Appendix; Policy #520](#)). A complete copy of the school district’s “Student Surveys” policy may be obtained at <https://www.bears.byron.k12.mn.us/>

Transportation of Public School Students

The school district will provide transportation, at the expense of the school district, for all resident students per board policy. Transportation will be provided on all regularly scheduled school days or make-up days. Transportation will not be provided during the summer school break, except in certain circumstances. The school district will not provide transportation for students whose transportation privileges have been revoked or have been voluntarily surrendered by the student’s parent or guardian.

Extracurricular Transportation

The school district may provide transportation for students to and from extracurricular activities. To the extent the school district provides extracurricular transportation, the district may charge a fee for transportation of students to and from extracurricular activities and optional field trips at locations other than school. In certain circumstances if a student is 18 years old and has permission from their parent/guardian they can drive themselves to and or from an extracurricular event. If this is the case a parent or guardian must reach out to the Athletic Director.

Video and Audio Recording

School Buses

All school buses used by the school district may be equipped for the placement and operation of a video camera. The school district will post a notice in a conspicuous location informing students that their conversations or actions may be recorded. The school district may use a video recording of the actions of student passengers as evidence in any disciplinary action arising from the students’ misconduct on the bus.

Places Other Than Buses

The school district buildings and grounds may be equipped with video cameras. Video surveillance may occur in any school district building or on any school district property.

Class Rank/Academic Standing

Byron High School will publish a list of students who earn the recognition of High Honor or Honor Roll at the end of each quarter. In order to be on the High Honor Roll, students must receive a grade point average of 3.83. To be on the Honor Roll, a student must have a 3.33 grade point average. Grade point averages will be calculated on the number of credits earned in the course and the final course grade. Students who earn a yearly cumulative GPA of 3.83 or higher will earn an academic letter for that year. Letters and certificates are awarded in the fall for the previous year, with the exception of seniors who are given their award when final grades are tabulated at the end of senior year.

A student who maintains a cumulative grade point average of 3.83 or higher at the end of their senior year will be recognized at graduation as graduating magna cum laude. Students who maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.33 but less than 3.83 will be recognized as graduating cum laude. Students who are striving for greater recognition of their academic abilities should pursue an [Honors Diploma](#).

Early Graduation

Students may be considered for early graduation after meeting the conditions provided in school district policy.

Extended School Year Opportunities

The school district provides extended school year opportunities to a student who is the subject of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) if the student's IEP team determines the services are necessary during a break in instruction in order to provide a free and appropriate public education. For more information on extended school year opportunities for students with an IEP, contact the Special Education Coordinator at 507-775-2383.

Field Trips

Field trips may be offered to supplement student learning in which students voluntarily participate and, if so, students who participate may be charged.

Grades

Students' grades will be reported at the end of each quarter during the year. Report cards will be on Infinite Campus. Please direct questions of access to the high school office.

Graduation Requirements [*]

Students must meet all course credit requirements and graduation standards, as established by the state and the school board, in order to graduate from **Byron Public Schools, in particular Byron High School**. Students will have the first opportunity to take a test in basic requirements in 3rd grade. Parents may opt out of the statewide assessments for their student(s) by completing the form in *Appendix 12* and returning it to the school district office.

[Profile of a Graduate](#) - Students enrolled in the class of 2023 and later must successfully complete, as determined by the school district, the requirements of the Profile of A Graduate in addition to completing all necessary credit requirements. [\(See Appendix; Policy #613\)](#)

To receive a diploma, students must successfully complete at least 28 credits and comply with the following high school level course requirements:

<u>High School Level Courses Required for Graduation</u>		
Subject Area	Credits	Explanation
Language Arts	4	Must be sufficient to satisfy all academic standards in the English language arts.
Mathematics	3	Algebra I is required by the end of eighth grade. Algebra II or its equivalent is also required. A computer science, career and technical education, or Project Lead the Way course may fulfill a mathematics credit if the course meets the applicable state academic standards.
Science	3	Must include at least one credit of biology, one credit of chemistry or physics, and one elective credit of science. The combination of credits must be sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in either chemistry or physics and all other academic standards in science. An agricultural science, a career and technical education, or a Project Lead the Way course may fulfill a science credit if the course meets the applicable state academic standards. An agricultural science or a career and technical education course cannot fulfill the biology requirement.
Social Studies	3.5	Must include at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in social studies. A one-half credit of economics taught in an agriculture education or business department may fulfill a one-half credit in social studies if the credit is sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in economics.
Arts	1	Must be sufficient to satisfy all of the state or local academic standards in the arts. A career and technical education course may fulfill an arts credit.
Phy. Ed & Health	1.5	
Post High School Planning	0.5	
Elective Courses	11	
Personal Finance	0.5	Required for the Class of 2028 and beyond.

Minnesota Academic Standards

All students must satisfactorily complete the following required Minnesota Graduation Standards:

Minnesota Academic Standards, English Language Arts K-12
Minnesota Academic Standards, Mathematics K-12
Minnesota Academic Standards, Science K-12
Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12
Minnesota Academic Standards, Physical Education K-12
Minnesota Academic Standards or Local Standards, Arts K-12

School District Required and Elective Standards

All students must satisfactorily complete the following school district required and elective standards:

- ✓ Health (K-12);
- ✓ School District Standards, Career and Technical Education (K-12); and
- ✓ School District Standards, World Languages (K-12).

Students with an individualized education program, Section 504 accommodation plan, or limited English proficiency needs may be eligible for testing accommodations, modifications, and/or exemption. For additional information, see the principal.

Homework

Homework assignments are made by the teachers. The amount of homework varies by teacher and subject area. The school district asks parents/guardians to encourage their child(ren) to complete homework thoroughly and promptly.

Promotion and Retention

All students are expected to achieve an acceptable level of proficiency. Students who achieve at an acceptable level will be promoted to the next grade level at the completion of the school year. Retention of a student may be considered when professional staff and parents/guardians feel that it is in the best interest of the student. The superintendent's decision will be final. The district has a variety of services to help students succeed in school. ([Appendix; Policy #513](#))

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options

10th, 11th, and 12th grade students may apply to enroll in Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) and other advanced enrichment programs. General information about the PSEO program will be provided to all eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade students by March 1. Qualifying credits granted to a student through a PSEO course or program that meets or exceeds a graduation standard or requirement will be counted toward the graduation and credit requirements of the state academic standards. Interested students must fill out an application form and submit it to the counseling department by May 30 for enrollment the following school year. The application form must be signed by the student and their parent or guardian. Students wishing to take a PSEO course first need to attend a mandatory informational meeting offered in February of each year by the counseling staff to gather information prior to applying.

Summer School

The school district may provide summer school learning opportunities. If a student does not meet standards in multiple subject matter, summer school may be required.

PART III — RULES AND DISCIPLINE

All students have the right to learn. All students also have the responsibility:

1. For their behavior and for knowing and obeying all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures;
2. To attend school daily, except when excused, and to be on time to all classes and other school functions;
3. To pursue and attempt to complete the courses of study prescribed by the state and local school authorities;
4. To make necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school;
5. To assist the school staff in maintaining a safe school for all students;
6. To be aware of all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures, including those in this policy ([MSBA Policy #506](#)), and to conduct themselves in accord with them;
7. To assume that until a rule or policy is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full force and effect;
8. To be aware of and comply with federal, state, and local laws;
9. To volunteer information in disciplinary cases should they have any knowledge relating to such cases and to cooperate with school staff as appropriate;
10. To respect and maintain the school's property and the property of others;
11. To dress and groom in a manner which meets standards of safety and health and common standards of decency and which is consistent with applicable school district policy;
12. To avoid inaccuracies in student newspapers or publications and refrain from indecent or obscene language;
13. To conduct themselves in an appropriate physical or verbal manner; and
14. To recognize and respect the rights of others.

Attendance []**

Regular school attendance is directly related to success in academic work, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers and students, and establishes regular habits of dependability. For detailed information, see the "Student Attendance" policy ([Appendix: Policy #503](#)).

Work missed because of absence must be made up within 2 days from the date of the student's return to school. Any work not completed within this period shall result in "no credit" for the missed assignment. However, the building principal or the classroom teacher may extend the time allowed for completion of make-up

work in the case of an extended illness or other extenuating circumstances. See [Byron High School Attendance Procedures](#) for more information.

3 Unexcused Absences: A letter will be sent home notifying parents/guardians of the student's unexcused absences and reminding them of the importance of regular attendance.

7 Unexcused/Excused Absences: A letter will be issued, indicating the ongoing pattern of missing attendance and outlining potential next steps, requesting documentation for future absences and reminding families that frequent absences can impact student learning.

12 Absences, Excused or Unexcused: Once a student reaches 12 total absences, a letter will be sent home requesting documentation for future absences and reminding families that frequent absences, even if excused, can impact student learning.

For detailed information, see the "Student Attendance" policy (Appendix; Policy #503).

Buses – Conduct on School Buses and Consequences for misbehavior []**

Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students. The school district will not provide transportation for students whose transportation privileges have been revoked.

The school district is committed to transporting students in a safe and orderly manner. To accomplish this, student riders are expected to follow school district rules for waiting at a school bus stop and for riding on a school bus.

While waiting for the bus or after being dropped off at a school bus stop, all students must comply with the following rules:

- ✓ Get to the bus stop five minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
- ✓ Respect the property of others while waiting at the bus stop.
- ✓ Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- ✓ Use appropriate language.
- ✓ Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
- ✓ Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
- ✓ After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
- ✓ If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
- ✓ No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.

- ✓ No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

While riding a school bus, all riders must comply with the following rules:

- ✓ Follow the driver's directions at all times.
- ✓ Remain seated facing forward while the bus is in motion.
- ✓ Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
- ✓ Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- ✓ Keep arms, legs, and belongings to yourself and out of the aisle.
- ✓ No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- ✓ Do not throw any object.
- ✓ No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- ✓ Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- ✓ Do not damage the school bus.

Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under administrative discipline procedures. All school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Communication Devices

Students are prohibited from using a cell phone or other electronic communication device to engage in conduct prohibited by school district policies including, but not limited to, cheating, bullying, harassment, and gang activity. If the school district has a reasonable suspicion that a student has violated a school rule or law by use of a cell phone or other electronic communication device, the school district may search the device. The search of the device will be reasonably related in scope to the circumstances justifying the search. Students who use an electronic communication device during the school day and/or in violation of school district policies may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school district's discipline policy. In addition, a student's cell phone or electronic communication device may be confiscated by the school district and, if applicable, provided to law enforcement. Cell phones or other electronic communication devices that are confiscated and retained by the school district will be returned in accordance with school building procedures. ([See Cell Phone One Pager](#))

Discipline [*]

Misbehavior by one student can disrupt the learning process for many other students. In addition, students must learn to practice good safety habits, value academic honesty, respect the rights of others, and obey the law. For detailed information on the Student Code of Conduct and consequences for violations, see the "Student Discipline" policy ([See Appendix; Policy #506](#)).

Dress and Appearance

Students are encouraged to be dressed appropriately for school activities and in keeping with community standards. ([See BHS Student Dress & Appearance one pager](#))

Appropriate clothing includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ✓ Clothing appropriate for the weather.
- ✓ Clothing that does not create a health or safety hazard.
- ✓ Clothing appropriate for the activity (i.e., physical education or the classroom).

Inappropriate clothing includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ✓ "Short shorts," skimpy tank tops, tops that expose the midriff, and other clothing that is not in keeping with community standards (armpit to armpit).
- ✓ Clothing bearing a message that is lewd, vulgar, or obscene.
- ✓ Apparel promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors.
- ✓ Objectionable emblems, badges, symbols, signs, words, objects, or pictures on clothing or jewelry communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group, evidences gang membership or affiliation, or approves, advances, or provokes any form of religious, racial, or sexual harassment and/or violence against other individuals as defined in school district policy.
- ✓ Any apparel or footwear that would damage school property.
- ✓ Headgear, including hats or head coverings, is not to be worn in the building except with the building principal's approval (i.e., students undergoing chemotherapy, medical situations, student religious practice or belief).

If the administration believes a student's appearance, grooming, or mode of dress interferes with or disrupts the educational process or school activities or poses a threat to the health or safety of the student or others, the student will be directed to make modifications or will be sent home for the day. A parent or guardian will be notified. ([See BHS Dress & Appearance one pager for more information](#))

Drug-Free School and Workplace

The possession and use of alcohol, controlled substances, and toxic substances are prohibited at school or in any other school location before, during, or after school hours. Paraphernalia associated with controlled substances also is prohibited. The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against anyone who violates this policy.

District policy is not violated when a person brings a controlled substance that has a currently accepted medical treatment into a school location for personal use if the person has a physician's prescription for the substance except marijuana is not

allowed on school property even if prescribed. Students who have prescriptions must comply with the school district's "Student Medication" policy. The school district will provide an instructional program in every elementary and secondary school on chemical abuse and the prevention of chemical dependency.

Harassment & Bullying Prohibition Policy [*]

The school district strives to maintain a learning and working environment free from harassment and bullying. The school district prohibits any form of harassment or bullying on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, religion, sexual harassment, and sexual orientation and gender identity as defined in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 363A. Detailed information on the school district's "Bullying Prohibition Policy" is included in this handbook ([See Appendix; Policy # 514](#)).

Bullying or Harassment Report Form

Per school board policy #514, "Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of bullying or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct that may constitute bullying shall report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy. A student/person may report bullying anonymously. However, the school district's ability to take action against an alleged perpetrator based solely on an anonymous report may be limited."

Anonymous reports can be made through the "[Report an Incident of Bullying or Harassment](#)" form by clicking on the link.

Hazing Prohibition [*]

Hazing is prohibited. No student will plan, direct, encourage, aid, or engage in hazing. Students who violate this rule will be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school district's "Student Discipline" policy. Please see the school district's "Hazing Prohibition" policy ([See Appendix; Policy #526](#)).

Internet Acceptable Use

All school district students have conditional access to the school district's computer system, including Internet access, for limited educational purposes, including use of the system for classroom activities, educational research, and professional and career development. Use of the school district's system is a privilege, not a right. Unacceptable use of the school district's computer system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, or exclusion; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws. A copy of the school district's "Internet Acceptable Use" policy is available at <https://www.bears.byron.k12.mn.us/>

Students will receive a copy of the school district's "Internet Acceptable Use" policy through Infinite Campus and are expected to understand and agree to abide by the policy as a condition of use of the school district's computer system. All students who wish to use the school district's computer system must sign the Internet Use Agreement form annually.

Parking on School District Property

Students

The school district allows limited use and parking of motor vehicles by students in school district locations subject to the following rules:

- ✓ Parking a motor vehicle on school property during the school day is a privilege;
- ✓ Parking is permitted in designated areas only. For information, contact the BHS office;
- ✓ Students are not permitted to use motor vehicles during the school day in any school district locations unless an emergency occurs and permission has been granted to the student by the high school principal;
- ✓ Students are permitted to use motor vehicles on the high school campus(es) only before and after the school day;
- ✓ Unauthorized vehicles parked on school district property may be towed at the expense of the owner or operator.

The school district may conduct routine patrols of school district properties and inspections of the exteriors of the motor vehicles of students. Interiors of students' vehicles in school district locations may be searched when school officials have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law and/or school policy or rule. If a search yields contraband, school officials may seize the item and may turn it over to legal authorities when appropriate. A student who violates this policy may be subject to withdrawal of parking privileges and/or discipline according to the school district's "Student Discipline" policy ([See Appendix; Policy #506](#)).

Visitors

Visitors are permitted to park in designated school district visitor parking areas. Unattended vehicles left in other locations on school district property may be towed at the owner's expense.

Tobacco-Free Schools; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices []**

School district students and staff have the right to learn and work in an environment that is tobacco free. School policy is violated by any individual's use of tobacco, tobacco-related devices, or carrying or using activated electronic delivery devices in a public school, on school grounds, in any school-owned vehicles, or at any school events or activities. Students may not possess any type of tobacco, tobacco-related devices, or electronic delivery devices in a public school, on school grounds, in any school-owned vehicles, or at any school events or activities. Any student who violates this policy is subject to school district discipline. For detailed

information on the school district's "Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices" policy, ([See Appendix, Policy #418](#)). Contact the high school principal if you have questions or wish to report violations.

[Note: A limited exception to the tobacco prohibition exists for adult members of an Indian tribe, as defined under Minnesota law, who may light tobacco on school district property as a part of a traditional Indian spiritual or cultural ceremony.]

Vandalism

Vandalism of any district property is prohibited. Violators will be disciplined and may be reported to law enforcement officials.

Weapons Prohibition

No person will possess, use, or distribute a weapon when in a school location except as provided in school district policy. A "weapon" means any object, device, or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury including, but not limited to, any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; airguns; pellet guns; BB guns; all knives; blades; clubs; metal knuckles; nunchucks; throwing stars; explosives; fireworks; mace and other propellants; stun guns; ammunition; poisons; chains; arrows; and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon. A weapon also includes look-alike weapons. Appropriate discipline and action will be taken against any person who violates this policy. The school district does not allow the possession, use, or distribution of weapons by students. Discipline of students will include, at a minimum: immediate out-of-school suspension; confiscation of the weapon; immediate notification of police; parent or guardian notification; and recommendation to the superintendent of dismissal for a period of time not to exceed one year. A student who brings a firearm to school will be expelled for at least one year, subject to school district discretion on a case-by-case basis. For a copy of the "School Weapons" policy, ([See Appendix; Policy #501](#)) contact your building principal.

PART IV — HEALTH AND SAFETY

Accidents

All student injuries that occur at school, at school-sponsored activities, or on school transportation should be reported to the high school office. Parents/guardians of an injured student will be notified as soon as possible. If the student requires immediate medical attention, the principal or other district leader will call 911 or seek emergency medical treatment and then contact the parent(s).

Asbestos Management Plan [*]

The school district has developed an asbestos management plan. A copy of this plan can be found in the district office and is available on the district's website.

Emergency Contact Information

Please ensure your contact information is updated annually through Infinite Campus. The district sends out annual update notification reminders over the summer months.

Health Information

First Aid

The nurse's/health office in each building is equipped to handle minor injuries requiring first aid. If the nurse's/health office is not open, assistance can be sought from the building's administrative office. If a student experiences a more serious medical emergency at school, 911 will be called and/or a parent/guardian will be contacted depending on the situation.

The district has installed automated external defibrillators (AEDs) outside the gymnasium and in the hallway by the bus doors. Tampering with any AED is prohibited and may result in discipline.

Communicable Diseases

To protect other students from contagious illnesses, students infected with certain diseases are not allowed to come to school while contagious. If a parent or guardian suspects that their child has a communicable or contagious disease, the parent or guardian should contact the school nurse or principal so that other students who might have been exposed to the disease can be alerted.

Students with certain communicable diseases will not be excluded from attending school in their usual daily attendance settings as long as their health permits and their attendance does not create a significant risk of transmitting the illness to other students or school district employees. The school district will determine on a

case-by-case basis whether a contagious student's attendance creates a significant risk of transmitting the illness to others.

Health Service

The student health office is staffed by a trained health aide and licensed school nurse. Students who become sick at school should come directly to the health office. In the event of an emergency, our school safety team will implement standard protocols. The school nurse will arrange for students who get sick at school to go home early.

A parent/guardian should notify the school if their child is unable to attend school because of illness. Contact the school nurse for scheduled screenings throughout the year.

Immunizations

All students must provide proof of immunization or submit appropriate documentation exempting them from such immunizations in order to enroll or remain enrolled. Students may be exempted from the immunization requirement when the immunization of the student is contraindicated for medical reasons; laboratory confirmation of adequate immunity exists; or due to the conscientiously held beliefs of the parents/guardians or student. The school district will maintain a file containing the immunization records for each student in attendance at the school district for at least five years after the student reaches the age of 18. For a copy of the immunization schedule or to obtain an exemption form or information, contact the school health office.

Medications at School During the School Day

The school district acknowledges that some students may require prescribed drugs or medication during the school day. The administration of prescription medication or drugs at school requires a completed signed request from the student's parent. An "Administering Prescription Medications" form must be completed once a year and/or when a change in the prescription or requirements for administration occurs. Prescription medications must be brought to school in the original container labeled for the student by a pharmacist, and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label. Prescription medications are not to be carried by the student, but will be left with the appropriate school personnel. Exceptions that may be allowed include: prescription asthma medications administered with an inhaler pursuant to school district policy and procedures, medications administered as noted in a written agreement between the school district and parent or as specified in an Individualized Education Program (IEP), a plan developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (§504 Plan), or an individual health plan (IHP). Marijuana is not allowed on school

property even if prescribed. The school district is to be notified of any change in administration of a student's prescription medication.

Pesticide Application Notice [*]

The school district may plan to apply pesticide(s) on school property. To the extent the school district applies certain pesticides, the school district will provide a notice by September 15 as to the school district's plan to use these pesticides. A parent may request to be notified prior to the application of certain pesticides on days different from those specified in the notice. Additional information regarding what pesticides are used, the schedule of pesticide applications, and the long-term health effects of the class of pesticide on children can be requested by contacting the district office.

Safety

The safety of students on campus and at school-related activities is a high priority of the district. While district-wide safety procedures are in place, student and parent cooperation is essential to ensuring school safety.

Suicide Prevention Information

If it is after school hours, you need immediate assistance and/or you are in need of (mental health and/or crisis) counseling services, you can access the Crisis Response for SE MN (available 24/7) by calling 1-844-CRISIS2 or text HOME to 741741. Or call or text 988 the new national crisis line.

Visitors in District Buildings

Parents/guardians and community members are welcome to visit the schools. To ensure the safety of those in the school and to avoid disruption to the learning environment, all visitors must report directly to the high school office upon entering the building, with the exception of events open to the public. All visitors will be required to sign in at the high school main office and to wear a "visitors badge" while in the building during the school day. Visitors must have the approval of the principal before visiting a classroom during instructional time. An individual or group may be denied permission to visit a school or school property, or such permission may be revoked, if the visitor does not comply with school district procedures or if the visit is not in the best interests of the students, employee, or the school district. Students are not allowed to bring visitors to school without prior permission from the principal.

APPENDIXES

1. POLICY INFORMATION

As the entity legally charged with governing a school district, the Byron School Board is responsible to its community for governing efficiently and leading effectively to provide for equitable education, resulting in high student achievement. District policies can be reviewed here: <https://www.bears.byron.k12.mn.us/> Copies of the school board policy and accompanying procedures and regulations are available to parents/guardians and students upon written request to the Superintendent.

2. SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY CROSS REFERENCE TABLE

TOPIC	POLICY NUMBER
<i>School District</i>	
Legal Status of the School District	101
Name of the School District	101.1
Equal Educational Opportunity	102
School District Mission Statement	104
Anonymous Letters, Phone Calls, and Other Communications	105
School District Affiliation	106
Emergency Closings	151
<i>School Board</i>	
Legal Status of the School Board	201
School Board Officers	202
Student Representative on School Board	202.1
Operation of the School Board and Governing Rules	203
School Board Procedures; Rules of Order	203.1
Order of the Regular School Board Meeting	203.2
School Board Meeting Agenda	203.5
Consent Agendas	203.6
School Board Meeting Minutes	204
Open Meetings and Closed Meetings	205
Public Participation in School Board Meetings/Complaints about Persons at School Board Meetings and Data Privacy Considerations	206
Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies	208
Code of Ethics for School Board Members	209
Conflict of Interest- School Board Members	210
Criminal or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee or Student	211
School Board Member Development	212
School Board Committees	213
Out of State Travel by School Board Members	214

TOPIC	POLICY NUMBER
<i>School Board Administration</i>	
<u>School District Administration</u>	301
<u>Superintendent</u>	302
<u>Superintendent Selection</u>	303
<u>Superintendent Contract, Duties, and Evaluation</u>	304
<u>Policy Implementation</u>	305
<u>Administrator Code of Ethics</u>	306
<i>Employees/Personnel</i>	
<u>Equal Employment Opportunity</u>	401
<u>Disability Nondiscrimination Policy</u>	402
<u>Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of School District Employees</u>	403
<u>Employment Background Checks</u>	404
<u>Veteran's Preference</u>	405
<u>Public and Private Personnel Data</u>	406
<u>Employee Right To Know-Exposure to Hazardous Substances</u>	407
<u>Subpoena of a School District Employee</u>	408
<u>Employee Publication, Instruction Material, Inventions and Creations</u>	409
<u>Family and Medical Leave Policy</u>	410
<u>Expense Reimbursement</u>	412
<u>Harassment and Violence [*]</u>	413
<u>Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse</u>	414
<u>Child Protection Report Form</u>	414F
<u>Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults</u>	415
<u>Drug and Alcohol Testing</u>	416
<u>Chemical Use and Abuse</u>	417
<u>Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School</u>	418
<u>Tobacco Free Environment [**]</u>	419
<u>Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions</u>	420
<u>Gifts to Employees and School Board Members</u>	421
<u>Employee-Student Relationships</u>	423
<u>License Status</u>	424
<u>Staff Development</u>	425
<u>Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers</u>	427
<u>General Tournament and Clinic Policies</u>	455
<u>Release/Review of Employee Records</u>	457
Students	
<u>Weapons Policy for Byron Schools</u>	501
<u>Search for Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions and Student's Person</u>	502
<u>Student Attendance [**]</u>	503
<u>Student Dress and Appearance</u>	504

TOPIC	POLICY NUMBER
<u>Distribution of Nonschool Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees [**]</u>	505
<u>Student Discipline [*]</u>	506
<u>Corporal Discipline</u>	507
<u>Extended School Year for Certain Students with Individualized Education Plans</u>	508
<u>Enrollment for Nonresident Students</u>	509
<u>School Activities</u>	510
<u>Student Fundraising</u>	511
<u>Crowdfunding/Employee Fundraising for School Purposes</u>	511.1
<u>Student Promotion and Retention</u>	513
<u>Bullying Prohibition [*]</u>	514
<u>Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records</u>	515
<u>Student Medication Policy</u>	516
<u>Do Not Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate (DNR/DNI) Orders</u>	518
<u>Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies</u>	519
<u>Student Surveys [*]</u>	520
<u>Student Disability Nondiscrimination</u>	521
<u>Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure & Process</u>	522
<u>Acceptable Use Policy</u>	524
<u>Violence Prevention</u>	525
<u>Hazing Prohibition [*]</u>	526
<u>Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections and Searches</u>	527
<u>Student Parental, Family and Marital Status Nondiscrimination</u>	528
<u>Staff Notification of Violent Behavior by Students</u>	529
<u>Immunization Requirements</u>	530
<u>The Pledge of Allegiance</u>	531
<u>Use of Peace Officers & Crisis Teams to Remove Students with Individualized Education Plans From School Grounds</u>	532
<u>Wellness</u>	533
<u>Unpaid Meal Charges [*]</u>	534
<u>Animals in Schools and Classrooms</u>	535
<u>Administrative Guidelines Pertaining to Animals in Schools and Classrooms</u>	535.1
<u>Guidelines for Handling School Accidents</u>	571
<u>Early Graduation</u>	573
<u>Activity Fees</u>	574
<u>Pediculosis (Head Lice)</u>	575
<u>Student Records [*]</u>	577
<u>Early Admission to Kindergarten</u>	593
<u>Academic Lettering</u>	595
<u>Foreign Exchange Student Policy</u>	596
<u>General Student Population and Athletic Policy Regarding Drugs</u>	598
<u>Academic Eligibility in Extracurricular Activities</u>	599

TOPIC	POLICY NUMBER
Education Programs	
<u>School District Curriculum and Instructional Goals</u>	601
<u>Organization of School Calendar and School Day</u>	602
<u>Curriculum Development</u>	603
<u>Instructional Curriculum</u>	604
<u>Alternative Programs</u>	605
<u>Textbooks and Instructional Materials</u>	606
<u>Organization of Grade Levels</u>	607
<u>Instructional Services-Special Education</u>	608
<u>Religion</u>	609
<u>Field Trips</u>	610
<u>Home Schooling</u>	611
<u>Development of Parent and Family Engagement Policies for Title I Programs</u>	612
<u>Graduation Requirements</u>	613
<u>Byron School District Testing Plan and Procedure</u>	614
<u>Testing Accommodations & Modifications for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students</u>	615
<u>School District System Accountability</u>	616
<u>Staff Development for Standards</u>	619
<u>Credit for Learning</u>	620
<u>Online Learning (OLL) Enrollment Policy</u>	624
 <i>Non Instructional Operations And Business Services</i>	
<u>Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget</u>	701
<u>Modification of School District Budget</u>	701.1
<u>Accounting</u>	702
<u>Annual Audit</u>	703
<u>Development and Maintenance of an Inventory of Fixed Assets and Fixed Asset Accounting System</u>	704
<u>Investments</u>	705
<u>Acceptance of Gifts</u>	706
<u>Transportation of Public School Students</u>	707
<u>Pay-To-Ride Service</u>	707.1
<u>Transportation of Nonpublic School Students</u>	708
<u>Student Transportation Safety Policy</u>	709
<u>Extracurricular Transportation</u>	710
<u>Video Recording on School Buses</u>	711
<u>Video Surveillance Other Than on Buses</u>	712
<u>Student Activity Accounting</u>	713
<u>Fund Balances</u>	714
<u>Post-Issuance Compliance Policy</u>	715
<u>Uniform Grant Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources</u>	721
<u>Public Data Requests</u>	722

TOPIC**POLICY NUMBER*****Building And Sites***

Equal Access to School Facilities of Secondary Schools	801
Disposition of Obsolete Equipment and Material	802
Emergency and Crisis Management Policy	806
Health and Safety	807
Burglary or Damage to School	825
Environmental Health and Safety Policy Statement	826
Technology Disaster Recovery Plan	827
Lead in Water	828
Disposition of Pharmaceutical Waste	830

School District-Community Relations

Community Education	901
Use of School District Facilities, Equipment	902
Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites	903
Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Nonschool Persons	904
Advertising	905
Community Notifications of Predatory Offenders	906
Media Guidelines	915
Memorial Policy	920
Political Activities	950

[*] Notice required by statute

[**] Notice required by policy

Statewide Assessments: Parent/Guardian Participation Guide and Refusal Information

Your student's participation in statewide assessments is important as it allows your school and district to ensure all students have access to a high-quality education. In the past, students with disabilities and English learners were often excluded from statewide assessments. By requiring that all students take statewide assessments, schools and teachers have more information to see how all students are doing. This helps schools to continuously improve the education they provide and to identify groups, grades, or subjects that may need additional support.

Assessments Connect to Standards

Statewide assessments are based on the [Minnesota Academic Standards](#) or the [WIDA English Language Development Standards](#). These standards define the knowledge and skills students should be learning in K–12 public and charter schools. Minnesota prioritizes high-quality education, and statewide assessments gives educators and leaders an opportunity to evaluate student and school success.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) and Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS)

MCA and MTAS are the annual assessments in reading, mathematics and science that measure a snapshot of student learning of the Minnesota K–12 Academic Standards.

ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for English Learners

The ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS are the annual assessments for English learners that provide information about their progress in learning academic English based on the WIDA English Language Development Standards.

Statewide Assessments Help Families and Students

Participating in statewide assessments helps families see a snapshot of their student's learning so they can advocate for their success in school. High school students can use MCA results:

- For course placement at a Minnesota State college or university. If students receive a college-ready score, they may not need to take a remedial, noncredit course for that subject.
- For Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) and College in the Schools programs.

English learners who take the ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS and meet certain requirements have the opportunity to exit from English learner programs.

Taking Statewide Assessments Helps Your Student's School

Statewide assessments provide information to your school and district about how all students are engaging with the content they learn in school. This information helps:

- Educators evaluate their instructional materials.
- Schools and districts identify inequities between groups, explore root causes and implement supports.
- School and district leaders make decisions about how to use money and resources to support all students.

Student Participation in Statewide Assessments

Student participation in state and locally required assessments is a parent/guardian choice. If you choose to have your student not participate in a statewide assessment, please provide a reason for your decision on the form. Contact your student's school to learn more about locally required assessments.

Consequences of Not Participating in Statewide Assessments

- The student will not receive an individual score. For ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS, the student would not have the opportunity to exit their English learner program.
- School and district assessment results will be incomplete, making it more difficult to have an accurate picture of student learning.
- Since all eligible students are included in some calculations even when they do not participate, school and district accountability results are impacted. This may affect the school's ability to be identified for support or recognized for success.



[education.mn.gov > Students and Families > Programs and Initiatives > Statewide Testing](https://education.mn.gov/Students-and-Families/Programs-and-Initiatives/Statewide-Testing)

Check with your local school or district to see if there are any other consequences for not participating.

Additional Information

- On average, students spend less than 1 percent of instructional time taking statewide assessments each year.
- Minnesota statutes limit the total amount of time students can spend taking other district- or school-wide assessments to 11 hours or less each school year, depending on the grade.
- School districts and charter schools are required to publish an assessment calendar on their website by the beginning of each school year. Refer to your district or charter school's website for more information on assessments.

(Note: This form is only applicable for the 20____ to 20____ school year.)



By completing this form, you are acknowledging that your student will not participate in statewide assessments and will not receive individual assessment results. This form must be returned to your student's school before the applicable test administration.

Statewide Assessment: Parent/Guardian Decision Not to Participate

Student Information

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Current Grade in School: _____

School: _____ District: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Reason for Refusal: _____

Please indicate the statewide assessment(s) you are opting the student out of this school year:

MCA/MTAS Reading

MCA/MTAS Science

MCA/MTAS Mathematics

ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS

Contact your school or district for more information on how to opt out of local assessments.

Updated April 21, 2022

Acknowledgement Form

Student Handbook

Byron High School

We have received a copy of the 2026-2027 Student Handbook for the Byron School District.

Student Printed Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date