

# **MAHOMET-SEYMOUR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**



## **2026-2027 Building Procedures**

**201 W. State Street  
Mahomet, IL 61853  
Phone: (217) 586-4415  
Fax: (217) 586-5869**

**[ms.k12.il.us/o/junior-high](https://ms.k12.il.us/o/junior-high)**

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**PESTICIDE INFORMATION**  
**2026-2027**  
**PESTICIDE APPLICATION REGISTRY NOTICE**

Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 practices Integrated Pest Management, a program that combines preventive techniques, non-chemical pest control methods, and the appropriate use of pesticides with a preference for products that are the least harmful to human health and the environment.

The term “pesticide” includes insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, and fungicides.

The Mahomet-Seymour School District is establishing a registry of people who wish to be notified by phone at least two days prior to unscheduled pesticide applications. Each building is inspected and treated on a monthly basis.

To be included in this registry, please complete the attached form and submit it to the Superintendent’s Office at 1301 S. Bulldog Dr, Mahomet, IL 61853. You will be added to our SchoolReach phone contact system for this particular notification category. The phone message will be given at least two business days before the application of the pesticide. It will identify the intended date of the application of the pesticide and the name and telephone contact number for the school personnel responsible for the pesticide application program. ***You must submit a new Registry Notice form each school year.***

\*\*\*\*\*    \*\*\*\*\*    \*\*\*\*\*    \*\*\*\*\*    \*\*\*\*\*    \*\*\*\*\*    \*\*\*\*\*    \*\*\*\*\*

I would like to be notified by phone at least two days before the use of pesticides at the school. I understand that if there is an immediate threat to health or property that requires treatment before notification can be sent out, I will receive notification as soon as practicable.

**Parent/Guardian’s Name ((Printed))** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number for Notification** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student’s Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student’s Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student’s Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student’s Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student’s Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student’s Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL STUDENT INFORMATION

The Junior High School will have approximately 800 students enrolled in the 2026-2027 school year. Students are scheduled for a 10-period day with each period lasting 40 minutes. All students attend the following classes:

- seven required courses
- minimum of one elective (band, chorus, or Art/Behind the Music/STEM/Ag)
- foreign language (8<sup>th</sup> grade qualifiers will take foreign language at MSJH during BPH)
- one lunch period
- Bulldog Power Hour (38-minute period for enrichment/study hall)

For bus riders, the school day begins when the students arrive at the bus stop in the morning and ends when the students exit the school bus in the afternoon. For students who do not ride the bus, the school day begins when they arrive on school premises and ends when they have left school grounds in the afternoon. Once a student arrives on school grounds, he/she is not permitted to leave the premises without permission. All Mahomet-Seymour schools have closed campuses. Classes begin at the Junior High School at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:22 p.m.

The movement of over 800 students and teachers throughout the building during the day is a monumental task! From the time you arrive in the morning until you leave in the afternoon, you are expected to follow a few basic rules that promote safety and respect among all people in the building.

Please familiarize yourself with:

- The daily schedule
- Your individual schedule
- Location of important destinations (classrooms, office, locker)
- Locker combinations (hallway and P.E.)
- Student/Parent Handbook information
- School Reach via district/junior high website

Important tips for the beginning of school:

- Carry your schedule with you for the first few weeks of school. If you lose your copy, come to the office and ask for another copy.
- Be ON TIME and IN ATTENDANCE every day.
- Ask for help if you don't understand something...all teachers and staff are happy to assist you.
- Start working immediately...keep up with school work.
- Listen to announcements.

## Attendance

When a student will be absent from school, a parent or guardian is expected to call and report the absence and reason for the absence within a reasonable amount of time. If a call has not been made to the school by 10:00 a.m. on the day of a student's absence, an automated call will go out notifying the student's parent/guardian of the absence. If the school does not hear from the parents or guardians the absence will be marked unexcused.

After nine days, the school will send a letter to inform the student and their family of the status of their child's attendance. At that point, the administration will determine if further absences will be excused.

Excused Absences Include:

1. Illness and medical appointments with a doctor's note (including up to 5 days per school year for the mental or behavioral health of the student)
2. Observance of a religious holiday or event
3. Death in the immediate family
4. Family emergency
5. Circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety
6. Attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS
7. Attend a civic event
8. Cases, where the student's parent/guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings (up to 5 days).
9. School Events
10. Court Appearances with written documentation from court officials
11. Students eligible to vote are also excused for up to two hours to vote in a primary, special, or general election.
12. Other reasons as approved by the building administration

While it is understood that in unusual circumstances, it may be necessary for students to be absent from school due to family travel, Mahomet-Seymour staff strongly discourages student absences for family vacations or travel. Teacher/student and student/student class interaction, as well as in-class instruction, is a very important part of the educational process that cannot be replicated outside of the classroom.

We may use or request the following interventions to improve attendance after 9 days:

- Student Meeting
- Parent Meeting/Contact home
- Required doctor's note to excuse illnesses
- Staff or Social Work check-ins
- Home visit
- Youth Assessment Center referral (JH and HS)

- Referral to Attendance Improvement Program through the Regional Office of Education (for chronic absenteeism and for chronic truancy or for patterns that indicate a student is establishing poor attendance)
- Other disciplinary measures
- Referral to Family Engagement Specialist

After the 9th and 18th absences, the school will send a letter to inform the student and their family of the status of their child’s attendance. At 18 absences, the student will be considered *Chronically Absent* by the definition provided by the state.

### **Definitions**

*Chronic absenteeism:* If a student is absent for ANY reason for 10% (18 days) in a school year, he/she is considered to be chronically absent.

*Chronic truancy:* If a student is absent without valid cause for 5% (9 days) in a school year, he/she is considered to be chronically truant. Chronic truancy is a violation of the state compulsory attendance law. This data is reported to the Illinois State Board of Education for inclusion on the Illinois School Report Card.

### **Illness at School**

If a student becomes ill while at school, they must come to the office to use the phone to contact a parent/guardian. Students may not use the phones in the classrooms or cell phones for the purposes of calling home when ill.

### **Make-Up Work Requests**

If a student is absent for two (2) or more days, parents may request homework for the student by calling the junior high office at 586-4415 prior to 9:00 a.m. If a student’s absence is excused, he/she will be permitted to make up any missed work, including homework and tests. The student will be permitted the same number of days as he/she was absent to turn in the make-up work. The student is responsible for obtaining assignments from his/her teachers. With the use of 1:1 technology, students are encouraged to check Google Classroom or email their teachers to request homework for the days they were absent.

### **Pre-Arranged Absences—School-Related**

In an attempt to maintain academic success, if students are involved in school-related absences that involve at least a ½-day absence, the student is responsible for all classwork on the day of the absence. This includes field trips and sporting events. The student/ sponsor are responsible for the following:

- Sponsor/coach distributes permission slip/pre-arranged absence form
- Students write assignments
- Classroom teachers initial form
- Coaches/sponsor check assignment sheet for completion
- Student receives “late grade” if not submitted to teacher at the next class period

Out of School Suspensions—homework will be collected for students who are absent on an OSS.

### **1st Hour Tardy Procedure**

Instruction at the Junior High begins each day at 8:30 a.m. This is the time when all students must be in class. Students arriving after 8:30 a.m. are considered tardy-unexcused. When students arrive at school

after 8:30 a.m. they must report to the front office, whereupon they will be issued an unexcused tardy pass. The following reasons are not valid excuses for being late to school: oversleeping, missing the bus, car trouble/traffic problems, and/or unverified medical appointments. An appointment card or doctor's note must accompany the student upon return to school. In a semester, if a student is tardy to first period, the following procedures will be followed:

3rd Tardy to 1st Hour - Student/Administration meeting, notification to parent/guardian

5th Tardy to 1st Hour - Parent/Student Meeting with Administration

6th Tardy to 1st Hour - Social Probation (not being allowed to attend sporting events and dances at MSJH)

7th Tardy to 1st Hour - Saturday School (7:00-9:00 am detention in MSJH cafeteria).

If students are tardy for periods 2-10, Expectation Reminders will be issued on the 3rd tardy in each class.

### **MSJH Activities**

Student involvement is a key to student success at Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School. Athletics and extracurricular activities provide a safe, positive and healthy atmosphere for students. An activity fee of \$35.00 is assessed for participation in one club/activity. Students can participate in an unlimited number of clubs for \$70.00. Activity information is given on the daily announcements. The following is a list of available activities:

- Art Club
- Bulldog Pen (school newspaper)
- Drama Club
- MAYC
- Photo/Video Club
- Science Club
- Student Council
- Speech
- Drama
- GSA
- Intramural basketball (open to all students who were not members of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade interscholastic basketball teams)
- Intramural volleyball (open to all students who were not members of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade interscholastic volleyball teams)

### **I.E.S.A. Activities**

***Students are eligible for IESA sponsored activities if they meet the following requirements:***

1. Current athletic physical is on file in the office before tryouts (not required for scholastic bowl or speech team)
2. Birth certificate is on file in the office
3. Insurance waiver signed by the parent/guardian and is on file in the office
4. Fees are as follows
  - a. \$85.00 athletic fee has been paid per activity
  - b. \$170.00 maximum in the school year
  - c. \$35.00 fee for scholastic bowl and speech team

5. Students must be passing all school subjects at all times. Please see Extracurricular Eligibility Procedure in this handbook.
6. Students' who receive free or reduced lunches will also have their athletic fees waived or reduced.
7. In the event that financial considerations become an issue with regard to your child's participation in any extracurricular activity, please contact the athletic director to discuss scholarship opportunities.

The following sports allow only 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade participants: boys'/girls' basketball, softball, baseball and volleyball.

The following sports allow 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade participants: cross country, wrestling, track, scholastic bowl and speech.

Cheerleaders may not participate in girls' basketball or volleyball. Tryouts for cheerleading are held in the spring for the next school year and are open to incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **Athletic Event Conduct**

Students should remember that the purpose of attending an athletic event at the Junior High is to cheer on the Bulldog athletic teams in a positive way. Good sportsmanship is required at all times by all fans. Booming will not be tolerated. Inappropriate conduct by anyone will result in removal from the event and a possible suspension from future events.

- Mahomet-Seymour Schools are smoke-free facilities—inside and outside.
- Stand quietly and at attention when the National Anthem is played. \*\*

BULLDOG BACKER CARDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FRONT OFFICE AT A COST OF:

Students	\$40.00
Adults	\$60.00

\*\*\*BACKER CARDS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE ATHLETIC FEE\*\*\*

\*\*BACKER CARDS can be used for junior high and high school activities excluding tournaments and IESA events\*\*

### **Before and After School Procedures**

#### **Before School**

Students will enter the building approximately 10 minutes before the start of the school day. At 8:20am, doors to MSJH will open and students will be able to access their lockers and then proceed to their first hour class.

#### **After School**

Students are to leave the building promptly when the school day ends unless he/she is involved in a supervised school activity. All students need to be in designated areas or out of the building by 3:32 pm.

### Erin's Law

Each year, students in grades Pre-K-8 will participate in sexual abuse education, as required by the state of Illinois under "Erin's Law", Public Act 96-1524. Erin's Law is prevention based and provides valuable information to students, in developmentally appropriate ways. Lessons will be provided by the building social worker, with the classroom teacher present as well.

Students in grades 6-12 are required to have information on teen dating violence, as well. This instruction is provided through Health Class in grades 6-9 as part of their Health curriculum. Students in grades 10-12 will be provided information during advisory, by the school social worker, the health teacher or another certified staff member.

Additionally, the law requires that all district staff be trained regarding sexual abuse and, for secondary teachers, teen dating violence. Training includes recognizing and reporting suspected child sexual abuse, how to respond to and support students who have been abused and strategies to support a safe and supportive school environment. All district employees are also mandated reporters of suspected child abuse, per state law, and undergo annual training for that as well.

### Erin's Law Ethics, Training & Educator Misconduct

Amends Erin's Law to provide that school districts must develop a policy on sexual abuse that includes •

- An age-appropriate and evidence informed curriculum (grades PK-12) •
- Inclusion of information in the parent/student handbook on the warning signs of child sexual abuse and available resources: •
- Infancy - 5 years • Fearfulness, anxiety, unprovoked crying; • Sudden rejection of normal physical affection; • Sudden reluctance to be with a specific person or go to a specific place; • Artwork with sexual images; • Any disclosure of sexual abuse. •
- 6 – 11 years • Withdrawal from normal activities; • Anxiety, bedwetting, nightmares; • Development of eating disorders; • Artwork with sexual images Indicators of Sexual abuse... •
- 12 – 18 years • Depression • Insomnia • Sudden failure in school • Truancy • Withdrawal from family and/or friends • "Running away" from home • Drug problems • Criminal behavior • Self injury/ self-destructive behavior • Suicidal behavior • Sudden mood shifts • Sexually aggressive behavior • Aggression and bullying • Pregnancy/ STDs •
- Resources: Please contact DCFS, local police, or the office in which your child attends school •
- Training for school personnel (by January 31st of each year) on sexual abuse of students, grooming behaviors and boundary violations, including how to report these behaviors.

### Faith's Law Prevention of Child Abuse

#### Definition of "Sexual Misconduct"

Any act including but not limited to any verbal, nonverbal and written or electronic communication or physical activity by an employee or agent of the school district, charter school, or non-public school with direct contact with a student that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student.

Such an act includes but is not limited to any of the following:

1. A sexual or romantic invitations
2. Dating or soliciting a date

3. Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialogue
4. Making sexual suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
5. Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature.
6. A sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with a student.

#### Employee Conduct Standards

School districts are required to include in their student handbook the District’s Employee Code of Professional Conduct. These standards, in part, define appropriate conduct between school employees and students. A copy of these standards can be found on the District’s website or requested from the Superintendent’s office.

#### Faith’s Law Part II

New reporting requirements for sexual misconduct committed by school personnel.

New notification requirements when a child is alleged to have been the victim of sexual misconduct.

New requirements when hiring someone who works directly with children.

#### **Superintendent Reporting Requirement**

“A superintendent shall notify in writing the state superintendent and the regional superintendent of schools of any license holder whom he or she has reasonable cause to believe has committed (i) an intentional act of abuse or neglect with the result of making a child either an abused child or neglected child, (ii) an act of sexual misconduct that result in dismissal or resignation from the school district.

#### **Required Notifications to Students and Parents**

Requires verbal and written notification to parents if their child is the victim of alleged sexual misconduct by a school employee or school contractor.

Prior to parental notification, requires notification to the child that their parent will be contacted and the nature of the parental contact.

Notification to student must include:

- That the student’s parents will be contacted •
- The information that will be provided to parents •
- Available resources in the school and community and available counseling resources
- Beginning July 1, 2025, the name and contact information for the domestic and sexual violence and parenting resource coordinator.

Notification to parents must include •

- Information on the alleged misconduct •
- Available resources in the school and community and available counseling resources. \*
- Beginning July 1, 2025, the name and contact information for the domestic and sexual violence and parenting resource coordinator.

## **Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment**

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important district and school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge from military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender orientation, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, physical appearance, socioeconomic status, academic status, order of protection status, homelessness, actual or marital status, parenting status, pregnancy, parenting status, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in each of the following situations:

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

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

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

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications.

Cyberbullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyberbullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

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.

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

Students who believe they are victims of harassment are encouraged to discuss the matter with the student Nondiscrimination Coordinator (Superintendent Dr. Kenny Lee, 586-2161), Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or a Complaint Manager Nathan Mills or Christine Northrup, 586-2161).

There is also an option to complete the “Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form” found on the district website.

For further information, see Board Policy 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited) and Policy 7:180 (Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment).

Consistent with Federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the school shall make diligent efforts to notify a parent or guardian within 24 hours after the school’s administration is made aware of a student’s involvement in an alleged bullying incident. The term “bullying incident” includes individual instances of bullying, as well as all threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be a result of bullying. Notification to a parent or guardian shall include, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.

## **Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited<sup>1</sup>**

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 and School goal. The District and School do not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, or national origin in any of its education programs or activities and comply with federal and State non-discrimination laws.

### Examples of Prohibited Conduct

Examples of conduct that may constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: disciplining students more harshly and frequently because of their race, color, or national origin; denying students access to high-rigor academic courses, extracurricular activities, or other educational opportunities based on their race, color, or national origin; denying language services or other educational opportunities to English learners; and assigning students special education services based on a student's race, color, or national origin.

Harassment is a form of prohibited discrimination. Examples of conduct that may constitute harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: the use of racial, ethnic, or ancestral slurs or stereotypes; taunts; name-calling; offensive or derogatory remarks about a person's actual or perceived race, color, or national origin; the display of racially-offensive symbols; racially-motivated physical threats and attacks; or other hateful conduct.

### Making a Report or Complaint; Investigation Process

Individuals are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator (Superintendent Dr. Kenny Lee, 586-2161), Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or a Complaint Managers Nathan Mills or Christine Northrup, 586-2161), or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Reports will be processed under the District's Uniform Grievance Procedure.

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

There is also an option to complete the "Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form" found on the district website.

### Federal and State Agencies

If the District fails to take necessary corrective action to stop harassment based on race, color, or national origin, further relief may be available through the Illinois Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) or the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights. To contact IDHR, go to: <https://dhr.illinois.gov/about-us/contact-idhr.html> or call (312) 814-6200 (Chicago) or (217) 785-5100 (Springfield).

### Prevention and Response Program

The District maintains a prevention and response program to respond to complaints of discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including harassment and retaliation. The program includes procedures for responding to complaints which:

1. Reduce or remove, to the extent practicable, barriers to reporting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation;
2. Permit any person who reports or is the victim of an incident of alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to be accompanied when making a report by a support individual of the person's choice who complies with the District's policies and rules;
3. Permit anonymous reporting, except that an anonymous report may not be the sole basis of any disciplinary action;
4. Offer remedial interventions or take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate on a case-by-case basis;
5. Offer, but do not require or unduly influence, a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation the option to resolve allegations directly with the accused; and
6. Protects a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation from suffering adverse consequences as a result of a report of, investigation of, or a response to the incident.

#### Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion, consistent with the student discipline information in this handbook.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

#### Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited.

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

### **School Bus Safety Rules**

1. Transportation – Bus transportation is provided at no cost for students living 1.5 miles or more from their designated school. All students will abide by the following rules. Please note that some buses may use video surveillance.
2. Be aware of moving traffic and pay attention to your surroundings.

3. 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.
4. Arrive on time at the bus stop and stay away from the street while waiting for the bus.
5. 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.
6. Take a seat right away and remain seated facing forward. Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
7. Talk quietly on the bus. No shouting or creating loud noises that may distract the driver. Tablets, computers, smartphones, smartwatches, and other electronic devices must be silenced on the bus unless a student uses headphones.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Wait until the bus pulls to a complete stop before standing up. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
11. Stay out of the danger zone next to the bus where the driver may have difficulty seeing you. Take at least five giant steps (10 feet) 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.
12. 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, even after the driver's signal.
13. Never run back to the bus, even if you dropped or forgot something.
14. Additional resources follow:
15. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - School Bus Safety  
[https://one.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/buses/getting\\_to\\_school/schoolbus2.html](https://one.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/buses/getting_to_school/schoolbus2.html)
16. U.S. Department of Transportation - School Bus Safety Campaign Material  
[www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/school-bus-safety/evergreen-campaign-material](http://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/school-bus-safety/evergreen-campaign-material)
17. National Safety Council - Tips for a Safe Ride  
[www.nsc.org/home-safety/tools-resources/seasonal-safety/back-to-school/bus](http://www.nsc.org/home-safety/tools-resources/seasonal-safety/back-to-school/bus)
18. Ill. State Police - School Bus Safety  
<https://isp.illinois.gov/StaticFiles/docs/TrafficResources/5-542.pdf>
19. Ill. State Board of Education - School Bus Safety What Parents Should Know  
[www.isbe.net/Documents/bus\\_safety\\_parents.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/Documents/bus_safety_parents.pdf)
20. Ill. State Board of Education - Instructions To School Bus Riders  
[www.isbe.net/Documents/bus\\_ride\\_instruct.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/Documents/bus_ride_instruct.pdf)

### Homework Club

In an attempt to assist students with homework and academic skills, the junior high school will hold Homework Club on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 3:25-4:25 p.m. Faculty and staff will be available to provide assistance during this time and transportation will be provided for current transportation recipients. In addition, snacks will be available. Students need to sign-up for transportation prior to 3:00 p.m. on the days that they plan to attend this activity, utilizing a Google Form.

### Cell Phones

Cell phones found in possession of a student for purposes other than educational may be surrendered to the office and a parent will be required to retrieve the phone. The possession or use of cell phones and other messaging or recording devices that disrupt the educational environment or violate the rights of others are subject to the following guidelines:

1. They must be powered off or on silent and kept in student lockers during the regular school day unless needed during an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff or other individuals.
2. Taking pictures, video or recording sound with phones or any other electronic device during school hours without teacher permission is strictly prohibited.
3. The use of these devices in bathrooms or locker rooms is strictly prohibited at any time.
4. Items prohibited during school hours will be confiscated and placed in the office for return to the student's parent/guardian. Items not retrieved by June 30<sup>th</sup> will be donated to charity.
5. Electronic devices can be used in the classroom for educational purposes at the teacher's request, and then must be turned off when leaving the classroom and put back into the locker.

***Note: Mahomet-Seymour Junior High assumes no responsibility for cell phones which are lost, damaged or stolen.***

### Director of Title IX

Title IX provides "no person in the United States shall on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance" with certain minor exceptions. The Director of Title IX for Mahomet-Seymour High School is Mr. Doug Fisher. Mr. Fisher's office is located in the main office of Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School. Anyone who feels he/she has been discriminated against, as outlined in the provisions of Title IX, should contact Mr. Fisher. If not satisfied with Mr. Fisher's interpretation and decision, a student has the right to appeal to Dr. Kenny Lee, Superintendent, who is the District hearing officer.

### Directory

The following information will be designated as "Directory Information" under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and will be the information that is disclosed when requested.

- a.) Student name, address and telephone number.
- b.) Participation in officially recognized activities, events, and sports.
- c.) Weight and height of athletic team members.
- d.) Honors, honor rolls, degrees, and awards received and grade placement.
- e.) Photographic, video, or electronic images of students.
- f.) Information generally found in yearbooks.

Unless you advise the school office that you do not want any or all of this information released, school officials may release personally identifiable information that has been designated as "directory information." Upon receiving written notice from parents/guardians or eligible students objecting to

disclosure, this information will not be released without the prior consent of the parent/guardian or eligible student.

### **MSJH Curriculum**

The following is a summary of classes that students take at each grade level.

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>Grade</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
<b><i>Language Arts</i></b>	6	2 periods including reading, writing, grammar and spelling
	7	2 periods including reading, writing, grammar and spelling
	8	2 periods including reading, writing, grammar and spelling
<b><i>Social Studies</i></b>	6	World Civilization/Geography
	7	Part I-Early Americas to Industrialization
	8	Part II-Imperialism to Present
<b><i>Science</i></b>	6	6 <sup>th</sup> grade Science
	7	7 <sup>th</sup> grade Science
	8	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Science
<b><i>Math</i></b>	6	Regular or Compacted Math
	7	Regular or Advanced Math
	8	Regular, Pre-Algebra or Algebra I
<b><i>Semester Classes</i></b>	6	Ag, Art, STEM, Behind the Music
	7	Ag, Art, STEM, Behind the Music
	8	Ag, Art, STEM, Behind the Music
<b><i>Physical Education</i></b>	All	P.E. must have a standard uniform: orange shirt, blue shorts/sweatpants, athletic shoes. 7th and 8th grade students will take one quarter of health each year.

A placement test is administered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the second semester of the school year to determine the most appropriate math placement for the next year. Other factors considered are homework completion, grades, work ethic and teacher recommendation.

### **Elective Courses**

During the 2026-2027 school year, elective courses at MSJH will alternate on an A/B schedule beginning with the first day of school.

### **World Language Options**

Enrollment in Spanish 1 or French 1 would take place in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. World Language students will participate in class during Bulldog Power Hour at MSJH. .

### **Daily Announcements**

Announcements are made at 8:31 a.m. and 3:20 p.m. Students need to pay attention to the daily announcements. It is the student's responsibility to relay information home to parents. Announcements are also shown continuously throughout the day on television monitors throughout the school.

### Daily Schedule

The school day consists of nine, 40-minute periods with two or three minute passing periods.

	8:20-8:30	Students enter MSJH
	8:30-9:10	1 <sup>st</sup> period
	9:12-9:52	2 <sup>nd</sup> period
	9:55-10:35	3 <sup>rd</sup> period
	10:37-11:17	4 <sup>th</sup> period
class)	11:20-11:50	5 <sup>th</sup> period (6 <sup>th</sup> grade lunch, 8th and 7th
class)	11:53-12:23	6 <sup>th</sup> period (8 <sup>th</sup> grade lunch, 6th and 7th
class)	12:26-1:06	7 <sup>th</sup> period (7 <sup>th</sup> grade lunch, 6th and 8th
	1:19-1:59	8 <sup>th</sup> period
	2:01:-2:41	9 <sup>th</sup> period
	2:44-3:22	Bulldog Power Hour
	3:32p.m.	Only students involved in supervised activities or waiting for the bus in the cafeteria should be in the building.

### Early Dismissal Days

Early dismissal days are simply a rearrangement of school improvement days from previous years. Students will need to be out of the building by 1:30 p.m. on early dismissal days. Students involved in extracurricular activities may return to the building at 3:22 p.m.

#### Early Dismissal Schedule

8:30-8:59	1st Period
9:01-9:30	2nd period
9:33-10:02	3rd period
10:04-10:33	4th period
10:36-11:05	8th period
11:07-11:36	9th period
11:39-12:09	5th period
12:12-12:42	6th period
12:45-1:15	7th period
1:18-1:22	Bulldog Power Hour

### Dances

Attendance at school-sponsored dances is a privilege. Only Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders may attend the dances. There will be a 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade dance in May. Dances will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. unless otherwise announced. Dances will be chaperoned by the administration and staff members. If a student chooses to leave the dance, he/she will not be readmitted.

MS JH students are **NOT** permitted to attend MSHS dances.

All school rules, including the school's discipline code and dress code are in effect during school-sponsored dances.

Students who violate the school's discipline code will be required to leave the dance immediately and the student's parent/guardian will be contacted. The school may also impose other discipline as outlined in the discipline code.

### **Dress Code/Student Appearance**

Students are expected to wear appropriate clothing while on school property and/or in attendance at school sponsored activities. Students are to use discretion in their dress and are not permitted to wear apparel that causes a substantial disruption to the school environment:

- Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or picture alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images.
- Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols.
- Hats, coats, bandannas, sweat bands, and sunglasses may not be worn in the building during the school day.
- Hair styles, dress, and accessories that pose a safety hazard are not permitted in laboratories, or during physical education.
- Clothing with holes, rips, tears, and clothing showing skin and/or undergarments may not be worn at school.
- The length of shorts or skirts must be appropriate for the school environment.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times.
- If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the building principal will make the final decision.
- Students whose dress causes a substantial disruption of the orderly process of school functions or endangers the health or safety of the student, other students, staff or others may be subject to discipline.

The school administration reserves the right to determine whether the student's attire is within the limits of decency and modesty. The principal may allow exceptions in special circumstances: holidays, performances. **Unusual dress or appearance will be screened by the administration. Parents will be contacted and students will be asked to change.**

### **Drills, Safety Procedures and Conduct**

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school board. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement lockdown drill to address a school shooting incident, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. The law enforcement lockdown drill will be announced in advance and a student's parent/guardian may elect to exclude their child from participating in this drill. All other drills will not be preceded by a warning to students.

## Disciplinary Measures

### In School Suspension

The purpose of in-school suspension is to provide an alternative educational environment for students who have violated rules of conduct as set forth by the administration of Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School. Students will be given the opportunity to work on class assignments. The following rules and procedures will be followed:

1. Students will meet in the front office for an escorted walk to their locker and then ISS.
2. Students will have textbooks/materials for each class.
3. Students will be expected to work on class assignments the entire school day.
4. Chromebook use will be allowed only if expressed in assignments. Cell phones will be turned into office.
5. Food, gum or drink is not allowed.
6. All school rules apply.

### Out of School Suspension

In the event of a student receiving an out of school suspension, the following procedures may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) conference with the student;
- 2) phone call to parents/guardians;
- 3) written notice of suspension to parents/guardians which shall:
  - a) provide a full statement of reason for suspension;
  - b) provide notice to the parents/guardians to review the suspension;
  - c) include information about an opportunity to make-up work missed during the suspension for equivalent academic credit;
  - d) provide a rationale as to the specific duration of the suspension.
- 4) A re-entry meeting should occur with the parents, student and administration before the student may return to school. Re-entry meetings are held to reflect on the incident and come up with proactive solutions to help the student moving forward.

### Expectation Reminders

Expectation Reminders are documented reminders to the student that they did not meet an expectation of being respectful, be responsible, or be safe within any area of the school. This documented reminder is given to students after a verbal warning has not changed the behavior choice of the student.

#### MSJH ER Levels for 2026-2027

<b># of ERs</b>	<b>Possible Interventions per Level</b>
1 ER	Meeting between teacher and student
2 ERs	Meeting between teacher and student
3 ERs	Parental contact by team Administration will determine if an office referral is warranted

4+ ERs	<p>We may use or request the following interventions to improve behavior.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Parental contact by team</li> <li>● Meeting with student &amp; team</li> <li>● Parent meeting with student, team, &amp; administration</li> <li>● Implementation of Tier 2 Intervention (ex. 3-5-3 Plan, CICO, etc)</li> <li>● Continued intervention &amp; supports because targeted goals have not been met (Tier 3)</li> <li>● Parental contact from district behavior coach</li> <li>● Other interventions as determined by the MTSS team</li> </ul>
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### Field Trips

Student field trips, which may have significant educational and/or social value, will be scheduled as opportunity and finances permit. Such trips are planned by staff and are coordinated with the school curriculum. The teacher will notify parents about time, date, special clothing, lunch arrangements and if money will be required for tickets, extra fees, etc.

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

All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to receive appropriate permission from parent/guardian or teacher
- Failure to complete appropriate coursework
- Behavioral or safety concerns
- Denial of permission from administration
- Other reasons as determined by the school.

### Free and Reduced Lunch/Breakfast

Free and reduced lunch/breakfast guidelines are available in the district business office. Free and reduced lunch/breakfast applications can be obtained from the junior high office.

### Grades

Report cards are available via Skyward at the end of each 9-week grading period, as well as at each mid-quarter. Non-custodial parents may receive a copy of all grade reports by contacting the school office. The report card is a record of progress over a set period of time. This report is for your benefit. Students control the outcome of the report cards. Grades are not issued by the teacher, but are earned by the student.

If a student fails to complete class requirements by the end of the grading period, that student will receive a grade of incomplete (I). It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill the necessary requirements to eradicate the incomplete status within **ONE WEEK** of the end of the grading period. If this is not done, the “I” becomes an “F”. Band and chorus will report quarter and final grades only.

### Grading Scale

100	A+
93-99	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59- ↓	F

### **Honor Roll**

High Honor Roll consists of students who have earned all A's. Honor Roll consists of students with a G.P.A. of 3.00-3.99 on a 4.0 scale. All classes, except band/chorus, are used to determine honor roll eligibility.

### **Hallway Conduct**

Please move through the hallways in a kind and respectful way. Running is not allowed. Please walk on the right side of the hallway. Please talk in a quiet voice and use trash containers to discard unwanted items. Take pride in the building. Students who leave class during the period must have a teacher classroom hall pass.

### **Items Not Allowed at School**

Valuable items, large sums of money, expensive jewelry, personal electronic devices, etc. should not be brought to school. Unusual items that need to be brought to school for a project should be cleared through the classroom teacher and administration.

### **Library**

The library and librarian are available as a resource for students, teachers and staff from 8:20 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every school day. Teachers can reserve the library for their classes to research and/or participate in special projects. Each student is responsible for books he/she checks out. Each student can check out up to two books at a time, each for a two-week period. Books can be returned to the library in the return slot any time between 8:20 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. If needed, books can be renewed.

There are no fines in the MSJH Library for overdue books. When you check out books, we encourage students to turn them in on time, so others can enjoy them, but we know that life happens. If a book is misplaced, lost, or damaged, we will reach out to see if the book can be replaced. However, if the book cannot be replaced, there will be no penalty or office referral.

### **Lockers**

Each student is provided a locker in which to store books, supplies, coats and backpacks. Please mark all items with your name. DO NOT GIVE YOUR LOCKER COMBINATION TO ANYONE!!! Students

may not change lockers without permission, nor should lockers be shared. If sometime during the school year your locker does not close or open properly, notify the office and it will be fixed. It is the student's responsibility to maintain a clean and well-organized locker. Lockers are school property and may be searched at any time by school officials with or without the student's permission or knowledge.

Due to hallway congestion and safety hazards, book bags/backpacks are to be kept in lockers at all times. Students may use such items when special circumstances arise. Students are encouraged to use lockers for storage purposes.

### **Lost and Found**

Items found should be placed in the following areas:

- Library books should be taken to the library.
- Textbooks should be taken to the office.
- Lost articles other than PE clothing should be placed on the lost and found table next to the cafeteria..
- All P.E. equipment and clothing should be given to the P.E. teachers.
- Valuable items should be brought to the office.

### **Lunch Period**

Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School has a closed campus, which means that students cannot leave without permission during the lunch hours. Parents must then sign-out the student in the office. All students have a 30-minute lunch period. All school rules, including the school's discipline code and dress code are in effect during lunch and recess.

All students have the option of purchasing a hot lunch in the cafeteria. The cost is \$2.80 and students may pay on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis. The cost of breakfast at MSJH is \$1.85. Breakfast takes place from 8:20 to 8:30 am. Students carrying a sack lunch also eat in the cafeteria. Milk is available for \$.50 per carton. An a la carte line is also provided for the students, and is optional. Lunchroom cashiers can accept prepayment in the form of cash or checks made to CUSD #3 or charge with a VISA or MasterCard by going to the menu bar in Skyward Family Access. Students will use their student ID# to access lunch balances.

### **Mentoring Program**

Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School provides a mentoring program which pairs a student with a business/community member. The purpose of this program is to establish a positive adult relationship in the student's life through weekly meetings with the mentor. All activities take place on school grounds. For more information, please contact our social worker, Jill Kyle, at (217) 586-4415.

### **Parent Teacher Communication**

Teachers are available through e-mail, voice mail, telephone and websites. Please visit our website at <https://www.ms.k12.il.us/o/junior-high> for further information about communication. If a student needs extra help, teachers are available before or after school. It is the student's responsibility to ask for help and make arrangements with a teacher.

Parent/Teacher conferences are held twice a year, at the conclusion of the first and third quarters. Students earning a D or an F will automatically have a conference requested by the corresponding teacher.

Parents must call the Jr. High, or use the Family Access menu to choose a conference time. The phone number is 217-586-4415.

### **Physical Education**

The uniform for PE at MSJH will consist of: orange t-shirt and laced tennis shoes.

#### **MSJH Physical Education No Dress (ND) 2026-2027**

Students will receive 20 points weekly for participation, dress and sportsmanship: (4 points daily) 1 point for dress, 2 points for participation, and 1 point for sportsmanship. If these physical education expectations are not met points will be deducted daily.

Consequences:

1. Verbal Communication with student.
2. Verbal Communication with student. Expectation Reminder.
3. Verbal Communication with student. Parental Contact. Expectation Reminder . Parent contact & Team mtg. with student
4. Verbal Communication with student. Parental Contact. Expectation Reminder  
Parent Mtg. with PE Dept.
5. Verbal Communication with student. Parental Contact. Expectation Reminder.  
Administration and Team Mtg.

Students are required to provide an orange t-shirt and wear athletic shorts, or pants at the start of physical education class. They are responsible for locking all personal items in their personal assigned locker. If they are unable to be responsible for these items daily, 1 point will be deducted for dress. If a student is unable to provide laced tennis shoes then they will have to sit out of physical education and lose all 4 points for the day.

It is advised that all middle school students bring an extra pair of lace up tennis shoes, and orange shirt, and athletic bottoms so that they are always prepared for physical education class.

Student- Athletes must dress and participate on days they have athletic contests in order to participate.

### **Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty**

Plagiarism constitutes a serious offense. It is defined as the copying or paraphrasing of materials written by another without attributing the source, whether the source is published material, electronic media, or another student. A first offense may result in a zero on the assignment. A second offense may result in a failing grade for the quarter in which it occurs.

### **Posting of Materials**

Materials of any kind may not be posted in Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School without prior approval. School-related clubs/activities must have postings approved by sponsors. Non-school related postings must be pre-approved by administration. Distribution of materials on school grounds must be approved by administration.

### **Sales at School**

The school premises are not to be used by students for the sale of anything unless approved by the office.

### **School Closings**

In cases of bad weather and other local emergencies, please listen to any local radio or television station to be advised of school closings or early dismissals. School closings for any reason will be announced. If bad weather or other emergency occurs during the day, please listen to local media stations for possible early dismissal information.

For your child's safety, make certain your child knows ahead of time where to go in case of an early dismissal. The Junior High School is the last school serviced by buses. Therefore on days when school is dismissed early due to inclement weather, the buses will arrive at the Junior High approximately thirty minutes after the reported time given by television and radio stations. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL TO OBTAIN EARLY DISMISSAL INFORMATION—IT IS AVAILABLE ON ALL LOCAL TELEVISION AND RADIO STATIONS.

### **Sex Offender Notification Law**

State law prohibits a convicted child sex offender from being present on school property when children under the age of 18 are present, except for in the following circumstances as they relate to the individual's child(ren):

1. To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of their child.
2. To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to their child's special education services.
3. To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning their child such as retention or promotion.

In all other cases, convicted child sex offenders are prohibited from being present on school property unless they obtain written permission from the superintendent or school board.

Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property – including the three reasons above - he/she is responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property. It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times he/she is in the presence or vicinity of children.

A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Information about sex offenders or violent offenders against youth is available to the public on the Illinois State Police (ISP) website. The ISP website contains the following:

Illinois Sex Offender Registry, <https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/Disclaimer>

Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry,  
<https://isp.illinois.gov/MVOAY/Disclaimer>

### **Search & Questioning of Students**

To maintain order and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. The assistance of law enforcement officials may be requested at any time. Students may be questioned by school administrators at any time regarding issues relating to student discipline, student welfare, or school-related business.

Every child has a right to seek parental advice in any matter adverse to the educational or legal constitutional interests of the child.

### **Age Appropriate Resources for Sexual Harassment**

[Sexual Harassment and Sexual Bullying \(for Teens\) - Nemours KidsHealth](#)

[Sexual Assault & Sexual Harassment](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=HKk-pbeW3ic>

[Talking to Kids About Sexual Harassment ... Before They Even Know About Sex](#)

[How to Teach Consent to Elementary Students](#)

[Talking to Our Children about Sexual Harassment and Consent](#)

[Consent at Every Age](#)

### **Statement of Nondiscrimination**

Mahomet-Seymour Junior High ensures that equal educational opportunities are offered to students, regardless of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion or handicap. Questions in reference to educational opportunities may be directed to Dr. Kenny Lee, Superintendent, 586-4995.

### **Skyward Family Access**

In order to stay current with a student's progress, parents are able to access Family Access on the district's website ([www.ms.k12.il.us](http://www.ms.k12.il.us)). To enter Family Access, click on the link on the JH website. To get a password, please contact the junior high office.

The tabs of value in Family Access include the schedule (which have the teacher's email addresses), attendance and gradebook. Grades will be posted in bold after the grading period.

Please remember that what you are seeing is live, but not all grades may be up to date in the gradebook.

All families with an email address will have access to Skyward Family Access. Administration will use this tool to communicate with parents.

Homework can be found on the JH website by clicking on the individual teacher. Most teachers have assignments linked from teacher websites.

### **Social Work Services**

Social work services are available for all students. Individual and group sessions are available, depending on the need. Counseling may be ongoing or short-term, and will be aimed at improving students' ability to function in the school setting. Students can make self-referrals for social work services, or may be referred by parents, teachers, or administrators.

### **Standardized Testing**

In the second semester of each school year, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be given the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) test. It is extremely important that students are in attendance on these days, so please make every effort to schedule appointments outside of school time. All students at Mahomet-Seymour Junior High will be given the Reading and Math Fastbridge test three times per year in the Fall, Winter and Spring. All 8th grade students will take the PSAT 8/9 during the school year.

### **Student Council**

Student council representatives will meet during the school year with the student council sponsor to plan school and community-wide activities. Sixth grade student council members will be elected in September. Seventh and eighth grade representatives are elected at the end of each school year to serve the next school year. Students are elected by their peers and by the MSJH staff.

### **Suicide Prevention Hotline**

Parents and students can access the suicide prevention hotline by calling 988 or visiting their website at <https://988lifeline.org/>

### **Teen Dating Violence Prohibited**

#### **Harassment Prohibited**

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

#### **Sexual Harassment Prohibited (Title IX)**

The School and District shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law.

A District employee, agent, or student violates this prohibition whenever that person engages in conduct on the basis of sex that causes another person to be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity operated by the District. Sex discrimination includes discrimination on the basis of sex, stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity.

**Teen Dating Violence Prohibited**

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

**Making a Report or Complaint**

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student’s same gender.

**Non-Discrimination Coordinator:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

**Complaint Managers:<sup>2</sup>**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to discipline.

**Investigation Process**

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District’s duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

## **Enforcement**

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion, consistent with the student discipline information in this handbook.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent/guardian, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

## **Retaliation Prohibited**

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited.

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

## **Telephone Calls**

In case of emergency/illness, students may obtain permission from the secretaries to use the office phone to contact parents or relatives. Classroom phones are for teacher use only.

## **Video Surveillance**

Sections of our school building and school grounds are under video surveillance.

## **Visitors**

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building and proceed immediately to the main office. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school.

Visitors must sign in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location they are visiting. Approved visitors must take a tag identifying themselves as a guest and place the tag on their outer clothing in a clearly visible location. Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. All visitors must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school.

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

Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespassing and/or disruptive behavior.

No person on school property or at a school event shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local, or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectible, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied with Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and District policies.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including rollerblading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other district policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or district employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the district or a school function.

Any person who engages in prohibited conduct may be ejected from or denied admission to school property in accordance with State law. The person may also be subject to being denied admission to school athletic or extracurricular events for up to one calendar year.

#### **Withdrawal from School**

Please notify the office and all teachers of plans to withdraw from school a few days before the actual withdrawal date. This will allow office personnel to forward the appropriate records to the new school in a timely manner.

### Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 Acceptable Use Policy

Mahomet-Seymour is deeply committed to technology as a vital tool for its students, teachers, and parents. **The District has determined that as a tool, technology will be integrated into our district curriculum in a way that enhances the learning of our students. As a tool, responsibilities fall on both the District and the student to ensure that the tools are effective, safe and appropriate to support our overall goal of teaching and building responsible, well balanced, contributors to our environment.** As a user of technology, I understand that it is my responsibility to honor the Responsible Use Policy and uphold these Mahomet-Seymour Core Values both online, offline, at school and at home. I understand that my actions can affect others and that I will be accountable for my behavior.

### Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 Core Value, Responsibilities and Restrictions

We value communication; therefore, I will: use language that is pertinent and appropriate when submitting academic work, participating in online forums, and working collaboratively. I will use thoughtful and appropriate language for social postings. I will be mindful of how my words are interpreted by others.

We value privacy; therefore, I will: be aware of the privacy settings on any website to which I subscribe. **I understand that anything I do online that may be interpreted as dangerous to myself or others or inappropriate for learning or the intended curriculum, may not be considered private and may be monitored.** I understand that anything I do online or electronically is not private and can be monitored. I will not share personal information about myself, family, friends, or faculty.

We value honesty and safety; therefore, I will: not engage in behavior that puts myself or others at risk. I will represent myself honestly. I will seek help if I feel unsafe, bullied, or witness unkind behavior. I will communicate only with people I know. I will follow safety guidelines posted by sites to which I subscribe. **The District will provide a mechanism for reporting any bullying or behavior that a student(s) may perceive as harmful to themselves or others.**

We value learning; therefore, I will: apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products or processes. I will evaluate the validity of information presented online. I will ask questions and seek help when using school technology. I will have a positive attitude and be willing to explore different or new technologies. **The district and its staff will provide as part of its curriculum, instruction and examples on how to appropriately evaluate online resources and information and integrate that into a student's work and learning**

We value respect for self and others; therefore, I will: not upload or post personal information, private communications, or photos of other people without permission. I will respond thoughtfully to the opinions, ideas, and values of others. I will not send or share mean or inappropriate electronic communications.

We value respect for school and personal property; therefore I will take proper care of all equipment. I will report misuse and/or inappropriate content to my teachers or adults.

RESPONSIBILITIES: The student will:

1. Adhere to these guidelines each time the device is used at home and school.
2. **Ensure their device is charged and ready for use. The District will provide charging opportunities during the school day.**
3. Use appropriate language in all communications avoiding profanity, obscenity and offensive or inflammatory speech. Cyberbullying, including personal attacks or threats toward anyone made while using either district owned or personally owned technology, is to be reported to responsible school personnel. Communication should be conducted in a responsible, ethical and polite manner.
4. Respect the Internet filtering and security measures included on all district devices and student accounts. All student 1:1 computing devices provided by the District are configured so that Internet content is filtered both when the student is at school and when on any other public or private network.
5. Use technology only for school-related purposes during the instructional day while refraining from use related to personal, commercial, or political purposes. **Teachers and staff have the right to confiscate a device that is not being used appropriately in a class. Students will be held responsible for any missed work while the device is confiscated.**
6. Follow copyright laws and fair use guidelines. Students should only download music, video or other content which is related to classroom assignments and which students are authorized or legally permitted to use.
7. **The District uses software designed to restrict access to unacceptable content in order to protect students from harm or danger. If the District has credible reason to believe a student may be accessing dangerous or unacceptable content, the District will take steps to intervene. These steps will include: parental/guardian notification which includes the suspected danger or violation and a procedural plan to remedy the activity. This plan may include monitoring of district technology, student files, and student activity for the sole purposes of protection of the student and others; where the information is gathered is specifically used as examples and as a part of a plan for corrective measures.** You must make your 1:1 device available for inspection if requested by any administrator or teacher.

RESTRICTIONS: The student will not:

1. Mark, deface, or place stickers on the Chromebook, or related accessories.
2. Reveal or post identifying personal information, files or communications to unknown persons through email or the Internet.
3. Attempt to override, bypass or otherwise change the Internet filtering software, device settings, or network configurations.
4. Attempt access to networks and other technologies beyond their authorized access. This includes attempts to use another person's account and/or password or access secured wireless networks.

5. Share passwords or attempt to discover passwords. Sharing a password is not permitted and doing so may subject the student to disciplinary action and they may be liable for the actions of others if problems arise from that unauthorized use.

6. Download and/or install any programs or games from the Internet or other sources onto any district owned technology. This includes the intentional introduction of computer viruses and other malicious software.

7. Tamper with computer hardware or software, attempt unauthorized entry into computers, and/or vandalize or destroy the computer or computer files. Intentional or negligent damage to computers or software may result in criminal charges.

8. Attempt to locate, view, share, or store any materials that are unacceptable in a school setting. This includes but is not limited to pornographic, obscene, graphically violent, or vulgar images, sounds, music, language, video, or other materials. The criteria for acceptability is demonstrated in the types of material made available to students by administrators, teachers, and the school media center.

In addition to the specific values, responsibilities and restrictions detailed above, it is expected that students and families will apply common sense to the care and maintenance of district-provided 1:1 technology that is in **their possession and under their control**. In order to keep Chromebooks secure and damage-free, please follow these additional guidelines:

- Do not loan your 1:1 device or charger and cords to anyone else.
- Avoid having the device in any extreme temperatures.
- Do not leave the 1:1 device in a vehicle or leave it unattended at any time.
- Do not eat or drink while using the 1:1 device or have food or drinks in close proximity.
- Keep your 1:1 device away from locations like table edges, floors, seats, or pets.
- Do not stack objects on top of your 1:1 device, leave it outside, or use near water.

Despite these safeguards, we understand there is always a risk that district-provided 1:1 technology may be damaged, lost or stolen. **If it is determined that a good faith effort or willful failure to protect District property has occurred, the student and their family may be responsible for repair or replacement of the Chromebook.** As with any district issued resource, students are financially responsible for loss/theft, or damage of the 1:1 device, per the Chromebook damage and replacement plan.

Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 is not responsible for any loss resulting from use of district-issued technology and makes no guarantees that the technology or the district network systems that support student use will be available at all times. **If the district network is unavailable and restricts a student's ability to complete schoolwork, the District and staff will make accommodations for the completion of the work.** By signing this policy you agree to abide by the conditions listed above and assume responsibility for the care and proper use of MSCUSD #3 district- issued technology. You understand that should you fail to honor all the terms of this Policy, access to 1:1 technology, the Internet, and other electronic media may be denied in the future. Furthermore, students may be subject to disciplinary action outlined in the Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 Student Handbook.

**\*Please see the opposite side for the signature page.**

As the parent/guardian, my signature indicates I have read and understand this policy and give my permission for my child to have access to and use a district-issued Chromebook.

Parent/Guardian (please print):

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As the student, my signature indicates I have read or had explained to me and understand this policy, and accept responsibility for abiding by the terms and conditions outlined and using these resources for educational purposes.

Student (please print):

\_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Behavior

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that: (1) prioritize the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapons-free, and drug-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student's misbehavior and, to the extent possible and practical, provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and (5) teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

As is the case throughout the Board Policy Manual, the term "includes" when used in this policy means "includes, without limitation."

### **When and Where Conduct 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. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event;
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; or
5. During periods of remote learning and e-learning.

### **Prohibited Student Conduct**

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

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens, or other vaping-related products.
  - a. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have alcohol in their possession.
  - b. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
  - c. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis-infused product under *Ashley's Law*).
  - d. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - e. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.

- f. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis-infused product under *Ashley's Law*.
  - g. 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.
  - h. "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.
  - i. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
  - j. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed or otherwise ingested or absorbed to cause a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in a tablet or powdered form.
  - k. Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.
2. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon" or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.
  3. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.
  4. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), 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." Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the building principal, all cellular phones, smartphones and other electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student's lunch period;

- or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals..
5. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
  6. 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, present school identification or submit to a search.
  7. 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.
  8. Engaging in bullying, hazing, or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student or encouraging other students to engage in such behavior. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network or other comparable conduct.
  9. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. This does not include the expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference or the non-disruptive display of affection during non-instructional time.
  10. Engaging in teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
  11. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
  12. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
  13. 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.
  14. Being absent without a recognized excuse, State law and School Board policy (7:70, Attendance & Truancy) regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
  15. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, including by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
  16. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
  17. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
  18. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

19. 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.
20. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the building principal.
21. For purposes of these rules, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

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

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

### **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 expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than 2 calendar years:

(1) A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, 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, 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 alike” 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.

## **Gang & Gang Activity Prohibited**

“Gang” is defined as any group, club, or organization of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts. No student on or about school property or at any school activity or whenever the student’s conduct is reasonably related to a school activity, shall: (1) wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell any clothing, jewelry, paraphernalia or other items which reasonably could be regarded as gang symbols; commit any act or omission, or use either verbal or non-verbal gestures, or handshakes showing membership or affiliation in a gang; or (2) use any speech or commit any act 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.

## **Disciplinary Measures**

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

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension: The Building Principal or designee shall properly supervise the student.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student’s parent/guardian has been notified. (If transportation arrangements cannot be made in advance, an alternative disciplinary measure will be assigned to the student.)
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure, when appropriate, giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7:220, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds. Board policy 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years in accordance with Board policy 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State law (Article 13A or 13B of the School Code).

14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substances), “look-alikes,” alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

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

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

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

### **Corporal Punishment**

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment is a discipline method in which a person deliberately inflicts pain upon a student in response to the student’s unacceptable behavior or inappropriate language, with the aim to halt the offense, prevent its recurrence, or set an example for others.

### **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. The use of prone restraint is prohibited.

### **ACTS OF MISCONDUCT - LEVEL I**

1. Misconduct in or around a school vehicle.
2. Classroom disturbances.
3. Dishonesty.
4. Littering - careless discarding of rubbish or other items.
5. Loitering - standing idly about or loafing in classrooms or other parts of a school building or on school grounds when asked to refrain from this action.
6. Misrepresentation.

7. Tardiness.
8. Truancy.
9. Disobeying directives from staff members or school officials and/or rules and regulations governing student conduct.

**SCHOOL BEHAVIOR ACTIONS/PROCEDURES**

Within each of the Levels of Misconduct a range of dispositions is possible. The staff member handling the case will select the appropriate disposition.

**LEVEL I**

- Reprimand
- Detention
- Parent Call
- Restorative Practices
- Parent/Teacher Conference
- Parent/Administrator Conference

**ACTS OF MISCONDUCT - LEVEL II**

1. Especially serious, unmodified, multiple or repeated Levels I Acts of Misconduct. Especially serious, unmodified, multiple or repeated violations of Level I Acts of Misconduct may cause the infraction to be treated as Level II, III or Level IV misconduct.
2. Disrespect/Insubordination - Open or persistent defiance of authority and/or school rules and regulations. Included are verbal abuses, use of obscenities or recognizable derogatory gestures.
3. Failure to abide by corrective action for misconduct.
4. Failure to follow the directions of school personnel.
5. Forgery or the use of forged notes or passes.
6. Gambling.
7. Refusal to identify self.
8. Stealing or theft (minor) - This covers small, inexpensive items, i.e., books, pencils, etc. The unauthorized taking of larger, more expensive items would cause the infraction to fall under level IV of this policy.
9. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale: tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes.
10. Verbal Abuse: Name calling, profanity, obscenity, racial slurs or other derogatory statements or gestures.

**SCHOOL BEHAVIOR ACTIONS/PROCEDURES**

Within each of the Levels of Misconduct, a range of dispositions is possible. The staff member handling the case will select the appropriate disposition.

**LEVEL II**

- Detention
- Parent/Administrator Conference
- Restorative Practices
- Social Probation
- In School-Suspension
- Saturday Supervised Study
- Suspension

### **ACTS OF MISCONDUCT - LEVEL III**

1. Especially serious, unmodified, multiple or repeated Levels I or II Acts of Misconduct. Especially serious, unmodified, multiple or repeated violations of Levels I, II, or III Acts of Misconduct may cause the infraction to be treated as Level II, III or Level IV misconduct.
2. Threats to others - A threat to apply force or threat to do physical injury to another student or to school personnel.
3. Trespassing on school property - this applies to one or more of the following acts:
  - a. Entering upon or in property without justification or without implied or actual permission.
  - b. Entering or remaining upon or in school property without justification after being notified or requested to abstain from entering or after being told to leave.
  - c. Entering an area of the school building that is restricted in use and so posted.
4. Vandalism - Defacement or destruction of any school building or fixture including the willful writing, making marks, drawing characters, etc. on walls, furniture or fixtures.
5. Other acts of misconduct which seriously are disruptive and/or which create a safety hazard to students, staff and/or school property may be considered Level III.
6. Violation of the constitutional rights of another person.
7. Using violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear or other comparable conduct toward anyone or urging other students to engage in such conduct.
8. Unexcused absenteeism; however, the truancy statutes and Board policy will be utilized for chronic and habitual truants.
9. Being a member of or joining or promising to join, or becoming pledged to become a member of, soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member of any secret society.
10. Involvement in gangs or gang-related activities, including the display of gang symbols or paraphernalia.
11. Engaging in any activity that constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function or is disruptive.
12. Causing or attempting to cause damage to school property or another person's personal property.
13. Engaging in academic dishonesty

### **SCHOOL BEHAVIOR ACTIONS/PROCEDURES**

Within each of the Levels of Misconduct a range of dispositions is possible. The staff member handling the case will select the appropriate disposition.

#### **LEVEL III**

Social Probation  
In-School Suspension  
Restitution  
Restorative Practices  
Saturday Supervised Study  
Suspension  
Expulsion

### **ACTS OF MISCONDUCT - LEVEL IV**

1. Especially serious, unmodified, multiple or repeated Level I, II or III Acts of Misconduct.
2. Bomb Threats - The conveyance of threats or false information regarding bombs or the placement of any device, which could reasonably cause harm to self or others.

3. Extortion - The use of force or negative consequences or the threatened use of force or negative consequences to obtain another person's money, property or with the intent to compel someone to do something he or she would not otherwise do.
4. Fighting, assault, battery.
5. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:
  - Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including medical cannabis, marijuana, and hashish).
  - Alcoholic Beverages. A student who is under the influence of an alcoholic beverage is not permitted to attend school or school functions and is treated as in possession of.
  - 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.
  - "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, which are any: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, substance causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engages in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly believes or represents the substance to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, substance causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a substance for which the student has a prescription from a physician or licensed practitioner where the student is using the substance in a manner consistent with the prescription or prescribing physician or licensed practitioner's instructions.
  - Any substance, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or is explicitly prohibited by this policy, that is inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, regardless of whether such change is in fact caused. This includes pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a substance for which the student has a prescription from a physician or licensed practitioner where the student is using the substance in a manner consistent with the prescription or prescribing physician or licensed practitioner's instructions, including a student's use of legally prescribed asthma or other inhalant medication.
  - Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
6. Possession or sale of stolen property.
7. Signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency.
8. Stealing or theft- taking the property of others with or without the threat of violence. (Refers to items of greater value than those described in stealing under Level II)
10. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon" to produce bodily harm.
11. Setting Fires.
12. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale: explosives, firearms, knives or any other object is used as a weapon or the use of which as a weapon is threatened.

## **SCHOOL BEHAVIOR ACTIONS/PROCEDURES**

Within each of the Levels of Misconduct a range of dispositions is possible. The staff member handling the case will select the appropriate disposition.

### **LEVEL IV**

In School Suspension

Saturday School

Out of School Suspension

Expulsion

Before any punishment is imposed in any disciplinary setting, the student shall be given the opportunity to deny or explain his or her conduct.

For Further Information, See Board Policy 7:190, Student Behavior

**MAHOMET-SEYMOUR CUSD #3  
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES CODE**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**ARTICLE I – ELIGIBILITY**

**SECTION I: IESA Eligibility**

Mahomet-Seymour Junior High abides with all I.E.S.A. eligibility requirements.

1. All students participating in any extracurricular activity must have passing grades in all subjects. Eligibility is checked on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. Students that have one or more F's at that check time will be ineligible to participate in their activity from the Sunday after the check through the next Saturday (7 days). While an extra-curricular participant is ineligible, he/she is expected to attend and dress for practice.
2. During the time a student is participating on a school team in a sport at Mahomet-Seymour JH, that student may neither play on a non-school team nor compete in non-school competition as an individual in that same sport or in any skill of that sport.
3. A student may try out for a non-school team while on your school's team in that same sport, but the student may not practice, receive instruction, participate in workouts, or participate in competition with a nonschool team in that same sport until that student ceases being a member of your school's team. You cease being a member of your school's team when the team(s) of which you are a member terminates competition for the school term.

**SECTION II:** Suspension or expulsion from Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School for violations of school rules and regulations will affect the student participant as follows:

1. The student participant will not be allowed to practice nor be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular event, game, meet, match or event on the day(s) he/she is suspended from Mahomet Schools. This applies to in-school suspension, suspension or expulsion.
2. The student participant will not be allowed to attend any practice or extra-curricular event or school activity.

**SECTION III: IESA Constitution**

Mahomet Seymour Junior High School will abide by the IESA Constitution regarding students' participation in IESA-sponsored state meets and tournaments.

**SECTION IV: Student Attendance**

Mahomet Seymour Junior High School student participants must be in attendance at least one half day (five class periods) on the day of games, meets, matches or events in order to participate that particular day. The principal or assistant principal for special or unusual circumstances may grant exceptions. If at all possible, coaches and sponsors are to be informed of any reason for a missed practice or meeting prior to the practice or meeting.

1. Participation in multiple sports is not permitted by student athletes when seasons overlap more than two weeks.

2. Once a student athlete is on an athletic team roster, the student athlete cannot cease participation in the original sport to join another team.

#### **SECTION V: Physical**

Each school year every student athlete must obtain and pass a physical exam by a licensed physician prior to practicing, being issued equipment, and participating in any extra-curricular event. IESA physical exam forms must be used. These are available in the junior high office. Physicals are good for 395 days from the date they are issued.

At the time you are issued an IESA physical examination card, you will also be issued an Athletic Permit and Emergency Treatment Card, which must be filled out by your parent(s) and then returned before you will be issued equipment or allowed to practice.

#### **SECTION VI: Sportsmanship and Fan Behavior**

It is the expectation of M-S CUSD #3 that all spectators abide by the Fundamentals of Good Sportsmanship Conduct Code listed below:

If at any time a spectator is deemed to be in violation and/or removed from Mahomet-Seymour extracurricular event for unacceptable behavior, the spectator will be required to do the following before they are allowed to be present at other extra-curricular events: 1) Meet with the Athletic Director, 2) Complete, and provide a certificate of completion for the NFHS Parent Seat Credential. Any spectator removed from school district facilities will be suspended from attendance for two contests. If the spectator continues to display poor sportsmanship, they may be suspended from attending additional extra-curricular events for a time period determined by the administration and the school board of Mahomet-Seymour C.U.S.D. #3. Based on the severity of the conduct of the fan, the administration reserves the right to increase the length of the suspension. Each incident will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Facts will be gathered in every circumstance to help in making a decision. (Please refer to Board Policy 8:30).

#### **SECTION VII Insurance for student-athletes**

Community Unit School District #3 is not responsible for injuries at school or during extracurricular activities. In order to compete in any athletic program, we require each participant to be covered by insurance. Expenses over and above insurance coverage are the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Community Unit Schools District #3 assumes no obligation for these expenses. For further information or athletic rules and regulations, please consult the Mahomet – Seymour Student Handbook.

### **ARTICLE II BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES**

**SECTION I** A student representing Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School shall exemplify high standards of moral integrity and good citizenship, both in and out of school. A neat, clean appearance is expected of all student-participants.

**SECTION II:** Hazing is any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a team or group, regardless of his or her willingness to participate. *Bullying* includes cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication)\*\* and means any physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

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

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatening or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above. See Board Policy 7:190.

**SECTION III** The Mahomet-Seymour Extracurricular Activity Staff will not, under any circumstances, permit SECTION III violations listed below during the entire year (12 months a year, in and out of season) SECTION II violations listed below during the entire year (12 months a year, in and out of season):

\*\*1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing or selling tobacco/nicotine materials or paraphernalia on or off school grounds.

\*\*2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing or selling alcoholic beverages on or off school grounds.

\*\*3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing or selling any controlled substances on or off school grounds. For detailed

information on substances included, see Board Policy 7:190.

4. Engage in conduct that specifically violates existing criminal code statutes.

5. Deliberate access, creation, display, transmission, or otherwise possessing or disseminating material which contains pornography, obscenity, or sexually explicit, pervasively lewd and vulgar, or indecent or inappropriate language, text, sounds, or visual depictions.

\*\*If a student-participant confides in a coach, sponsor or school official that he/she has a drug or alcohol problem and requests help, that student-participant must attend an approved D/A/T Treatment Program, but the 30 day or one-half the season suspension penalty from extra-curricular events is waived; the student-participant will be charged with his/her first offense violation. This must be considered as a "cry for help". This section will be void if the student-participant is using this exception only to avoid the extracurricular activity suspension penalty or if the student-participant is in violation for the second or third offense.

The extracurricular activity staff may, at any time, require drug/alcohol testing of any student-participant where there is "reasonable suspicion" of drug or alcohol use by a student-participant. For any drug/alcohol-related violations, a student-participant must take an approved five-panel test and test negative prior to returning to the activity. Failure to submit to testing under any of the preceding provisions will result in suspension from participation until compliance and until the test is reported negative. All drug/alcohol testing must be completed at an approved testing center. Local doctor's offices or clinic tests will not be accepted.

If any member of the Mahomet-Seymour Staff, school official or law enforcement officer has proven knowledge of any of the preceding violations, the student-participant will lose all privileges and honors he/she is entitled thereto. A personal conference with the student-participant, coach, sponsor, athletic

director, and/or parent(s) may be held concerning any of the preceding violations, if so desired.

**Section III Penalties for offenses #1, #2 and #3 shall be:**

**1st offense**—suspension from participating in all extra-curricular events from the next scheduled event for a period of 30 calendar days or one-half of the next activity season, whichever is less. Events can be described as game, contest, math, performance, competition, etc. Students involved in more than one school activity at the same time will have the suspension period applied to each activity. The penalty for a first offense can be reduced to 15 calendar days or one third of the next activity season, whichever is less, if the student-participant chooses to meet with a school-approved treatment counselor and performs eight hours of community service. The counseling session(s) and community service must occur within the 15 day calendar period. Tobacco related offenses are not subject to a five-panel drug test.

**1st Offense Reduction**

1. 3 meetings with school or approved counselor, school psychologist, or social worker
2. Take and pass appropriate NFHS courses (nfhslearn.org) (Social Media for Students, Understanding Vaping & E-cigarettes,
3. School approved community service \*\* volunteering inside the school, total commitment is 8 hours.

\*1. The student-participant will practice with the team or group during the time he/she is suspended from extra-curricular events or activities. He/she must also provide proof of submission to a drug test prior to returning to practice. He/she must test negative prior to returning to the activity to participate.

\*2. If the violation occurs during a season, the same penalty will result, but the penalty will be on a prorated basis for that activity and/or the next activity season of participation.

\*Upon approval of each coach or sponsor involved.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense**-Suspension from participating in all extra-curricular events for a period of 90 calendar days from the date of the next competition or performance with the completion of an approved counseling program. Student-participants must continue training rules during this time. If the student or parent should desire, the penalty can be truncated to 45 calendar days with mandatory counseling and 40 hours of community services. A random five-panel drug test must also be performed during this 45 day period and test negative before returning to the activity.

**3<sup>rd</sup> offense - Students will be prohibited from participating in extracurriculars for the duration of their time at Mahomet-Seymour schools.**

**Expunging of record for good behavior** - Following a first offense violation, a student-participant who has not been in violation of the Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 Discipline Policy for a period of one year will have his/her record expunged. A subsequent violation of the discipline code will be treated as a first offense, and if necessary, a second and third offense. A student-participant's record can only be expunged one time during his/her high school career.

**Proximity Clause**-- Student-participants are not permitted to be in attendance at any location where alcohol, controlled substances or illegal drugs are knowingly possessed or consumed by any minors. Penalties will be:

1st offense -- Student -participants that are in extra-curricular activities that have fewer than 15 regular

season contests are suspended for one (1) contest. Student-participants that are in extra-curricular activities that have 15 or more contests are suspended for two (2) contests.

2nd offense -- This will be treated the same as a first offense for possession or consumption, which is a thirty (30) day or half the season suspension.

Penalties for offenses #4 and #5 shall be:

Depending on the severity and nature of the infraction(s) consequences may range from suspension from practice(s) and or competition(s) participation to expulsion from the program.

**SECTION III:** These training rules and regulations apply to all extracurricular activities at Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School. These training rules will apply for the entire year (12 months). They are also cumulative.

**SECTION IV:** All transfer students are required to meet with the athletic director. If a student transfers to Unit #3 after having been suspended from another school's extracurricular program for training violations, that student will not participate in this district's extracurricular program until his/her suspension would have been over at the other school. If the penalty for the violation is longer at the Unit #3 school than it would have been at the school where the offense occurred, the student will be suspended according to our guidelines.

### **ARTICLE III SEASONS**

#### **Section I:** Athletic Seasons at MSJH

Organized practice in each sport may begin as follows:

Girls Softball	7-27-2026
Boys Baseball	8-3-2026
Cross-Country	8-3-2026
Boys/Girls Golf	8-6-2026
Girls Basketball	9-14-2026
Boys Basketball	10-19-2026
Wrestling	11-30-2026
Volleyball	12-7-2026
Scholastic Bowl	1-25-2027
Track	3-22-2027

#### **SECTION II:** Quitting a Team

Any participant who quits or is dismissed from any extracurricular activity may not participate in another extracurricular activity during the same season, unless:

1. All equipment is checked in, and
2. The end of the season of the activity you quit or were dismissed from is concluded (EXCLUDING STATE TOURNAMENT COMPETITION) or
3. It is your first time out for that activity and not more than 20% of the season is completed (provided you were not dismissed from the team, squad or group), and you have both coaches' and/or sponsors' agreement.

4. You have a season-limiting injury determined by a doctor and described by him/her in writing.

### **SECTION III: Equipment**

All equipment must be checked out and in each season. Before you will be allowed to participate in the next season's activity, all equipment checked out by you must be returned by you.

### Athletic Code FAQ

Question: *Do I have to have a physical for each sport?*

Answer: *No, one physical examination is good for all sports during each school year. (One Treatment Card per year.)*

Question: *If I go out for football and finish the season, then wish to go out for basketball or wrestling, when may I go out for that sport?*

Answer: *As soon as you check in all football equipment.*

Question: *If I quit football before the second game, would I be eligible to practice on the opening date of wrestling or basketball practice, if it was my first time out for football?*

Answer: *Yes.*

#### **Questions and Answers:**

Question: *If a student-participant is smoking in June for the first time, when would he/she become eligible?*

Answer: *The student-participant would become eligible in 30 calendar days or one-half of the season after the date of the first game, match, meet or event in the activity in which he/she enrolled, provided (1) he/she practices with the team or group during the suspension and (2) he/she makes the team, squad or group.*

Question: *If a student/athlete has a suspension in place and the sport season ends, does the suspension carry over to the next sport season?*

Answer: *Yes, and remaining suspension dates will carry over to the next sport season that a student/athlete participates.*

Question: *Assume a student-participant is smoking for the first time during the season. When would he/she become eligible?*

Answer: *In this case, the one-half season or 30 calendar days is pro-rated for that activity and the next season in which he/she participates, provided (with the coach/sponsor's permission) he/she attends practices, and he/she is not dismissed from the team, squad or group.*

Question: *What if a student is a non-participant, does not observe training rules, then wants to go out for an activity. Would he/she be eligible; if so, when?*

Answer: *Yes, provided he/she contacts the coach or sponsor and athletic director and explains his/her intention at least 30 calendar days in advance of the opening date of the season, and he/she begins training at that time. He/she would then be eligible at the opening date of the season. If, in this case, the student-participant did not notify the coach or sponsor and athletic director 30 days in advance, he/she would be eligible to compete extracurricularly after 30 calendar days after the first game, match, meet or*

*event, or one-half of that season, provided he/she attended all practices and abided by all rules and regulations. In this case, the prospective student-participant must test clean prior to participation in practices or games.*

*Question: If a student-participant has committed any first or second offenses, must he/she still observe all training rules to be eligible for extracurricular activities in the future?*

*Answer: Yes.*

*Question: Does the second offense have to be in the same year?*

*Answer: No. The offenses accumulate. If you had an offense as a freshman, then another as a senior, that would be considered a second offense.*

*Question: If it is a student-participant's second offense, may he/she practice with the team or group for the entire year, but not compete as is defined above?*

*Answer: Possibly, provided he/she has permission of all coaches or sponsors involved. In all practicality, the answer to this question is no. See "2nd offense."*

*Question: If I have a drug or alcohol problem and go to my coach or sponsor and request his/her help, what procedure would then follow?*

*Answer: If you sincerely are seeking help and ask your coach or sponsor for his/her assistance to help you with your drug or alcohol problem (and it is not public knowledge or will soon be public knowledge that you have just been involved in a drinking or drug situation), you will be considered to be under the 1st Offense Penalty. The 30 days or one-half (1/2) the season penalty is waived, but you must enroll in an approved Drug/Alcohol Treatment Program for a minimum time that is equal to or exceeds the amount of time of your suspension. You must take and pass a drug test prior to returning to competition.*

*Question: If I am a second semester 8th grade student and break training rules before I enroll at the high school, what penalties are incurred, if any?*

*Answer: Second semester 8th grade students who have completed their extracurricular activity careers at the junior high have two options: (1) Enroll in and complete an approved drug/alcohol/tobacco program; enter high school at no penalty or (2) Enter the high school at the first offense penalty.*