



Kettering City Schools
2026-2027
Kettering Fairmont Middle School
Handbook

Dr. Candace McCoy

Mrs. Natalie Snell

3000 Glengarry Drive
Kettering, Ohio 45420
(937) 499-1550



Kettering City School District Information

Board of Education

Mr. Mark Martin, Board President
Mrs. Chrissie Richards, Vice President
Mr. Toby Henderson
Mrs. Jennifer Kane
Mr. Bill Lautar

Your Board of Education is comprised of five members, elected to a term of four (4) years by the residents of the school district. Dates, times and locations of regular meetings of the Board of Education are set at the organizational meeting in January. See the District's website: www.ketteringschools.org for dates, times and locations of board meetings. All community members are invited to attend. Board of Education meetings are broadcast on cable channel 21.

KETTERING CITY SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite #105
Kettering, OH 45429
(937) 499-1400

Ms. Melinda McCarty-Stewart, Superintendent
Mr. Justin Blevins, Treasurer

For more information about any of the departments below, please visit www.ketteringschools.org and select the department of choice.

<u>Business Services</u> (937) 499-1418	<u>Special Education Services</u> (937) 499-1435
<u>Community Relations</u> (937) 499-1458	<u>Student Services</u> (937) 499-1433
<u>Enrollment and Attendance</u> (937) 499-1700	<u>Superintendent</u> (937) 499-1430
<u>Food & Nutrition</u> (937) 499-1446	<u>Technology Services</u> (937) 499-1408
<u>Human Capital Services</u> (937) 499-1426	<u>Transportation</u> (937) 499-1770
<u>Teaching and Learning</u> (937) 499-1422	<u>Treasurer's Office</u> (937) 499-1409

This Handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other prior written materials provided on the same subjects. This Handbook does not equate to an irrevocable contractual commitment to the student, but only reflects the current status of the Board's policies and the School's rules. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised, the language in the most current policy or administrative guidelines prevails. Copies of the current Board policies and administrative guidelines are available on the District's website.

2026-2027 KETTERING CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

1st Semester

August 10 (Mon):	Schools Closed - IN-SERVICE TIME (am) TEACHER WORK TIME (pm)
August 11 (Tues):	Schools Closed - TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT// TEACHER WORK TIME
August 12 (Wed):	Schools Closed - TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / TEACHER WORK TIME
August 13 (Thurs):	SCHOOLS OPEN - First Day for Students, Grades 1-5, 9-10, First Day of First Quarter
August 14 (Fri):	First Day for Students, Grades 6-8, 11-12
August 17 (Mon):	First Day for Preschool
August 19 (Wed):	First Day for Kindergarten, TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 4:30-6:00 pm (HS)/OPEN HOUSE, 6:00-8:00 pm (HS)
September 7 (Mon):	Schools Closed - LABOR DAY
September 17 (Thurs):	TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 3:30-5:00 pm (Elem./HS) 4:00-5:30 pm (MS)
September 24 (Thurs):	Early Dismissal - 120 minutes
October 1 (Thurs):	PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES, 3:30-7:00 pm (Elem./HS) 4:30-8:00 pm (MS)
October 2 (Fri):	Schools Closed
October 9 (Fri):	End of First Quarter - (40 days)
October 12 (Mon):	First Day of Second Quarter
November 2 (Mon):	PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES, 3:30-7:00 pm (Elem.) 4:30-8:00 pm (MS)
November 3 (Tues):	Schools Closed - TEACHER WORK TIME, 8:00-11:30 am, PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES, 12:00-3:30 pm (K-12)
November 10 (Tues):	Early Dismissal - 120 minutes
November 12 (Thurs):	Career & College Readiness Night, 3:30-7:00 pm (HS)
November 23-24 (Mon.-Tues):	Schools Closed - CONFERENCE TRADE DAYS (2 days)
November 25-27 (Wed.-Fri):	Schools Closed - THANKSGIVING BREAK (3 days)
December 3 (Thurs):	TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 3:15-4:15 pm (HS)
December 18 (Fri):	End of Second Quarter - (44 days) & End of First Semester - (84 days)
December 21 (Mon)-Jan 1 (Fri):	Schools Closed - WINTER BREAK (10 days)

2nd Semester

January 4 (Mon):	First Day of Third Quarter & First Day of Second Semester
January 18 (Mon):	Schools Closed - MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
February 11 (Thurs):	PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES, 3:30-7:00 pm (Elem.) 4:30-8:00 pm (MS)
February 12 (Fri):	Schools Closed - TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
February 15 (Mon):	Schools Closed - PRESIDENTS' DAY
March 4 (Thurs):	TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 3:15-4:15 pm (HS)
March 10 (Wed):	Early Dismissal - 120 minutes
March 12 (Fri):	End of Third Quarter - (47 days)
March 15 (Mon):	First Day of Fourth Quarter
March 22-26 (Mon.-Fri):	Schools Closed - SPRING BREAK (5 days)
March 29 (Mon):	First Day of School after Spring Break
May 4 (Tues):	Schools Closed - TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
May 11 (Tues):	Early Dismissal - 120 minutes
May 20 (Thurs):	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS, End of Fourth Quarter - (43 days) & End of Second Semester - (90 days), Early Dismissal (Students only) - 60 minutes
May 21 (Fri):	LAST DAY FOR TEACHERS (Work/Prof. Development), 8:30 am-12:00 pm

If required, the following days will be used as Make-Up Days for Calamity beyond five days: May 21, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2027, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm for Teachers.

2026-2027 Grading Period / Student Days

First Quarter	Aug. 13-Oct. 9	40 days
Second Quarter	Oct. 12-Dec. 18	<u>44 days</u>
First Semester		84 days
Third Quarter	Jan. 4-Mar. 12	47 days
Fourth Quarter	Mar. 15-May 20	<u>43 days</u>
Second Semester		90 days

Teacher Work Days

Professional Development/Work Days	7.25 days (HS) 6.75 days (Elem./MS)
Parent/Teacher Conference Days	1.75 days (HS) 2.25 days (Elem./MS)
Student Days	174 days
Teacher Work Days	183 days

The School Day**DAILY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

- 8:40 a.m. – Students eating breakfast may enter the building
- 8:50 a.m. – Students may enter building
- 9:00 a.m. – School Begins; Tardy Bell
- 3:50 p.m. – Dismissal
- 4:00 p.m. - Office closes

2-HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

- 10:50 a.m. – Students may enter building
- 11:00 a.m. – School Begins; Tardy Bell
- 3:50 p.m. – Dismissal
- 4:00 p.m. - Office closes

EARLY DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

- 8:40 a.m. – Students eating breakfast may enter the building
- 8:50 a.m. – Students may enter building
- 9:00 a.m. – School Begins; Tardy Bell
- 1:50 p.m. - Dismissal for two hour early dismissal
- 2:50 p.m. – Dismissal for one hour early dismissal
- 4:00 p.m. - Office closes

See individual school offices for more specific schedules.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Walking, Biking, or Arriving by Parent Drop-off -- There are certain expectations for students who choose to walk, ride bikes/scooters, motorized bikes/scooters, or be dropped off by a parent or guardian.

1. In the morning, students should not arrive before 8:40 a.m.
2. Parents should take the time to review basic safety rules with their children, including crosswalk and traffic safety, on their way to and from school.
3. While on campus, students are to walk bicycles, skateboards, or scooters on the sidewalks before or after school. During the school day, bicycles are to be locked to the bicycle rack. Skateboards, roller blades, scooters, etc., must be carried while on school property and must be stored in the locker during the day.
4. Parents who bring their children to school should follow the drop-off procedures of the individual school.

DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

Students are dismissed at 3:50pm (1:50pm for 2-hour early dismissal). By 3:55, all students must either be supervised by an adult for an activity or exit the building.

BUS INFORMATION

Bus transportation will be provided for those students living more than one mile from school. If a student is eligible for busing, the bus number, pick-up/drop-off times, and the location of the bus stop will be listed on the district website under Transportation, through the following link: [Bus Route Information](#), or by calling the Transportation Department at 499-1770. Students must sit in assigned seats while riding the bus and obey rules of conduct established by the Transportation Department while being transported. Students are not permitted to ride any bus other than their assigned one.

Exceptions are made in emergency situations; however the Transportation Department, not the school, must approve these in advance. Please do not send a note to school asking permission for your child to ride another child's bus. Please be aware that a bus may be late due to weather, breakdown, or a different driver and that, on occasion, another bus may be substituted. Please have your student(s) always get on and off at the same stop.

Bus drop off and pick up procedures are posted in each school office and on the Kettering City School District website.

State Laws:

1. Prohibit animals to be transported (except for service animals)
2. Prohibit large instruments or other large objects to be transported (Items must fit on the student's lap)
3. Prohibit students who are not normally bus riders to be transported
4. Prohibit glass or aerosol items

Bus Riders -- All students living in areas where school bus transportation is provided are encouraged at all times to use such transportation to and from school. The only exception would be private transportation by car. Walking and biking to and from areas served by bus is not recommended. Students on a bus or other authorized Board of Education transportation vehicles are under the authority of and directly responsible to the bus/vehicle driver. The driver has the authority to enforce the established regulations for bus/vehicle conduct. Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver will be sufficient reason for refusing transportation service to any student. Before a suspension from bus/vehicle riding privileges is imposed, the Superintendent or other designated District personnel will provide a student with notice of an intended suspension and an opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or other designated District personnel. Disciplinary suspension periods will be commensurate with the infraction(s) committed as determined by the Superintendent or designated District personnel.

District Bus Discipline Plan:

Students are expected to abide by the District's [School Bus Conduct Rules](#). Progressive discipline will be used for violations of the School Bus Code of Conduct.

Any serious violations will result in immediate removal from transportation for a period of not less than 10 days. All bus situations/discipline will be handled through the KCSD Transportation Department. There may be times, depending on the infraction, where FHS administration may issue school discipline as well. The Transportation Department can be contacted at 499-1770.

ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

It is imperative that students be in attendance each school day in order not to miss a significant portion of their education. The Kettering City Schools have a commitment to provide a high quality education to its students. To achieve this goal, students must attend school regularly. Chronic absences, tardiness, or early release disrupts the learning process. Make-up work is not a sufficient substitute for physical attendance in school. It is critical that the school and home come together to ensure students achieve a high attendance rate.

In Ohio, children are required to attend school from age six to eighteen unless the pupil has graduated from high school, is employed on an age and school certificate, has been excused from attendance due to a bodily or mental condition that does not permit attendance, or is being homeschooled. While it is the school's duty to enforce the compulsory attendance law, responsibility for compliance with the law rests upon the parents, guardians, or other persons having control of the child.

Chronically Absent: A student is considered chronically absent when they miss 10% or more of the school year for any reason. Student absences from school for any reason—whether excused, medically excused, or unexcused—take away from instructional time and have an adverse effect on student learning. Students who are chronically absent often fall behind their peers. Parents/guardians will be notified when a student has missed up to 5% of the school year. This

outreach is intended to share concerns early and connect families with supports. The District may also reach out sooner if attendance patterns indicate a concern.

Habitually Truant: A student is considered “Habitually Truant” if the student is of compulsory school age and absent without a legitimate excuse for 30 or more consecutive hours, or 42 or more hours in one school month, or for 72 or more hours in one school year. If a student meets the habitual truancy thresholds, the District’s attendance staff will follow state law regarding communication and next steps, including the standard for filing a complaint in juvenile court when the student/family are not making satisfactory progress in improving attendance.

Out-of-School Suspension: Out-of-school suspensions contribute to chronic absence (lost instructional time) but do not count toward habitual truancy thresholds. Truancy shall not be the sole reason for a student’s suspension or expulsion.

- A. Students may accumulate up to 65 hours of absences without medical documentation. This 65-hour total includes absences that are excused or unexcused (as determined by the District) when reported by a parent/guardian by call, email, or note. After 65 hours without medical documentation, a medical note is required for additional absences to be excused. **Students may accumulate up to 65 hours of absences without medical documentation. This 65-hour total includes absences that are excused or unexcused (as determined by the District) when reported by a parent/guardian by call, email, or note. After 65 hours without medical documentation, a medical note is required for additional absences to be excused.**
- B. Absence from School Procedures for All Students
1. The parent/guardian should call or email the school office before 8:30 am to report an absence.
 2. If a parent/guardian has not notified the school office of an absence via phone or email, the student must present a note stating:
 - A. Date(s) of absence
 - B. Reason for absence
 - C. Signature of parent/guardian
 - D. Phone number where parent/guardian may be reached.
 3. If the appropriate school officials are not notified of an absence, the student will be considered unexcused. Students have 3 school days after they return to school to provide documentation to change an unexcused absence to an excused absence.

*The school district has the right to investigate the cause of each single absence as warranted. It is the school, not the parent or guardian, that may determine whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

C. Absences from school that are excused, but count toward allotted days absence are:

- Personal illness
- Appointment with a health care provider
- Illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
- Quarantine of the home
- Death in the family
- Necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- Out-of-state travel (up to a maximum of 24 hours per school year) to participate in a District-approved enrichment or extracurricular activity. Any classroom assignment missed due to the absence shall be completed by the student.

- Such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent, including a cumulative total of five days per year for vacation. Parents should complete [Extended Absence Form](#) and submit the form at least 3 days prior to the vacation
- Medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Board Policy 5751
- Service as a precinct officer at a primary, special or general election in accordance with the program set forth in Policy 5725
- College visit (verification of the date and time is required)
- Absences due to a student's placement in foster care or change in foster care placement or any court proceedings related to their foster care status.
- Absences due to a student being homeless.
- Driver Education: A student may be excused up to a maximum of eight (8) hours to attend a private driver education course (no more than two (2) hours per day for up to four (4) days; days may be nonconsecutive). A student may not be released from a core curriculum subject course for this purpose, and missed assignments must be completed.

D. Students requesting an early dismissal or arriving late to school because of a medical appointment may be excused if a note from the medical office is presented to the school office upon return. Up to three (3) school days will be granted for submittal of documentation for professional excuses. Early dismissals for the purpose of medical appointments will be approved under the following circumstances:

1. Written note or phone call from a parent/guardian must be presented to the secretary with the student's name, grade level, phone number, and where the parent/guardian can be reached before the dismissal can be processed.
2. Early dismissals that cannot be verified will be denied.
3. Tardy and Early dismissals follow school district policy and Ohio law regarding classification of excused and unexcused outlined under the attendance policy.

E. All students, regardless of age, must abide by all school rules. No student can sign himself or herself out without parent permission.

F. If a student does not attend school on a school day due to illness, fever or communicable disease, he/she is not permitted to attend school/co-curricular activities on that day.

LEAVING DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

When it is necessary to take your child out of school during the day for any reason, please do the following:

- A. Send a note or call your student's Unit Office.
- B. The student will be dismissed from class when an authorized adult arrives in the unit office to sign out.

TARDIES/EARLY RELEASE

Students arriving after the 9:00 bell will be considered tardy. Students who have a reason to leave school within 30 minutes of the end of the school day will be considered early dismissed. Tardies and early dismissals for reasons other than what is listed as excused will be considered unexcused.

Parent's Responsibilities

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to:

- Ensure children are in school, on time, on a daily basis.
- Develop good student attitudes toward attendance which will transfer to the world of work.
- Cooperate with the schools and communicate problems and concerns relative to student attendance.
- Schedule family trips or vacations during school vacations or during the summer months.
- Schedule medical appointments after school hours or on weekends. If medical appointments must be scheduled during the school day, students are expected to return for the remainder of the day unless advised otherwise by their physician.

- Contact the school at 937-499-1600, Option 2 on the morning of the student's absence **by 8:30 am**.
- Provide the school with a note explaining the reason(s) for the absence upon the student's return to school if a phone call to the school was not made on the day of the absence.
- In the case of early dismissal, ensure that the person picking up your child is at least 18 years of age and has a valid photo ID. If the person picking up the student is not listed in PowerSchool as a contact, the parent is required to notify the office and give permission for this person to pick up their child.

Student's Responsibilities

It is the student's responsibility to:

- Be in school, on time, on a daily basis.
- Understand the relationship between good school attendance and success in academics.
- Submit all professional notes on time.
- Follow the specific procedures for school attendance and tardiness as established by the school.

RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION DAYS

The Principal will approve up to three (3) religious expression days per school year after receiving a written request from the student's parent or guardian. Religious expression days may be used to take holidays for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system or participate in organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or other religious or spiritual organization. Students who are absent on approved religious expression days will not face any academic penalties and will be provided with academic accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements that are missed.

To receive accommodations for religious expression days, parents or guardians must submit written requests to the Principal within fourteen (14) days after the start of the school year or fourteen (14) days after a student is enrolled in the District. The requests must specify the religious expression day(s) to be approved. The Principal will approve the days without inquiring into the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system. However, the Principal may verify the authenticity of a request by contacting the parent or guardian to confirm they signed it. The Principal may deny the request for religious expression days if the parent or guardian indicates that the signature is not authentic. Once the days have been approved, the Principal will ensure that each teacher schedules a time and date for alternative examinations or other academic requirements that conflict with the student's absence. Students may participate in interscholastic athletics or other extracurricular activities on days in which the student is absent for religious expression.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of major religious holidays, festivals and religious observations as published by the State Superintendent for which an absence will not be unreasonably withheld or denied. This list is not exhaustive and may not be used to deny accommodations to a student for a holiday, festival or observation that is not included in the list. For more information about religious expression days, contact the building principal.

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Religion</u>	<u>2026–2027 Dates</u>	<u>Notes / Observance</u>
Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	September 11–13, 2026	Begins at sundown on Sept 11.
Yom Kippur	Judaism	September 20–21, 2026	Begins at sundown on Sept 20.

Diwali	Hinduism / Sikhism / Jainism	November 6–10, 2026	The main day of celebration (Lakshmi Puja) is Sunday, November 8.
Hanukkah	Judaism	December 4–12, 2026	Begins at sundown on Dec 4.
Ramadan	Islam	February 7–March 8, 2027	Month of fasting; begins at sundown on Feb 7.
Ash Wednesday	Christianity (Western)	February 10, 2027	Marks the beginning of Lent.
Eid al-Fitr	Islam	March 9–10, 2027	Celebrates the end of Ramadan; begins at sundown on March 9.
Good Friday	Christianity (Western)	March 26, 2027	Part of Holy Week.
Easter	Christianity (Western)	March 28, 2027	<i>Note: Orthodox Christian Pascha falls on May 2, 2027.</i>
Pesach (Passover)	Judaism	April 21–29, 2027	Begins at sundown on April 21.
Eid al-Adha	Islam	May 16–17, 2027	Festival of Sacrifice; begins at sundown on May 16.

GENERAL INFORMATION

These rules and expectations were developed by staff, students and parents/guardians to address issues not covered by board policies and the student conduct code. These behavior expectations ensure a positive learning environment. The staff and students benefit by having more time to achieve educational goals. In addition to board policies, the student conduct code, and the school wide rules and expectations, each teacher has developed his/her own classroom assertive education plan.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is the practice of completing and submitting work that derives solely from the efforts of a single student (or a number of students in group work) and attributing any sources used in the creation of classwork.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- A. plagiarism (of ideas, work, research, speech, art, music, etc.);
- B. forgery of another's work;
- C. presenting the results that are the product of an artificial intelligence ("AI") platform as one's own where the use of AI was not specifically allowed by the teacher as part of the assignment;
- D. downloading or copying information from other sources and presenting it as one's own;
- E. using language translation work of someone else or using technology when the expectation is doing one's own translation;
- F. copying another person's work;
- G. allowing another person to copy one's own work;
- H. stealing another person's work;
- I. doing another person's work for them;
- J. distributing copies of one's work for use by others;
- K. distributing copies of someone else's work for use by others for academic gain or advantage;
- L. intentionally accessing another's work for the purpose of presenting it as one's own for academic gain or advantage;
- M. distributing or receiving answers to assignments, quizzes, tests, assessments, etc.;
- N. distributing or receiving questions from quizzes, tests, assessments, etc.

Any student with knowledge of the behaviors listed above or involved directly or indirectly in those behaviors is equally responsible and may receive a zero for the assignment. In addition, the student's parents, counselor, and unit supervisor will be notified of the incident and its consequences. Other disciplinary measures may be determined by the teacher or by the administration.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS - USE FOR SCHOOL WORK

To ensure the integrity of the educational process and to promote fair and equal opportunities for all students, except as outlined below, the use of Artificial Intelligence ("AI") tools is strictly prohibited for the completion of school work. The use of AI/NLP tools, without the express permission/consent of a teacher, undermines the learning and problem-solving skills that are essential to academic success and that the staff is tasked to develop in each student. Students are encouraged to develop their own knowledge, skills, and understanding of course material rather than relying solely on AI tools and they should ask their teachers when they have questions and/or need assistance. Unauthorized use of AI tools is considered a form of plagiarism and any student found using these tools without permission or in a prohibited manner will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. See Policy 7540.09 - Artificial Intelligence ("AI").

Notwithstanding the preceding, students can use AI tools in the school setting if they receive prior permission/consent from their teacher, so long as they use the AI tools in an ethical and responsible manner. Teachers have the discretion to authorize students to use AI tools for the following uses:

- A. Research assistance: AI tools can be used to help students quickly and efficiently identify background information, including locating relevant information and sources for their school projects and assignments, suggesting research questions, providing opposing viewpoints, identifying unseen aspects, and suggesting other perspectives.
- B. Data Analysis: AI tools can be used to help students with pattern identification and to analyze, understand, and interpret large amounts of data, such as text documents or social media posts. This can be particularly useful for research projects or data analysis assignments – e.g., scientific experiments and marketing research.
- C. Language translation: AI tools can be used to translate texts or documents into different languages, which can be helpful for students who are learning a new language or for students who are studying texts written in a different language. AI tools can also remove abstract language from a text, adjust text complexity, and provide background information about a culture to help a student understand texts.
- D. Writing assistance: AI tools can provide grammar and spelling corrections, as well as suggest alternative word choices and sentence structure, to help students improve their writing skills. Similarly, AI tools can offer suggestions to modify tone and voice, organize a student's thinking, identify bias, suggest additional topics, and ask questions to expand the student's thinking on a topic.
- E. Accessibility: AI tools can be used to help students with disabilities access and understand written materials. For example, text-to-speech software can help students with specific learning disabilities or visual impairments to read texts, and AI-powered translation tools can help students with hearing impairments understand spoken language (e.g., create transcripts or provide closed-captioning for spoken material).

When AI tools are used responsibly and effectively, they can help to supplement, not replace, traditional learning methods. If a student has any questions about whether they are permitted to use AI tools for a specific class assignment, they should ask their teacher.

In accordance with their teacher's direction, students are required to cite/identify work generated/created with the use of AI tools and explain/demonstrate how the AI tools were used in the creation of the work.

ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

Various activities are provided at the middle school level to help students develop physically, socially, and emotionally. Our goal is to encourage participation by as many students as possible. For the safety of all students the building will remain locked. See individual school websites for more specific information.

AGENDA PLANNER

Agenda planners are included in student fees and help teach organizational skills. Students are encouraged to use the agenda daily 1) to record daily assignments, homework, long-term projects, etc., and 2) to relay messages between parents and teachers. Should a student lose the agenda planner, a new one can be purchased for \$6.00 in the office.

ACTIVITY CONFLICT RESOLUTION

During the school year, students who are participants in a variety of activities may be scheduled to do two different things at the same time. The following guideline should be used to determine participation:

The "performance" (athletic event, concert, play, etc.) has priority over any practice or extra rehearsal. In the event of conflicts, the performance takes priority and non-participation in the other event shall not penalize the student. Students are to inform coaches and advisors of conflicts as soon as possible. When two events of equal value conflict, the student may make the choice of which event to participate in without consequence. However, make-up work or alternate assignments for grade compensation may be assigned. If this causes a problem, the decision of the principal acting as arbitrator will be final.

ASSEMBLIES

Students are to sit in an assigned area. Students are expected to be courteous to any performer or speaker.

ATHLETIC EVENTS

Students are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship behavior at all times. Fairmont students must cheer for the Firebirds

and not against the other team. No cheer should be directed at any individual player, coach, referee, or member of the team. Vulgar cheers, gestures, and signs are prohibited and will be addressed under the Student Conduct Code.

Middle School Athletics Statement of Purpose -- Middle School athletics provide opportunities for those interested and able to participate in physical activities that require competitive spirit, development of teamwork, good sportsmanship, and all other educational benefits and values of competitive athletics.

Middle School Athletics Policy-- The purpose of the athletic policy is to give student athletes, cheerleaders, support personnel and other interested persons a guide to the operation of the interscholastic athletic program of the Kettering City School District. The student athletes, cheerleaders, and support personnel are obligated to conform to the Student Code of Conduct as established by the Board of Education, training rules and policies established by the Athletic Department and the rules and regulations established by the coaches of each specific sport.

The policy will inform you and your parents/guardians of the rules that are appropriate while you represent the Kettering City School District. It is your responsibility as a student to read the rules and abide by them. It must be understood that participants who violate the rules, regulations, policies, or procedures shall face disciplinary action.

Students may try out for sports if they meet the following:

1. Currently in 7th or 8th grade.
2. Registered in Final Forms and have a physical on file with the Athletic Department. Instructions and registration are available on the Athletics page of the KMS and VB websites.
3. Academically eligible based on:
 - a) Unconditional eligibility: 2.0 GPA or higher; No F's
 - b) Conditional eligibility: 1.5 GPA or higher; No more than one F

Middle School Sports Programs

Fall Sports	<i>Boys</i> - Football, Cross Country <i>Girls</i> - Field Hockey, Volleyball, Cross Country
Winter Sports	<i>Boys</i> - Basketball, Wrestling <i>Girls</i> - Basketball, Wrestling, Competition Cheer
Spring Sports	<i>Boys</i> - Baseball, Track <i>Girls</i> - Softball, Track
Cheerleading	For Football and Basketball teams

Contact Information -- Athletic Office: 499-1577

CAFETERIA

Our Food and Nutrition Department Website is the best place for all food and nutrition related information. Menus are posted monthly and updated frequently to include any changes due to food shortages or menu substitutions. Nutrition information and allergen alerts, food recalls, nutrition education information and other pertinent information is available and found here. Links to online payments and online applications are also available on our website.

Paying for school meals:

[PaySchoolsCentral.com](https://payschoolscentral.com), is our online payment provider. We have a minimum online payment of \$15.00 for meals and ala carte items, for both credit and debit cards. Kettering Nutrition Service covers the cost of convenience fees and must implement a minimum payment for this benefit. The link is here: <https://payschoolscentral.com>. Please have the student ID number available to create an account. You may also create an account to check meal purchases.

Payments may also be made with a credit/debit card by calling the Food and Nutrition Department office at 937-499-1446. We always accept cash and checks in the cafeteria and can be sent with the student to school. Please include the student name and ID number on the check or the envelope for payment.

Free/Reduced Applications

Families may apply for free or reduced meals at any time during the school year. To apply, go to the PaySchoolsCentral.com link. Applications are also available in the school office.

Charge Procedure

Kettering City School District's expectation is for all paying students to have money on account or cash to pay for meals in the cafeteria at the time of the purchase. We do, however, allow students to have negative lunch accounts. Once the account is negative, the student can continue to purchase meals, but no a la carte purchases will be allowed. Letters and emails will be sent and phone calls will be made to notify parents of negative balances and to set up payments. A negative balance is ALWAYS the responsibility of the parent to pay and will stay with the student until paid in full. Student records for a withdrawing student can not be released until all fees are paid in full.

If you do not want your child to have a negative meal balance, please call the Food and Nutrition Services Department at 937-499-1446. If this is the case, we need your permission to take the meal away from the student, to prevent them from going in the negative.

Daily Breakfast/Lunch:

Families **MUST** apply and qualify every year for the free and/or reduced meal benefit.

Breakfast is available each morning at 8:40-8:55 a.m. for \$1.90 (\$.30 for reduced breakfast) and lunch is available daily for \$2.75 (\$.40 for reduced lunch). Students have the option to pack their lunch and/or buy milk (\$.50). Students approved for free and reduced meals may purchase milk to accompany a packed lunch for \$.50.

Meal Requirements:

Lunch includes an entree, a grain, a milk, up to 2 vegetables and/or 2 fruit selections. All reimbursable meals require a student to include a fruit and/or a vegetable with the lunch and 2 other components. All students are encouraged to eat a complete meal, of all components, but we provide an offer vs. serve option to reduce waste in our cafeterias.

Safety Rules -- All students will eat lunch in the cafeteria and are expected to demonstrate respectful, responsible and safe behavior at all times. This includes using quiet voices, following directions, and moving in an orderly manner. Practicing proper table manners is an important part of students' social development and overall education. The behavior expectations posted through the cafeteria are designed to support a clean, calm, and welcoming environment where everyone can enjoy their lunch. Students are not permitted to order food from local businesses and have it delivered

Stealing food from the Cafeteria will be dealt with through the code of conduct. Any student taking food out of the serving areas without payment, will be disciplined accordingly for "stealing" by their unit principal.

CELL PHONES / PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES / HEADPHONES (In accordance with HB 250)

All personal electronic devices **MUST** be turned off and put away during the regularly scheduled school day (Elem-8:15-2:30, MS-9:00-3:50, HS-7:50-3:05). A student who is found to be using his/her electronic devices (**wireless headphones, phones** etc.) shall be referred to the office for an electronic device violation. Student consequences may escalate depending on individual situations. Students shall not post pictures or videos on social media **unless needed for a course the student is enrolled in and with teacher permission.**

Some learning activities may require the use of headphones. The expectation is that students use corded headphones. Students should not bring bluetooth/wireless headphones to the classroom.

The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personal electronic devices. Cell phones and other electronic devices may be searched if there exists a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that the student violated or is violating a school rule or law, or that the student is in imminent danger of harm on school

premises.

Other questions regarding the proper use of both school and personal electronic devices may be covered in the Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Policy and Guidelines Agreement.

CHILD ABUSE / NEGLECT

Ohio law and Board Policy 8462 mandate that every District employee who, in connection with his/her position, knows or suspects child abuse or neglect must immediately report that knowledge or suspicion to a public children's services or local law enforcement agency. Such reporting is required in every case that reasonably indicates that a child under the age of eighteen (18) or a physically or mentally disabled child under the age of twenty-one (21) has been abused (physically or mentally) or neglected or faces the threat of being abused or neglected.

CRISIS HELP & PHONE NUMBERS

There are many ways for you to get help at school and in the community. If you are experiencing personal problems such as depression, family difficulties, substance abuse, grief issues, or concern about a troubled friend, you should tell an adult who can help. Your anonymity will be respected. Your assigned counselor is available to help you with any concern, especially those related to your academic success. The school nurse will assist you with your health concerns.

AA (Alcohol/Drug Abuse)	222-2211
Alanon and Alateen (Alcohol/Drug)	640-2008
Children's Services Board (Child Abuse/Neglect)	224-5437
Daybreak Shelter	395-4600
Kettering City Schools Safety Tip-Line	643-4444 Option 7
Kettering Police	911 or 296-2555
Moraine Police	911 or 535-1166
South Community Behavioral Healthcare	293-8300
Suicide Prevention Hotline	229-7777
Goodwill/Easter Seals of MV	461-4800
Suicide & Crisis Lifeline	988*

*Ohioans who are experiencing a mental health or addiction crisis, and their family members, can call, text, or chat the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline to reach a trained specialist who can offer help and support. The easy-to-remember, three-digit number provides 24/7, free and confidential support to Ohioans in a behavioral health crisis. 988 is a direct connection to compassionate, accessible care and support for anyone experiencing mental health related distress.

DECEIVING THE SCHOOL

No parent/guardian and/or student shall knowingly deceive or attempt to circumvent any procedure or policy established by the school. Anyone engaging in deception may receive school discipline consistent with the Student Conduct Code.

DESKS AND LOCKERS

The Board acknowledges the need for in-school storage of student possessions and shall provide storage places, including desks and lockers, for that purpose. Such spaces remain the property of the Board and, in accordance with law, may be the subject of random search at any time. Where locks are provided for such places, students may lock them against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall students have such an expectation of privacy as to prevent examination by a school official. The Board directs the school principals to conduct a routine inspection at least annually of all such storage places, and as the need arises.

Lockers must be kept locked at all times. Students are to assume the full responsibility for security of lockers and combinations should not be shared with other students. Do not keep valuables in lockers. The school is not

responsible for items taken from lockers. All items left in lockers on the last day of school will be sent to charity after 24 hours.

DISCIPLINE / INTERVENTION PLANS

Attendance: Any administrator may assign, but not limited to, the following interventions to address unexcused tardies to school:

3rd tardy - 1 school detention

4th tardy - 1 school detention

5th tardy - Other disciplinary action

*Student's intervention will restart each 9 weeks.

Behavior: Any administrator may assign, but not limited to, the following interventions:

1. Lunch/Team Detention
2. Administrative Detention (take place after school)
3. In-School Study
4. Suspension (out of school)
5. Suspension and Expulsion

Out of School Suspension

A student who is out of school suspended (OSS) may not be in any Kettering City School building, may not attend any school activities, or be on any Kettering City School grounds at any time during the suspension. Students may complete work given in class during the absence. Parents may request assignments by calling the student's unit office, having the student check Google Classroom, or emailing the teacher directly. Students should make an attempt to retrieve any work (both in class and online) and complete the work during the absence.

DRINK AND FOOD ITEMS

Kettering City Schools are equipped with water bottle filling stations. Students are encouraged to bring sealable water bottles to school. In addition, it is expected that food items are only consumed in designated eating areas. Other food and/or drink items are at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

We are dedicated to creating a school where teaching and learning will occur within a professional, warm, and welcoming environment. Therefore, these expectations will be followed to maximize a safe, responsible, and respectful learning environment at the middle school:

1. Clothing and accessories will be without vulgar, suggestive, and/or offensive elements.
2. Clothing and accessories will be without the promotion of alcohol, tobacco, weapons, drugs, and/or gang-related affiliations/symbols.
3. Clothing and accessories will be respectful to ethnic, cultural, gender identity, sexual, political, or religious differences. Such clothing and accessories must not cause a material or substantial disruption to the school environment, or it must not be reasonably foreseeable that the message will cause such a disruption.
4. Clothing must cover the chest, stomach, back, buttocks, and undergarments.
5. During school hours, students will remain free of wearing hats and hoods in the building. Only religious, culturally specific, and/or medically necessitated head coverings are permitted.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times.

In addition, it is very important that students are dressed appropriately for the weather. Students wearing apparel that does not meet the above professional expectations will be asked to change, turn the item inside out, etc. If a student persists in violating the student dress code, a discipline referral may be written. It is understood that not all

unacceptable attire can be listed or described here. Therefore, the final decision regarding the professionalism of clothing and accessories will be made by the building administration.

EXTENDED ABSENCES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

When taking an extended absence during the school year, parents/guardians should notify the school office and complete the [Extended Absence Form](#) at least three 3 days prior to leaving. Extended absences should be taken during the school year only if the trip cannot be scheduled during the summer months, and the student should be accompanied by parent(s) or guardian(s) on such an event/activity. The state of Ohio requires a “professional note” to excuse absences past 10 days (65 hours) of absence. If a student is over 10 days (65 hours) of absence for any reason, the district may not excuse those absences. **Please refer to the “Compulsory Attendance” guidelines in the “Attendance” section of the Handbook.**

FAILURE TO INFORM

No student shall fail to inform their administrator, counselor or teacher of any dangerous or potentially dangerous situation which may involve students, teachers or staff. Students must identify themselves when requested by a teacher or staff member. Failure to inform administration in a timely manner may result in disciplinary action. Students may report dangerous situations by calling the **Safety Tip-line at 937-643-4444, option 7**, and select your building.

FIELD TRIPS

Students may have field trips as a part of their educational experience off school property. Students must have updated Emergency Medical Forms and Student Information Forms prior to attending the field trip. Each student must also have a permission slip completed for each field trip. Students who do not have proper forms completed and written permission will remain at the school.

Volunteer chaperones are welcome to attend on an as needed basis. Volunteer chaperones must have a [volunteer form](#) on file with the building office prior to attending the field trip. Volunteer chaperones are required to assist with student safety and behavior while away from the classroom and may not bring other children. Chaperones are required to follow these guidelines while on the trip:

- School appropriate language
- No smoking/vaping
- Do not take pictures of students (other than your own) and post on social media
- May not bring other children on the trip

GIFTED IDENTIFICATION

Ohio defines children who are “gifted” as students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment. Ohio law requires school districts to annually identify students under Ohio Revised Code 3324.03, enacted in 2000. In accordance with this law, the Kettering City School District identifies students as gifted in the following areas:

- Superior Cognitive Ability (IQ)
- Specific Academic Ability in Math, Science, Reading/Writing, and/or Social Studies
- Creative Thinking
- Visual or Performing Arts

Parents or teachers may refer students for a gifted screening by picking up a referral form from any school office. A parent/teacher conference should be held before filling out a gifted referral. All students will be screened for gifted identification using the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and the CogAT.

GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM

Students who have qualified as gifted in grades 6-8 may receive services in Honors ELA and/or Honors Math, depending on their area of strength.

GRADEBOOK: POWERSCHOOL ONLINE

PowerSchool is the district's student information system and online gradebook. PowerSchool allows parents to access all of their children's grades and attendance with one login account. Parents and students can track academic progress and daily attendance from any location that has internet access.

Parents will need to create an account in order to access their child's grades and attendance in PowerSchool. However, students do NOT need to create an account, as we have already done that for them.

Parents new to the district will receive a letter at the beginning of the school year that contains an Access ID and Access Password which is needed when creating a new Parent Account.

Parents who have already created an account, can access their account using the directions below.

How to login to your Parent Account

1. <https://www.ketteringschools.org/>.
2. Select the PowerSchool Student/Parent Portal link found under Quick Links.
3. Enter your username and password and select Sign In.

Questions about specific grades or assignments should be directed to your child's teacher. We depend on your input to make this the most efficient and effective school-parent communication tool possible. Please email chris.merritt@ketteringschools.org if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

GRADING POLICY

Letter grades are assigned using the following criteria:

Grade A (90-100%)	A student performs at a level of excellence on daily work and assessments/tests.
Grade B (80-89%)	A student performs at an above average level on daily work and assessments/tests.
Grade C (70-79%)	A student performs at an average level on daily work and assessments/tests.
Grade D (60-69%)	A student performs at a below average level on daily work and assessments/tests.
Grade F (Below 60%)	A student performs at a failing level on daily work and assessments/tests.

All 6th, 7th and 8th graders are eligible for Honor Roll each nine weeks. Honor Roll requirements are a) no grades below a C and b) 3.25 (or higher) Grade Point Average.

HARASSMENT/BULLYING/DISCRIMINATION

Bullying

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. This prohibition applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, and applies to conduct off school property as well. Prohibited activity includes the use of communication (intentional written, verbal, or electronic) or a physical act exhibited towards another particular student or students more than once that causes mental or physical harm and is sufficiently severe, persistent, and/or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the student(s) toward whom the behavior is targeted. No student shall use profane, vulgar, coarse, abusive, or other improper language that shows disrespect toward ethnic, cultural, sexual, gender identity, or religious differences.

Nondiscrimination

The Board of the Kettering School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Rick Earley
Supervisor of Student Services
(937) 499-1433
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
rick.earley@ketteringschools.org

Brittany Hodge
Teaching & Learning Elementary Coordinator
(937) 499-1492
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
Brittany.Hodge@ketteringschools.org

Sexual Harassment/Title IX

The Board of the Kettering School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity) in its education program or activity, and is required by Title IX and its implementing regulations not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment. The Board is committed to maintaining an education and work environment that is free from discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment.

Any inquiries about the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations to the District may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator(s), the Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both.

The Board has adopted a grievance process and procedures that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that is prohibited by Title IX and/or its implementing regulations. The grievance process and procedures are included in Policy 2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities. The grievance process and procedures specifically address how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment, and how the District will respond.

Students who experience harassment or bullying should immediately report such incidents to a teacher or administrator. Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the Title IX Coordinators' (Compliance Officers'/Civil Rights Coordinators') contact information listed below, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's oral or written report. Reports may be made at any time (including during non-business hours), by using the telephone number(s) or electronic mail address(es), or by mail to the office address(es), listed for the Title IX Coordinators. Anonymous reports may be submitted using the Kettering City School Safety Tip Line (937 643-4444, option 7). All reports of sexual harassment covered by Board Policy 2266 will be investigated under the grievance process set forth in that policy (see Appendix A).

All other reports of harassment or bullying will be investigated and addressed under the applicable Board Policy. Compliance Officers:

Rick Earley
Supervisor of Student Services
(937) 499-1433
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
rick.earley@ketteringschools.org

Brittany Hodge
Teaching & Learning Elementary Coordinator
(937) 499-1492
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
Brittany.Hodge@ketteringschools.org

HOMEWORK

The Purpose of Homework -- The assignment of meaningful homework is an integral component of the instruction program. Work done outside of the classroom should provide the student with opportunities to practice through drills; reinforce instruction received during the regular school day; expand upon topics introduced during classroom instruction; and enable each student to pursue individual projects which involve lifetime skills of self-directed work, organization and interpretation of knowledge. If homework is to have value, its purpose and relation to what has been taught in the classroom must be clearly understood by the student. Teachers are encouraged to provide only meaningful homework assignments related to the instructional programs' goals and objectives. On average, homework per course per day should not exceed more than a half hour (30 minutes). Special circumstances, beyond the norm, may dictate that more or less homework be assigned.

Definition -- Homework is defined as out-of-class preparation in a given subject area which is assigned by a student's teacher. This assignment is of such a nature that the student must complete all or part of the assignment during non-class time. Each assignment may be further defined as one or more of the following four types:

1. Practice: Most common, given to help students to master specific skills and limited to material presented in class.
2. Preparation: Given to students to gain maximum benefit from subsequent lessons.
3. Extension: Given to determine if students can transfer a skill or concept to another situation.
4. Creative: Require a student to integrate skills and concepts in the process of producing a response or product.

Objectives -- The objectives of homework are to:

1. Supplement and support classroom experiences.
2. Reinforce learning through practice, integration, and application.
3. Develop student initiative, responsibility, and self-direction through independent effort.
4. Foster parent awareness of their child's learning activities.
5. Make up work missed due to illness or other absence.

Student Responsibilities -- It is the responsibility of the student to complete assigned homework. In order to accomplish this task, the student must learn to plan and budget the necessary study time. It is the student's responsibility to seek additional clarification and assistance from the teacher as soon as the need for such assistance is realized.

Parent/Home Responsibilities -- Parents should recognize the important role of homework to the total instructional program of their child. Parents should make themselves aware of the assignments and expectations of the school and the individual teacher. A suitable place and environment in the home for the completion of homework assignments should be provided. Parents should help their child plan and budget the appropriate amount of study time for the completion of the homework assignment. Parents should feel free to consult with the teacher about any questions relating to the homework assignment.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

On days when the schools are closed or delayed due to ice, snow or other emergencies, please follow these guidelines:

1. Listen to the local television stations -- WHIO Channel 7, WDTN Channel 2 and ABC22/Fox 4 for announcements.
2. Check the homepage of the district's website at www.ketteringschools.org.
3. Sign up for text messages and/or email notifications from the "Calamity Day Notifications" section of the website (located in Parent Link of the home page at www.ketteringschools.org).
4. Sign up for phone calls and/or text messages at www.ketteringschools.org/Communication
5. Check the district Facebook page: Kettering City Schools.
6. Follow the Kettering City Schools' Twitter feed: @KetteringSchls
7. Call the Education Connection at 643-4444. Follow prompts -- "For Kettering School District Information, press 4." Then, "For Delays, Closings and Early Dismissals, press 3."

KETTERING SCHOOL BOARD POLICY NOTICES

By law, the District is required to publish certain policies which are contained in **Appendix A**.

LOST AND FOUND

The school lost and found should be checked periodically by students for any missing items. These can be found in the individual buildings on campus. Please contact the school office personnel for lost glasses, jewelry, keys or wallets.

PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Parents are urged to contact the school whenever the need arises. Teachers may be contacted by note, telephone, or e-mail. Each teacher in the district has an e-mail address in the following format

firstname.lastname@ketteringschools.org. If you call during the school day, the office will notify the teacher to return your call. If you wish to have a conference with your child's teacher, please call ahead to make an appointment. This will allow the teacher to prepare for the conference, will make the conference more productive and does not impact instructional time.

PBIS: POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION SUPPORTS

The purpose of PBIS is to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and equity of schools. PBIS improves social, emotional and academic outcomes for students.

Kettering City Schools Behavioral expectations:

- We are Safe
- We are Respectful
- We are Responsible
- We are Kind

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Please do not allow students to bring valuables to school unless necessary for classroom work and as requested by the classroom teacher. If it is necessary to bring any personal property, please write your name on the item. Please note that the parent/student, and not the school, are responsible for any personal items that are brought to school.

PETS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Many parents/guardians choose to walk/bring their pet to school when picking up their child. In order to ensure the **health and safety of all of our students** please be aware non-service animals are not allowed on school property during school areas without prior administrative approval:

- Pet owners must keep their pets on a leash.
- Pet owners are liable for the behavior of their pet.
- Students should never approach or pet animals they do not know.
- Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pet.

Students are not to bring animals or pets to school, unless the animals or pets are part of a class project. In these instances, students must receive permission from their teacher and unit principal.

Staff must receive permission from administration to have animals or pets on school grounds.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION

Students are to refrain from displaying unprofessional affection toward one another at school.

RESTROOMS

Students are not permitted to loiter in the restrooms at any time. Students must use their official passes when using the restroom during class time. No more than one student shall occupy a stall at any time for those stalls intended for one person. If a student becomes ill while in the restroom, the student should report immediately to their teacher, their unit office, and/or nurse. Kettering City Schools provide both male, female, and alternative restroom options for their students. Kettering City Schools allow students equal access to restrooms in accordance with relevant law.

REQUESTING TEACHERS

The office cannot accept requests from parents for specific teachers. Every attempt is made to balance classrooms by ability, gender, and behavior.

SCHOOL FEES

The Kettering Board of Education sets a school fee for all students to help offset a portion of the costs for consumable items used by the student (workbooks, papers, etc.) as well as for the use of the school Chromebook and network. School fees for this year are \$43.00.

Payment of the school fee is expected within the first two weeks of enrollment. Please make checks payable to KETTERING CITY SCHOOLS or through the PaySchoolsCentral.com. If you qualify for free or reduced priced meals, you may be eligible to apply for a waiver of school fees. You **must** complete a Fee Waiver Application form in the school office to receive the waiver. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Note: Progress Reports will not be released at the end of the school year to those students with outstanding school fees.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

Violations of the Student Conduct Code will be treated flexibly and on an individual basis. Disciplinary action may range from an informal conference to expulsion from the Kettering City School District. The guidelines below will generally apply, but may be varied by the Administration, if circumstances warrant deviation based upon Board policy.

See **Appendix B** for the comprehensive Kettering Board of Education Student Conduct Code.

Below is a list of items taken from the Guidelines for Administrative Discipline. This is not a comprehensive list.

Truant from school / Leaving school grounds without permission – Rule #1

1st time	1 day ISS
2nd time	2 days ISS
3rd time	3 days ISS or OSS

Horseplay – running, grabbing, touching (non-sexual), pinching, book-checking, snowball throwing –

Rule #2

1st time	Administrative detention
2nd time	Administrative Detention (2 hours) or ISS (Half-Day)
3rd time	1 day ISS

Use of profanity / swearing – Rule #2

1st time	Administrative Detention
2nd time	Administrative Detention (2 hours) or ISS (Half-Day)
3rd time	1-3 day ISS or OSS

Possession/use of a cell phone or electronic device during school hours – Rule #2

1st time	Warning/ parent contact
2nd time	Administrative Detention
3rd time	Administrative Detention (2 hours) or ISS (Half-Day)
4th time	ISS

Harassment, intimidation or bullying - repeated written, verbal, graphic or physical acts toward a student that causes mental/ physical harm that creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for a student – Rule #19 (KCS Policy #5517 & 5517.01)

1st time	1 -3 days ISS
2nd time	1-3 days OSS

Physical Aggression / Spitting on or toward someone – Rule #2

1st time	1-2 day ISS
2nd time	1-3 days ISS
3rd time	1-3 days OSS

Inappropriate use of Chromebook or school technology– Rule #2

(See Student Handbook: Code of Student Conduct, Computer Misuse.)

1st time	1-3 days of ISS
2nd time	1-3 days of ISS / 1 day OSS
3rd time	1-3 days of OSS

Possession/Use of cigarettes/vaping (police intervention) – Rule #9 and/or Rule #11

(See Student Handbook: Code of Student Conduct, Tobacco-Free Policy-Parents Fined.) Contact SRO.

1st time	5 days OSS and completion of Kettering Alternative Tobacco Education Program or Insight
2nd time	10 days OSS; expulsion may be recommended

Profanity/swearing or improper gestures directed at a staff member – Rule #2

1st time	1-3 days OSS
2nd time	3-5 days OSS
3rd time	5-10 days OSS; expulsion may be recommended

Use of racial/ethnic slurs (written or verbal) – Rule #17

1st time	1-3 days ISS
2nd time	1-3 days OSS
3rd time	3-5 days OSS

Posturing to fight – Rule #2

1st time	1-3 days OSS
2nd time	3-5 days OSS
3rd time	5-10 days OSS; expulsion may be recommended

Assault/Fight – Rule #3

(See Student Handbook: Code of Student Conduct, Fighting)

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1st time | 10 days OSS with reduction to 5 with completion of Conflict Management Course |
| 2nd time | 10 days OSS with recommendation of expulsion |

Possession and/or use of alcohol or drugs – Rule # 10; Rule- #11

(See Student Handbook: Code of Student Conduct, Drugs and Alcohol: Possession and Use.) Contact SRO.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1st time | 10 days OSS with recommendation of expulsion; Reduction to 5 days OSS with completion of Insight Program |
| 2nd time | 10 days OSS with recommendation of expulsion |

Possession and/or use of weapon – Rule #6; Rule #7

(See Student Handbook: Code of Student Conduct, Dangerous Weapons in School.)

10 day suspension with recommendation for 365 calendar days of expulsion

Contact School Resource Officer

Unexcused Tardy to School (starts over each quarter)

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 3rd time | Administrative Conference |
| 4th time | Administrative Detention |
| 5th time | 1 hour Administrative Detention |
| 6th time | Other disciplinary action |

More than one student in a restroom stall

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1st time | Administrative Detention (1 hour) |
| 2nd time | Administrative Detention (2 hours) or ISS (Half-Day) |
| 3rd time | ISS |

See **Appendix B** for the comprehensive Kettering Board of Education Student Conduct Code.

Due Process Rights -- The Board of Education recognizes the importance of safeguarding a student's constitutional rights, particularly when subject to the district's disciplinary procedures. In order to better ensure that appropriate due process is provided a student, the Board establishes the following guidelines, which are more fully addressed in Board Policy 5610-5611:

- a. Students subject to suspension: A student must be given written notice of his/her suspension and the reasons therefore, the opportunity to appear and respond to the charges against him/her prior to the suspension, and the opportunity to appeal the suspension.
- b. Students subject to expulsion: A student and his/her parent or guardian must be given written notice of the intention to expel and the reasons therefore, an opportunity to participate in a hearing regarding the intended expulsion, and to appeal the expulsion.

STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The purpose of the Kettering City Schools health services is two-fold: first, to assist parents, students and staff with the prevention of illness and injury, second, to assist students with health care needs and health emergencies. State law requires that all students must have an Emergency Medical Authorization Form completed, signed by a parent or guardian, and filed in the school office. A student may be excluded from school until this requirement has been fulfilled.

Schools do NOT have a nurse in the building full time, but they can always be reached by telephoning the school office. Please do not hesitate to contact your school nurse for assistance.

Because healthy children do learn better, it is best if your student comes to school well rested and having had breakfast. Students participate in outside activities and **all** students should come to school dressed appropriately for the weather. Hats, gloves/mittens, boots and warm coats are essential during the winter months.

Chronic Health Issues -- At the start of each school year, please provide the school nurse with updated information and orders for care from a licensed health care provider for any chronic illness or disease diagnosis pertaining to your student. This includes food allergies, asthma, diabetes, seizure disorder, etc. Each school year, the school nurse must receive new signed orders from a licensed health care provider (physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner) for any medical procedure, for example tube-feeding, performed by staff for your student.

Head Lice -- If your student has head lice he/she will be permitted to return to school following treatment. Parents/guardians must accompany their student to the school office to be checked before the student can return to class. Students will be rechecked for the presence of lice 7 days after the initial treatment or as needed. Head lice removal is a tedious and demanding process, and school nurses and staff will work with you to help take care of this problem.

Illness -- To help prevent the spread of contagious illness, please keep an ill student at home until he/she is free of the following symptoms for 24 hours: FEVER ABOVE 100 DEGREES ORALLY, VOMITING, DIARRHEA, UNDIAGNOSED RASH, CONJUNCTIVITIS (PINK EYE). These guidelines are recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Immunizations -- Immunizations must be on file in the school office by the first day of school. See **Appendix D** for the Immunization Summary for School Attendance. (A detailed explanation of *Immunization Requirements* can be found under the Ohio Department of Health [website](#).) Contact your school nurse with any questions.

Injury and Illness Procedures -- The clinic is always open during the school day and staff is available to care for students who are feeling ill or have an injury that requires attention. If it is not an emergency situation, students should ask their teacher to go to the clinic so the teacher will know where students are located.

Students who become ill or injured at school will need to be seen in the clinic for care. If a student phones or texts a parent/guardian reporting he/she is not feeling well, the parent/guardian should encourage their child to go to the clinic to be evaluated, as the clinic staff needs to directly communicate with the parent/guardian. If the student appears too ill or injured to remain in school, the clinic staff will contact parents/guardians to make the arrangements for their child to go home. If an injury or illness appears life threatening, staff will summon the emergency squad. Every effort will be made to notify parents/guardians of this necessity.

If a student is ill or injured and must be dismissed early, the student will only be released to those listed on the Emergency Medical Authorization Form. In order to pick up ill or injured middle school students at schools, Parents/guardians or the designated contact must come into the school office and show photo identification to sign the child out of school, but students can sign themselves into school.

Medications -- Prescription medications require a medication form signed by a licensed healthcare provider and parent/guardian be on file in the school office before the medication may be administered. Over the counter medications (plain Tylenol or ibuprofen only) require parent permission and an over the counter form filled out and filed in the nurse's office. All medications must be provided to the school in the original labeled container and the label must match the medication order on file. A copy of the medication form is available online at the Kettering City Schools website (www.ketteringschools.org) under the [School Nurse page](#).

Screenings -- Screenings are performed at regular intervals for the purpose of early identification of health problems. The screenings include vision and hearing, and may include dental, height, weight, body mass index and blood pressure. Your prompt response to any communication regarding these screenings is in your student's best interest. If at any time you think your student is having difficulty in any of these areas, contact the school nurse for assistance.

Wheelchair/Crutches -- Students returning to school on crutches or in a wheelchair should be seen in the clinic before going to class to obtain help in the halls and with their books.

STUDENT EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY & GUIDELINES (AUP)

Students are required to follow the District's use and safety guidelines which are detailed in Policy and Administrative Guideline 7540.03 in **Appendix A**.

SURVEYS

Kettering City Schools will periodically administer surveys to determine the progress of programs and to determine which areas may need additional attention. Parents may inspect, upon request to the building principal, a survey before it is administered to or distributed by the school. After review and inspection by the parent/guardian, they can refuse to have his/her child participate in the survey.

TELEPHONE & ADDRESS CHANGES

It is extremely important to inform the district of address and telephone number changes, not only parents' home and work, but also other persons you list to contact in case of an emergency. **When making an address change, parent/guardian will submit proof of the new residence to the Central Enrollment Office at the Board of Education office (580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105).** Any questions may be answered through the Central Enrollment Office at (937) 499-1700.

TUITION

Non-resident students may be accepted for enrollment on a tuition basis in the Kettering City School District. Please contact the district's Student Services Department at 937-499-1433 for information about enrolling a student on a tuition basis.

USE OF SCHOOL PHONE

Student use of the school phone will be restricted to school business only and will be teacher directed. Students are not allowed to use the phone to make personal plans for after school. Students should be encouraged to plan and to accept responsibility for their assignments before coming to school. Students are not permitted to use personal cell phones during the school day.

There will be occasions when it will be necessary for a child or school personnel to contact parents during the work day. If this will cause a problem for you at your place of employment, please advise the school as soon as possible and provide alternative arrangements.

VACATIONS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

When taking a vacation during the school year, parents/guardians should notify the school office and complete the [Classroom Absence for Vacation Form](#) at least three (3) days prior to leaving. Vacations should be taken during the school year only if the trip cannot be scheduled during the summer months, and the student should be accompanied by parent(s) or guardian(s) on such trips. There is a maximum of five (5) days cumulative during a school year for which a student's absence from school due to vacation may be considered an excused absence. Any absences beyond 5 vacation days will be considered unexcused. The State of Ohio requires a doctor's note to excuse absences past 65 hours of non-medically excused absence. If a student is over 65 hours of non-medically excused absence for any reason, the district can not excuse those absences without a doctor's note. Please refer to the Compulsory Attendance guidelines in the Attendance section of the Handbook.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE & ELECTRONIC MONITORING

In order to protect Board property, promote security and protect the health, welfare and safety of students, staff and visitors, the Board of Education authorizes the use of video surveillance and electronic monitoring equipment on school property, in school buildings and school buses. Information obtained through video surveillance/electronic monitoring may be used to identify intruders and persons breaking the law, Board policy, or the Student Code of Conduct.

For additional information please reference Board of Education Policy 7440.01.

VISITORS & CLASSROOM VISITATION

Visits to school by parents, other adult residents of the community and interested educators are welcomed. In order for the educational program to continue undisturbed when visitors are present and to prevent the intrusion of disruptive persons into the schools, it is necessary to establish visitor controls.

For the safety of our students, please remember that all visitors, including parents, must sign in using the Raptor System upon entering the school during the day. A valid driver's license is required for sign-in, and a visitor's pass will be issued in the main office before proceeding elsewhere in the building. No unscheduled visitors will be permitted.

Parents wishing to speak to a classroom teacher before, during, or after school are asked to come directly to the office so that arrangements can be made for communication with the teacher. Parents will be permitted to visit classrooms only after a visitor's pass has been issued from the office. Interruption of the instructional program by drop-in visitors will not be allowed.

When bringing items to school for your child, please label items with the child's name and the teacher's name and bring the items to the school office. School personnel will make sure your child receives the item(s).

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers must have a [volunteer form](#) on file with the building office prior to serving in a classroom or attending a field trip. Volunteers are required to assist with student safety and behavior and may not bring other children.

WITHDRAWING STUDENTS/WITHHOLDING GRADES AND CREDITS

If you are moving and will be withdrawing your child from school, please come to the office a few days prior to the student's last day to complete the withdrawal form. Forms will be sent to Central Enrollment office for processing.

APPENDIX A

KETTERING SCHOOL BOARD POLICY NOTICES

Policy 2260: Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity

This ensures that our Board policy on nondiscrimination is implemented properly and is in compliance with federal and state laws. Part of the policy states:

"Any form of discrimination or harassment can be devastating to an individual's academic progress, social relationship and/or personal sense of self-worth. As such, the Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") in its educational programs or activities."

The Board has designated the following individuals to serve as the District's "Compliance Officers" for informal complaints (also known as "Civil Rights Coordinators"):

Rick Earley
Supervisor of Student Services
(937) 499-1433
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
rick.earley@ketteringschools.org

Brittany Hodge
Teaching & Learning Elementary Coordinator
(937) 499-1492
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
Brittany.Hodge@ketteringschools.org

Policy 2266: Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities

This policy ensures that our Board policy on nondiscrimination based on sex is implemented properly and is in compliance with federal and state laws. The policy provides information for reporting instances of sexual harassment and outlines the District's grievance procedure for investigating such allegations. Students should familiarize themselves with the reporting, complaint, and investigation procedure contained in this policy. Part of the policy states:

"The Board of Education of the Kettering City School District (hereinafter referred to as "the Board" or "the District") does not discriminate on the basis of sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), in its education programs or activities, and is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, and its implementing regulations, not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment. The Board is committed to maintaining an education and work environment that is free from discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment.

The Board prohibits Sexual Harassment that occurs within its education programs and activities. When the District has actual knowledge of Sexual Harassment in its education program or activity against a person in the United States, it shall promptly respond in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent.

Pursuant to its Title IX obligations, the Board is committed to eliminating Sexual Harassment and will take appropriate action when an individual is determined responsible for violating this policy. Board employees, students, Third Party vendors and contractors, guests, and other members of the School District community who commit Sexual Harassment are subject to the full range of disciplinary sanctions set forth in this policy. The Board will provide persons who have experienced Sexual Harassment ongoing remedies as reasonably necessary to restore or preserve access to the District's education programs and activities."

"This policy applies to Sexual Harassment that occurs within the District's education programs and activities and that is committed by a member of the School District community or a Third Party.

This policy does not apply to Sexual Harassment that occurs off school grounds, in a private setting, and outside the scope of the District's education programs and activities; such Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Activity may be prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct if committed by a student, or by Board policies and administrative guidelines, applicable State and/or Federal laws if committed by a Board employee.

Consistent with the U.S. Department of Education's implementing regulations for Title IX, this policy does not apply to Sexual Harassment that occurs outside the geographic boundaries of the United States, even if the Sexual Harassment occurs in the District's education programs or activities. Sexual Harassment that occurs outside the geographic boundaries of the United States is governed by the Student Code of Conduct if committed by a student, or by Board policies and administrative guidelines, applicable State and/or Federal laws if committed by a Board employee."

"The Board is committed to promptly and equitably resolving student and employee complaints alleging Sexual Harassment. The District's response to allegations of Sexual Harassment will treat Complainants and Respondents equitably, including providing supportive measures to the Complainant and Respondent, as appropriate, and following this Grievance Process before imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions, other than supportive measures, against the Respondent.

The Title IX Coordinator(s), along with any investigator(s), decision-maker(s), or any person(s) designated to facilitate an informal resolution process, shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent.

If a determination of responsibility for Sexual Harassment is made against the Respondent, the Board will provide remedies to the Complainant. The remedies will be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity. Potential remedies include, but are not limited to, individualized services that constitute supportive measures. Remedies may also be disciplinary or punitive in nature and may burden the Respondent."

"A Formal Complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information set forth above. If a Formal Complaint involves allegations of Sexual Harassment by or involving the Title IX Coordinator, the Complainant should submit the Formal Complaint to the Superintendent, who will designate another person to serve in place of the Title IX Coordinator for the limited purpose of implementing the grievance process and procedures with respect to that Formal Complaint.

When the Title IX Coordinator receives a Formal Complaint or signs a Formal Complaint, the District will follow its Grievance Process and Procedures, as set forth herein. Specifically, the District will undertake an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence – including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence – and provide that credibility determinations will not be based on a person's status as a Complainant, Respondent, or witness.

It is a violation of this policy for a Complainant(s), Respondent(s), and/or witness(es) to knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process, including intentionally making a false report of Sexual Harassment or submitting a false Formal Complaint. The Board will not tolerate such conduct, which is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

The Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process."

The Board has designated the following individuals to serve as the District's Title IX Coordinators:

Rick Earley
Supervisor of Student Services
(937) 499-1433
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
rick.earley@ketteringschools.org

Brittany Hodge
Teaching & Learning Elementary Coordinator
(937) 499-1492
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
Brittany.Hodge@ketteringschools.org

Policy 2413: Career Advising

This policy has been developed as prescribed in R.C. 3313.6020 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy. This policy shall be updated at least once every two (2) years. The policy shall be made available to students, parents/guardians/custodians, and local postsecondary institutions, residents of the District, and shall be posted on the District web site.

Career advising is an integrated process that helps students understand how their personal interests, strengths, and values might predict satisfaction and success in school and related career fields, as well as how to tie these interests and strengths to their academic and career goals. Students need to have access to comprehensive resources and support to prepare for their future success. Through relevant classroom instruction, career-related learning experiences, and a program of counseling and advising, students can discover their interests and explore academic and career pathway options.

The District's Career Advising Plan shall include:

- A. Grade-level examples that link students' schoolwork to one (1) or more career field
- B. Career advising to students in grades K-12, which includes age- appropriate activities and also includes creating and maintaining a Student Success Plan beginning in grade 6.
- C. Additional interventions and career advising for students who are identified as at risk of dropping out of school.

These may include:

- 1. Identifying students who are at risk of dropping out of school using a local, research-based method, such as the Early Warning System offered by the Ohio Department of Education, with input from teachers, school counselors and other appropriate school staff.
- 2. Developing a Student Success Plan for each at-risk student that addresses the student's academic and career pathway to a successful graduation and the role of career-technical education, competency-based education, and experiential learning when appropriate.
- 3. Before developing a Student Success Plan, District staff will invite the student's parent/guardian/custodian to assist. If that adult does not participate in the plan development, the District will provide the adult a copy of the

plan, a statement of the importance of a high school diploma and a listing of the pathways to graduation available to the student.

- D. Training for employees on how to advise students on career pathways, including training on advising students using the tools available in OhioMeansJobs K-12.

This may also include training on other online tools provided that offer resources for discovering career interests, exploring and researching career and education options and supporting the development of a Student Success Plan.

- E. Multiple academic and career pathways through high school that students may choose to earn a high school diploma, including opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials and postsecondary course credit.
- F. Information on courses that can award students both traditional academic and career-technical credit.
- G. Documentation on career advising provided for review by the student, student's parent, guardian, or custodian, and schools the student may attend in the future.

This may include activities that support the student's academic, career, and social/emotional development, such as those saved to a student's OhioMeansJobs K-12 Backpack.

- H. The supports necessary for students to have successful transitions from high school to their postsecondary destinations, including interventions and services for students in need of remediation in mathematics and English language arts.

Policy 2416: Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment ("PPRA") requires the Board to notify parents and eligible students and obtain consent to allow parents or eligible students to opt the student out of participating in certain school activities. These activities include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one (1) or more of the following eight (8) areas ("protected information surveys"):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other with whom respondents have close family relationship;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent, and/or;
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure or use of student information for marketing purposes ("marketing surveys"), and certain physical exams and screenings.

Parents have the right to inspect upon request a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed by the school to its students. See Board Policy 2416 concerning the procedures for making such a request.

Parents have the right to inspect upon request any instrument used in the collection of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information (or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose) before the instrument is administered or distributed to the students. See Board Policy 2416 concerning the procedures for making such a request.

Parents have the right to inspect upon request any instructional material used as a part of the educational curriculum for their student. See Board Policy 2416 for the procedures for making such a request.

Any parent or student who believes that the school district has failed to comply with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") or the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment ("PPRA"), may file a complaint directly with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-8520.

This Notice will be transmitted to disabled parents and students or to non-English speaking parents and students in a format designed to accommodate their disability or in their native language. Call the Office of the Director of Student Services at 937-499-1433 for assistance and information.

For complete information regarding the District's policy regarding Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information, see the full text of Policy 2416.

Policy 2623 – Student Assessment and Academic Intervention Services

The Board of Education shall assess student achievement and needs in all program areas in compliance with State law and the rules adopted by the State Board of Education. The purpose of such assessments will be to determine the progress of students and to assist them in attaining student performance objectives and the educational achievement goals of this District.

The Board shall administer the State-mandated tests (e.g., diagnostic assessments and achievement tests) to students at the times designated by the State Board of Education. The Board may, for medical reasons or other good cause, excuse a student from taking a State-mandated test on the date scheduled, but any such test shall be administered to such excused student not later than nine (9) days following the scheduled date. The Board shall annually report, not later than June 30th, the number of students who have not taken one or more of the State-mandated tests to the State Board of Education.

The District shall require that all appropriate staff have knowledge of the prescribed standards of ethical assessment practice and shall monitor the assessment practices for compliance with these standards. These duties shall include:

- A. communicating standards of ethical assessment practice;
- B. communicating security procedures for assessment;
- C. establishing procedures for reviewing assessment materials and procedures and assessment preparation materials and procedures;
- D. establishing channels of communication that allow teachers, other educators, students, parents, and other members of the community to voice concerns about assessment practices;
- E. establishing written procedures for investigating complaints, allegations, and/or concerns about assessment practices, protecting the rights of an individual, the integrity of an assessment, and the results of an assessment.

The Board shall provide academic intervention services in pertinent subject areas to students who score below the proficient level in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, or science achievement test, or who do not demonstrate academic performance at their grade level based on the results of a diagnostic assessment.

At least annually, staff members will assess the academic achievement and learning needs of each student. Procedures for such assessments may include, but need not be limited to, teacher observation techniques, cumulative student records, student performance data collected through standard testing programs, and physical examinations.

The Superintendent shall develop a program of testing that includes:

- A. administration of State-mandated tests (e.g., diagnostic assessment and achievement tests), at no cost to students, in accordance with the provisions of A.C. 3301-13-02;
- B. performance-based tests at appropriate grade levels to measure achievement of performance objectives in composition, mathematics, science, social studies, and reading;
- C. District or teacher-made achievement or performance tests;
- D. tests of mental ability;
- E. norm referenced achievement tests.

"Achievement test" means "a test, aligned with the Ohio academic content standards and model curriculum, designed to measure a student's level of knowledge or skill in a specific subject area that is expected at the end of a designated grade and/or is required as part of the Ohio graduation requirement."

"Alternate assessment" means "the use of an assessment instrument, other than the Ohio achievement tests or diagnostic assessments, that meets the requirements of all applicable Federal and State laws and A.C. 3301-13-03."

"Diagnostic assessment" means "an assessment aligned with Ohio academic content standards and model curriculum, designed to measure student comprehension of academic content and mastery of related skills for a relevant subject area at each grade level, kindergarten through three, as defined in R.C. 3301.079."

"End-of-course exams" means "the college and work ready assessments selected by the Department of Education and Workforce and the Chancellor of Higher Education that are aligned with academic content standards and model curriculum and designed to measure a student's level of academic achievement."

"Performance standards" means "a score adopted by the State Board of Education indicative of a particular level of academic achievement at a designated grade for each achievement test or alternate assessment."

"Statewide tests" means "any assessment that is provided by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) for use in all participating schools in the State."

The Superintendent shall develop:

- A. procedures for the regular collection of student performance data;
- B. a plan for the design of classroom-based intervention services to meet the instructional needs of individual students as determined by the results of diagnostic assessments; and
- C. procedures for using student performance data to evaluate the effectiveness of intervention services and, if necessary, to modify such services.

For any student who failed to demonstrate at least a score at the proficient level on an achievement test during the preceding school year, the Board shall provide appropriate intervention services commensurate with the student's test performance in each such test area, including intensive prevention, intervention, or remediation required under R.C. 3301.0711, 3301.0715, 3313.608, or R.C. 3313.6012.

The Board shall require that:

- A. by June 30 each year, parents are provided with the score of any State-mandated assessment or test administered to their student;

Results will be sent via mail or email or, alternatively, will be posted to a secure portal that families can access on the District's or school's website. R.C. 3313.6029.
- B. parents be informed of the testing program of the schools and of the special tests that are to be administered to their children;
- C. data regarding individual test scores be entered on the student's cumulative record, where it will be subject to the Board's student records policy;
- D. the aggregate results of each school-wide, program-wide, and District-wide test be made part of the public record.

Summer remediation services shall meet the following conditions:

- A. the remediation methods are based on reliable educational research
- B. testing will be conducted before and after students participate in the program to facilitate monitoring results of the remediation services
- C. the parents of participating student will be involved in programming decisions
- D. the services will be conducted in a school building or community center and not on an at-home basis

The Board shall keep records for each student including the following:

- A. a unique State student identification code or a student data verification code as required in accordance with R.C. 3301.0714(D)(2)
- B. a list or designation of which tests are required and which tests are not required
- C. a list or designation of which tests, required or not required, are taken and which are not taken at each test administration period
- D. score for each test taken, required or not
- E. whether each student attained the requisite performance standard designated for each required test
- F. what if any tests must still be taken
- G. whether or not intervention must be provided, and
- H. for each test required for graduation, the date passed must be recorded on the student's transcript

No information shall be on the student's transcript for a test not passed.

When a student who has taken State-mandated tests in one (1) school leaves that school to enroll in another school, the school tuition previously attended shall provide, immediately upon request by a school official from the enrolling school, all applicable records set forth above.

For each student required to be offered intervention services, the Board shall involve the student's parent or guardian and classroom teacher in developing the intervention strategy, and shall offer to the parent or guardian the opportunity to be involved in the intervention services.

During the school year following the year in which the tests prescribed by R.C. 3301.0710(A)(1) are administered to any student, the Board shall provide appropriate intervention services, commensurate with the student's test performance, including any intensive prevention, intervention, or remediation required under R.C. 3301.0711, 3301.0715, 3313.608 or R.C. 3313.6012, in any skill in which the student failed to demonstrate at least a score of proficient level on an achievement test.

Except as authorized by State law, the Board shall not use any student's failure to attain a specified score on any State-mandated test as a factor in any decision to deny the student promotion to a higher grade level.

All identified students with disabilities in the School District shall be considered for participation in the State-mandated testing. The extent of the student's participation shall be determined by the IEP Team. Accordingly, the student's IEP shall require that s/he take:

- A. the required assessments in the same manner as other students;
- B. the required assessments with accommodations appropriate for his/her disability; or
- C. an alternate assessment that has been approved by the State Department of Education.

To the extent possible, and in accordance with law, a student with disabilities shall not be excused from taking a required assessment unless no reasonable accommodation can be made to enable the student to take the assessment.

The Superintendent shall implement administrative guidelines that comply with the State Department's regulations with regard to the administration of the State-mandated tests, including the reporting of results.

Program evaluations will be reviewed and updated every five (5) years. A schedule for such will be developed and implemented by the Superintendent.

After July 1, 2017, no student will spend more than two percent (2%) of the school year taking state assessments, including the Ohio graduation tests, college and work ready assessment systems and any District-wide assessment for all students in a specified subject area or grade level. Students will not spend more than one percent (1%) of the school year on diagnostic or practice assessments to prepare for the above assessments. Students with disabilities are exempt from this requirement, as are related diagnostic assessments for students who failed the English language arts achievement assessment, substitute examinations, or examinations to identify a gifted student.

This policy shall be reviewed and updated annually.

Policy 5113 - Inter-District Open Enrollment

The Board of Education does not enroll students from other districts, including adjacent districts, unless tuition is paid in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3317.08. However, the District shall accept open enrollment of a student who is not a native student of the District if the student's parent is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States who is stationed in Ohio and who provides the District with a copy of the parent's official written order verifying the parent's status as an active duty member of the armed forces.

A student enrolled as a result of the student's parent being an active duty member of the U.S. armed forces shall not be required to pay tuition for the child's enrollment in the District and shall be considered as an "other district student." As such, the student shall be eligible to receive transportation services in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3313.981.

For additional definitions and limitations see Policy 5113 – Inter-District Open Enrollment.

Administrative Guideline 5113.01 (Summary) – Intra-District Open Enrollment

Application of students outside the building attendance area will be considered for attending the school of their choice provided grade, building, and program balance can be maintained.

Please be aware of the following conditions for open enrollment:

- Students classified as chronically tardy (10% or more tardy) or absent (10% or more absences) may be subject to being sent back to the school of residence.
- The parent agrees to provide transportation to the new school of choice.
- The Superintendent, by statute, retains the authority to assign students to schools. If the need would arise, a transfer student could be reassigned back to their school of residence.
- Students receiving special education services are required to attend the school within the district where the services specified in the student's IEP are currently available.
- Applicants shall be considered on a first-come, first served basis.
- The decision of the Superintendent or his designee is final.
- If the intra-district placement is granted, the student may stay at the re-assigned school without having to re-apply each year. However, elementary students will attend the middle school within their area of residence unless a request for a school of choice is made and granted in accordance with this policy.

During the school year, the student, once reassigned, will remain in the school of choice for at least one (1) year unless the request is to transfer back to the official school of residence, in which case the following procedure will be followed assuming the transfer does not create a staffing problem.

- Any student who is approved for transfer must attend the respective school for a minimum of nine (9) weeks. A student will not be permitted to return to the official school of residence until the end of a nine (9) week grading period.
- Parents requesting a student return must submit, in writing, a request to the building principal in the school of attendance. The School District has the right to require that the parents and/or student confer personally with school officials necessary by the School District.

For complete information regarding intra-district open-enrollment, see Administrative Guideline 5113.01

Policy 5516: Student Hazing

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with and disruptive to the educational process, and prohibited at any time in school facilities, on school property, and/or off school property if the misconduct is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school property. No administrator, faculty member, or other Board of Education employee shall encourage, permit, authorize, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No student shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing.

Hazing is defined as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, team, or organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Administrators, faculty members, and other employees of the Board shall be alerted to possible situations, circumstances, or events that might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, the students involved shall be informed by the discoverer of the prohibitions contained in this policy and shall be ordered to end all hazing activities or planned activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent. Students, administrators, faculty members, and other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be held personally liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with law.

The Superintendent shall distribute this policy to all students and Board employees, and shall incorporate it into building, staff, and student handbooks. It shall also be the subject of discussion at employee staff meetings or in-service programs.

Administrators, staff members, and volunteers shall not intentionally remain ignorant of hazing or potential hazing activities.

Policy 5517: Anti-Harassment

General Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain an education and work environment that is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. This commitment applies to all School District operations, programs, and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging, and reporting any form of unlawful harassment. This policy applies to unlawful conduct occurring on school property, or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the Board.

The Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against discriminatory harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age, religion, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") that are protected by Federal civil rights laws (hereinafter referred to as "unlawful harassment"), and encourages those within the School District community as well as third parties, who feel aggrieved to seek assistance to rectify such problems. The Board will investigate all allegations of harassment and in those cases where unlawful harassment is substantiated, the Board will take immediate steps to end the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects. Individuals who are found to have engaged in unlawful harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Sexual Harassment covered by Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex Education Programs or Activities is not included in this policy. Allegations of such conduct shall be addressed solely by Policy 2266.

For purposes of this policy, "School District community" means students, administrators, and professional and classified staff, as well as Board members, agents, volunteers, contractors, or other persons subject to the control and supervision of the Board.

For purposes of this policy, "third parties" include, but are not limited to, guests and/or visitors on School District property (e.g., visiting speakers, participants on opposing athletic teams, parents), vendors doing business with, or seeking to do business with, the Board, and other individuals who come in contact with members of the School District community at school-related events/activities (whether on or off School District property).

Investigation and Complaint Procedure (See Form 1662 F1)

Any employee or other member of the School District community or third party (e.g., visitor to the District) who believes that s/he has been subjected to unlawful harassment or retaliation may seek resolution of his/her complaint through either the informal or formal procedures as described in Board Policy 5517. Further, a process for investigating claims of harassment or retaliation and a process for rendering a decision regarding whether the claim of legally prohibited harassment or retaliation was substantiated are set forth in Board Policy 5517.

Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of unlawful harassment or retaliation, timelines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint within thirty (30) calendar days after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available. Once the formal complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed in a timely manner (ordinarily, within fifteen (15) business days of the complaint being received).

The informal and formal procedures set forth in Board Policy 5517 are not intended to interfere with the rights of any individual to pursue a complaint of unlawful harassment or retaliation with the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission ("OCR") or Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC").

For complete information regarding the Anti-Harassment policy, please see the full text of Policy 5517.

The following positions serve as the "Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers" for the school district for informal complaints.

Rick Earley
Supervisor of Student Services
(937) 499-1433
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
rick.earley@ketteringschools.org

Brittany Hodge
Teaching & Learning Elementary Coordinator
(937) 499-1492
580 Lincoln Park Blvd, Suite 105
Kettering, OH 45429
Brittany.Hodge@ketteringschools.org

Policy 5517.01: Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior:

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

- A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or

B. violence within a dating relationship.

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistance (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The building principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such a report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

The District shall implement intervention strategies (AG 5517.01) to protect a victim or other person from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying and from retaliation following such a report.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the building principal or appropriate administrator shall notify the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the building principal or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the custodial parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such a student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

Complaints

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected

harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the building principal for review, investigation, and action.

Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may make informal or anonymous complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel. Such complaints shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. A school staff member or administrator who receives an informal or anonymous complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the information provided. This written report shall be promptly forwarded by the school staff member and/or administrator to the building principal for review, investigation, and appropriate action.

Individuals who make informal complaints as provided above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. Anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action shall be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

When an individual making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

Privacy/Confidentiality

The School District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

Reporting Requirement

At least semi-annually, the Superintendent shall provide to the President of the Board a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on the District website (if one exists). The list shall be limited to the number of verified acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, whether in the classroom, on school property, to and from school, or at school-sponsored events.

Allegations of criminal misconduct and suspected child abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or to Child Protective Services in accordance with statute. District personnel shall cooperate with investigations by such agencies.

Immunity

A School District employee, student, or volunteer shall be individually immune from liability in a civil action for damages arising from reporting an incident in accordance with this policy and R.C. 3313.666 if that person reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying promptly, in good faith, and in compliance with the procedures specified in this policy. Such immunity from liability shall not apply to an employee, student, or volunteer determined to have made an intentionally false report about harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be **annually** circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. At least once each school year a written statement describing the policy and consequences for violations of the policy shall be sent to each student's custodial parent or guardian.

The policy and an explanation of the seriousness of bullying by electronic means shall be made available to students in the District and to their custodial parents or guardians.

State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedures.

Education and Training

In support of this policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of aggressive behavior, including bullying and violence within a dating relationship. The Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate training to all

members of the School District community related to the implementation of this policy and its accompanying administrative guidelines. All training regarding the Board's policy and administrative guidelines and aggressive behavior and bullying in general, will be age and content appropriate.

Annually, the District shall provide all students enrolled in the District with age-appropriate instruction regarding the Board's policy, including a written or verbal discussion of the consequences for violations of the policy.

Students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) shall receive age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education, including instruction in recognizing dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships. Parents, who submit a written request to the building principal to examine the dating violence prevention instruction materials used in the school, will be afforded an opportunity to review the materials within a reasonable period of time.

The District shall provide training, workshops, and/or courses on this policy for school employees and volunteers who have direct contact with students. Time spent by school staff in these training programs shall apply toward mandated continuing education requirements.

In accordance with Board Policy 8462, the Superintendent shall include a review of this policy on bullying and other forms of harassment in the required training in the prevention of child abuse, violence, and substance abuse and the promotion of positive youth development.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy. Guidelines shall include reporting and investigative procedures, as needed. The complaint procedure established by the Superintendent shall be followed.

Policy 5610: Removal, Suspension, Expulsion, and Permanent Exclusion of Students

The Board of Education recognizes that exclusion from the educational program of the schools, whether by emergency removal, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion, is the most severe sanction that can be imposed on a student, and one that cannot be imposed without due process. At the same time, the Board retains zero tolerance of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior by its students.

No student is to be removed, suspended out of school, expelled, and/or permanently excluded unless his/her behavior represents misconduct as specified in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code approved by the Board. The Code shall also specify the procedures to be followed by school officials when implementing such discipline. In addition to the procedural safeguards and definitions set forth in this policy and the student/parent handbook, additional procedures and considerations shall apply to students identified as disabled under the IDEA, ADA, and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Students may be subject to discipline for violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code even if that conduct occurs on property not owned or controlled by the Board but where such conduct is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the Board, or conduct that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a District official or employee, or the property of such official or employee.

For complete information regarding the removal, suspension, expulsion, and permanent exclusion of students, please see the full text of Board policy 5610.

Policy 5610.01: Permanent Exclusion of Non-Disabled Students

In accordance with the law, the Board of Education may seek permanent exclusion for a student, sixteen (16) years of age or older, who has been convicted of or adjudicated delinquent for the reason of the following offenses:

- A. carrying a concealed weapon or conveying or possessing a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance on property owned or controlled by the Board of Education or at an activity held under the auspices of this Board
- B. possessing, selling, or offering to sell controlled substances on property owned or controlled by the Board of Education or at an activity under the auspices of this Board
- C. complicity to commit any of the above offenses, regardless of where the complicity occurred

In accordance with law, any student, sixteen (16) years of age or older, who has been convicted or adjudicated delinquent for committing the following offenses may be subject to permanent exclusion:

- A. rape, gross sexual imposition or felonious sexual penetration
- B. murder, manslaughter, felonious or aggravated assault
- C. complicity to commit offenses described in paragraphs A and B, regardless of where the complicity occurs

The above statement of policy on permanent exclusion is to be posted in a central location in each school as well as made available to students, upon request.

If the Superintendent has adequate evidence that a student, sixteen (16) years old or older at the time of the offense, has been convicted of or is an adjudicated delinquent resulting from any of the above offenses, the Superintendent shall submit a written recommendation to the Board that the student should be permanently excluded from the public schools by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The recommendation is to be accompanied by the evidence, other information required by statute, and the name and position of the person who should present the District's case to the State Superintendent. The Board, after considering all the evidence, including the hearing of witnesses, shall take action within fourteen (14) days after receipt of the Superintendent's recommendation.

If the Board adopts the resolution, the Superintendent shall submit it to the State Superintendent, together with the required documents and the name of the person designated by the Board as its representative to present the case to the State Superintendent. A copy of the resolution shall be sent to both the student and the parents.

If the Board fails to pass the resolution, it shall notify the Superintendent, in writing, who, in turn, shall provide written notification of the Board's action to both the student and the parents.

If the State Superintendent rejects the Board's request, the District Superintendent shall readmit the student in accordance with statute and District guidelines.

If the State Superintendent acts on the Board's request, the State Superintendent actions and those of the District shall be in accord with the procedures described in statute.

Policy 5610.04: Suspension of Bus/Transportation Privileges

Students on a bus or other authorized Board of Education transportation vehicles are under the authority of and directly responsible to the bus/vehicle driver. The driver has the authority to enforce the established regulations for bus/vehicle conduct. Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver will be sufficient reason for refusing transportation service to any student.

A student may be suspended from school bus/vehicle riding privileges for all or part of a school year for any violation of established regulations for bus conduct and/or for conduct occurring on the bus/vehicle in violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

Before a suspension from bus/vehicle riding privileges is imposed, the Superintendent or other designated District personnel will provide a student with notice of an intended suspension and an opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or other designated District personnel. Disciplinary suspension periods will be commensurate with the infraction(s) committed as determined by the Superintendent or designated District personnel.

Any additional guidelines regarding conduct on school buses/vehicles, as well as general information about the school transportation program, will be made available to all parents and students and posted in a central location.

Policy 5610.05: Prohibition from Extracurricular Activities

Suspension of and or Prohibiting Students from Participating in Extracurricular Activities

Students may be suspended or prohibited from participating in extracurricular activities for failure of good behavior. At the high school, the High School Athletic Director, the District Music Coordinator, the principal, or a unit principal is authorized to suspend or prohibit a student from participating in any particular or all extra-curricular activities of the Kettering City Schools, or of Fairmont High School. At the middle school, the middle school principal, or assistant principal, or Athletic Director is authorized to suspend or prohibit a student from participating in any particular or all extracurricular activities of the Kettering City Schools, or of the middle school in question. Such a suspension or prohibition may, in the sound discretion of the Administrator involved, last for the balance of the season or activity, for the remainder of the school year, or for the duration of the student's attendance in the Kettering City Schools or a particular school of the Kettering City Schools.

The following procedures will apply to all suspensions or prohibitions under this policy:

- A. The Administrator, Athletic Director, or District Music Coordinator will inform the student in writing of the reason for the suspension or prohibition and the duration of the suspension or prohibition.
- B. The student will be provided an opportunity for an informal hearing before the Administrator, Athletic Director, or District Music Coordinator taking the action, to explain the conduct at issue or otherwise to challenge the reason for the intended suspension or prohibition.

- C. Within one (1) school day of the suspension or prohibition action, the Administrator, Athletic Director, or District Music Coordinator will send a letter to the parent or guardian of the student, and to a student age eighteen (18) or older, stating the reason for the suspension or prohibition and the length of the suspension or prohibition.
- D. The decision of the Administrator, Athletic Director, or District Music Coordinator making the suspension or prohibition decision shall be final.
- E. This policy will be posted in a central location in each school building of the District and will be made available to students upon request.

Policy 5630.01 - Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports and Limited Use of Restraint and Seclusion.

The Board of Education is committed to implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports ("PBIS") framework on a district-wide basis and the establishment of a school environment focused on the care, safety, and welfare of all students and staff members. Staff are directed to work to prevent the use of restraint and/or seclusion. The PBIS framework shall serve as the foundation for the creation of a learning environment that promotes the use of evidence-based academic and behavioral practices aimed at enhancing academic, social, and behavioral outcomes for all students. An emphasis shall be placed on promoting positive interventions and solutions to potential crises. If a student's behavior, however, presents a threat of immediate physical harm to the student or others, staff may, as a last resort (i.e., there is no other safe and effective intervention available) and in accordance with the terms of this policy, use approved physical restraint or seclusion to maintain a safe environment.

Physical restraint may be used only when the student's behavior poses an immediate risk of physical harm to the student and/or others and no other safe or effective intervention is available. The physical restraint must be implemented in a manner that is age and developmentally appropriate, does not obstruct the student's ability to breathe, does not interfere with the student's ability to communicate in the student's primary language or mode of communication, and otherwise in compliance with this policy and the ODE's corresponding model policy. Only Student Personnel trained in safe restraint techniques may implement physical restraint, except in the case of rare and unavoidable emergency situations when trained personnel are not immediately available. Student Personnel must be trained to protect the care, welfare, dignity, and safety of the student.

Seclusion may be used only when a student's behavior poses an immediate risk of physical harm to the student or others and no other safe or effective intervention is available. Seclusion may be used only as a last resort to provide the student with an opportunity to regain control of the student's actions. Seclusion must be used in a manner that is age and developmentally appropriate, for the minimum amount of time necessary for the purpose of protecting the student and/or others from physical harm, and otherwise in compliance with this policy and the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) model policy. Seclusion shall be implemented only by Student Personnel who are trained to protect the care, welfare, dignity, and safety of the student, including trained to detect indications of physical or mental distress that require removal and/or immediate medical assistance. Student Personnel must document their observations of the student during the seclusion.

All physical restraint and seclusion shall only be done in accordance with this policy, which is based on the standards adopted by the State Board of Education regarding the use of student restraint and seclusion.

Training in methods of PBIS and the use of restraint and seclusion will be provided to all professional staff and support staff determined appropriate by the Superintendent. Training will be in accordance with the State's Standards. Every use of restraint and seclusion shall be documented and reported in accordance with this policy.

The Board shall annually notify parents of this policy, and publish it on the District's website.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports ("PBIS") means a multi-tiered, school-wide, behavioral framework developed and implemented for the purpose of improving academic and social outcomes, and increasing learning for all students. PBIS includes a decision-making framework that guides selection, integration, and implementation of evidence-based academic and behavior practices for improving academic and behavior outcomes for all students. PBIS encompasses a range of systemic and individualized positive strategies to reinforce desired behaviors, diminish recurrences of challenging behaviors, and teach appropriate behaviors to students.

PBIS shall include:

- A. School staff trained to identify conditions such as where, under what circumstances, with whom, and why specific inappropriate behavior may occur;
- B. Functional behavior assessments that include:
 - 1. Review of existing data;
 - 2. Interviews with parents, family members, and students; and
 - 3. Examination of previous and existing behavioral intervention plans.

C. Development and implementation of positive behavior interventions and supports, and the teaching of appropriate behavior, including:

1. Modification of environmental factors that escalate inappropriate behavior;
2. Supporting the attainment of appropriate behavior; and
3. Use of verbal de-escalation techniques to defuse potentially violent dangerous behavior.

For complete information regarding Positive Behavior Intervention And Supports And Limited Use Of Restraint And Seclusion, see the full text of Policy 5630.01.

Policy 5611: Due Process Rights

The Board of Education recognizes that students have limited constitutional rights when it comes to their education. Accordingly, the Board establishes the following procedures:

A. Student subject to suspension:

When a student is being considered for an out-of-school suspension by the Superintendent, principal, or other administrator:

1. The student will be informed in writing of the potential suspension and the reasons for the proposed action;
2. The student will be provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and to explain personal actions; and
3. An attempt will be made to notify parents or guardians by telephone if a suspension is issued.
4. Within one (1) school day of the suspension, the Superintendent, principal, or other administrator will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the student. The notice will include the reasons for the suspension and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent within three (3) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend. If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.
5. Notice of this suspension will also be sent to the:
 - a. Superintendent;
 - b. student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record);
 - c. the student services office.
6. If a student leaves school property without permission immediately upon violation (or suspected violation) of a provision of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code or prior to an administrator conducting an informal hearing as specified above, and the student fails to return to school on the following school day, the principal, assistant principal, Superintendent, or any other administrator, may send the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) notice of the suspension, and offer to provide the student and/or his/her parents an informal hearing upon request to discuss the reasons for the suspension and to allow the student to challenge the reasons and to explain his/her actions, any time prior to the end of the suspension period.

Appeal of Suspension to the Board or its designee

The student who is eighteen (18) or older or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee. They may be represented in all such appeal proceedings.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be provided in regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, with Director of Student Services three (3) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

Appeal to the Court

Under Ohio law, appeal of the Board's or its designee's decision may be made to the Court of Common Pleas.

B. Students subject to expulsion:

When a student is being considered for expulsion by the Superintendent:

1. The Superintendent will give the student and parent, guardian, or custodian written notice of the intended expulsion, including reasons for the intended expulsion.
2. The student and parent or representative have the opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or designee to challenge the proposed action or to otherwise explain the student's actions. The written notice will state the time and place to appear, which must not be earlier than three (3) school days nor later than five (5) school days after the notice is given, unless the Superintendent grants an extension upon request of the student or parent.
3. Within one (1) school day of the expulsion, the Superintendent will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the student and Treasurer of the Board. The notice will include the reasons for the expulsion and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the expulsion to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the notice of expulsion. If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.

Appeal of Expulsion to the Board

Should a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, or a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) or custodian if the student is under eighteen (18), choose to appeal the Superintendent's decision, a request for a Board of Education appeal hearing must be made in writing to the Director of Student Services within five (5) school days of the date of notice of expulsion set forth in step three (3) above. The appeal hearing will be held before the designee within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the request. A stenographic record will be made of the hearing. The Board of Education designated hearing officer shall control the conduct of the hearing, rule on objections, and may limit testimony or other evidence. The student, parent(s) or guardian(s) and witnesses, if any, may be present.

Oral testimony and documentary evidence may be presented. Either party may be represented by counsel. The hearing shall follow procedures for Board of Education Appeal as set forth in Suspension Procedures. The hearing officer may revoke, reverse, vacate, affirm, reinstate or modify the expulsion and/or reinstate the student.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent, or guardian, if it is held before the Board.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be in accordance with regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the Superintendent's decision to expel with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent.

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

Appeal to the Court

Under State law, the decision of the Board or its designee may be further appealed to the Court of Common Pleas.

C. Students subject to emergency removal:

Students whose conduct warrants emergency removal shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.03 – Emergency Removal.

D. Students subject to permanent exclusion:

Students whose conduct is that for which permanent exclusion is warranted shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.01 – Permanent Exclusion of Nondisabled Students.

E. Students subject to suspension from bus riding/transportation privileges:

Students whose conduct warrants suspension from bus riding and/or transportation services shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.04 - Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges.

The Superintendent shall ensure that all members of the staff use the above procedures when dealing with students. In addition, this statement of due process rights is to be placed in all student handbooks in a manner that will facilitate understanding by students and their parents.

These procedures shall not apply to in-school disciplinary alternatives including in-school suspensions. An in-school suspension is one served entirely in a supervised learning environment within a school setting. Nor shall these disciplinary alternative procedures apply to students who are prohibited by authorized school personnel from all or part of their participation in co-curricular, interscholastic, and/or non-interscholastic extracurricular activities.

Policy 5771: Search and Seizure

The Board of Education recognizes that the privacy of students or their belongings may not be violated by unreasonable search and seizure and directs that no student be searched without reasonable suspicion or in an unreasonable manner.

The Board acknowledges the need for in-school storage of student possessions and shall provide storage places, including desks and lockers, for that purpose. Such spaces remain the property of the Board and, in accordance with law, may be the subject of random search. Where locks are provided for such places, students may lock them against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall students have such an expectation of privacy as to prevent examination by a school official. The Board directs the school principals to conduct a routine inspection at least annually of all such storage places.

School authorities are charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, school authorities may search the person or property, including vehicles, of a student, with or without the student's consent, whenever they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of law or of school rules. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction and the student's age.

This authorization to search shall also apply to all situations in which the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board.

Administrators are permitted to conduct a random search of any student's locker and its contents at any time, providing proper notice has been posted in the building.

Search of a student's person or intimate personal belongings shall be conducted by a person of the student's gender, in the presence of another staff member of the same gender, and only in exceptional circumstances when the health or safety of the student or of others is immediately threatened.

Administrators are authorized to arrange for the use of a breath-test instrument for the purpose of determining if a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. It is not necessary for the test to determine blood-alcohol level, since the Board has established a zero tolerance for alcohol use.

The Board also authorizes the use of canines, trained in detecting the presence of drugs or devices, when the Superintendent has reasonable suspicion that illegal drugs or devices may be present in a school. This means of detection shall be used only to determine the presence of drugs in locker areas and other places on school property where such substances could be concealed. Canine detection must be conducted in collaboration with law enforcement authorities or with organizations certified in canine detection and is not to be used to search individual students unless a warrant has been obtained prior to the search.

Except as provided below, a request for the search of a student or a student's possessions will be directed to the principal. Whenever possible, a search will be conducted by the principal in the presence of the student and a staff member other than the principal. A search prompted by the reasonable belief that health and safety are immediately threatened will be conducted with as much speed and dispatch as may be required to protect persons and property.

The principal shall be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each student search, including the reasons for the search; information received that established the need for the search and the name of informant, if any; the persons present when the search was conducted; any substances or objects found; and the disposition made of them. The principal shall be responsible for the custody, control, and disposition of any illegal or dangerous substance or object taken from a student.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

Policy 5772: Weapons

The Board of Education prohibits students from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon, including a concealed weapon, in a school safety zone and any setting that is under the control and supervision of the Board for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the Board including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the Board, a school-sponsored event, or in a Board-owned vehicle.

The term "weapon" includes any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, guns of any type whatsoever, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors,

clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, incendiary devices, explosives, and other objects defined as dangerous ordinances under State law.

Policy exceptions include:

- A. items pre-approved by the building principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, if used for the purpose and in the manner approved (working firearms and any ammunition will never be approved as a part of a presentation); and
- B. theatrical props used in appropriate settings.

Students shall report any information concerning weapons and/or threats of violence by students, staff members, or visitors to the principal. Failure to report such information may subject the student to disciplinary action.

This policy shall be implemented through the Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code, Policy 5610, and Policy 5610.01, and through administrative guidelines.

The Superintendent is authorized to establish instructional programs on the weapons and the requirement that students immediately report knowledge of weapons and threats of violence by students and/or staff to the building principal. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline.

The Superintendent will refer any student who violates this policy to the student's parents or guardians and to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system. The student may also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

This policy will be published annually in all District student and staff handbooks. Publication is not a precondition to enforcement of this policy.

Policy 5780: Student/Parent Rights

The Board of Education recognizes that students possess not only the right to an education but many of the rights of citizenship as well.

In providing students the opportunity for an education to which they are entitled, the Board shall attempt to offer nurture, counsel, and custodial care appropriate to their age and maturity. At the same time, the Board recognizes that no student may be deprived of the basic right to equal access to the educational program, and his/her constitutional right to due process and free expression and association as appropriate for the school environment.

Attendant to the rights afforded to each student, however, are certain responsibilities, which include respect for the rights of others, obedience to properly constituted school authority, and compliance with the guidelines and rules of the District.

The Board realizes that as students differ in age and maturity, so they differ in ability to handle both the rights of citizens and the concomitant responsibilities. The exercise of each right shall be granted, therefore, with due regard for the degree of responsibility possessed by the student and the student's need for the continuing guidance and control of those responsible for his/her education.

Since a student who has reached the age of majority possesses the full rights of an adult, s/he may authorize those school matters previously handled by his/her parents, but s/he also assumes the responsibility for his/her performance in school, attendance, and compliance with school rules.

Parents also have rights in the school system to know about their student's educational experience. Specific rights are listed in topic areas of these policies.

Parent Right to Inspect Instructional Materials

In addition, parents have the right to inspect any instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum for their student. Instructional materials means instructional content, regardless of format, that is provided to the student, including printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials available in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). Instructional material does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

The Superintendent shall, in consultation with parents, develop a procedure addressing the right of parents as described herein and procedures to assure timely response to parental requests to review instructional material. The procedure shall also address reasonable notification to parents and students of their rights to review these materials. See AG 9130A and Form 9130 F3.

Right to Inspect Technology Provider Contract

The District shall provide parents and students with an opportunity to inspect a complete copy of each technology provider contract.

This policy shall not supercede any rights under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

Policy 5780.01: Parents' Bill of Rights

The Board of Education recognizes that parents have a fundamental right to make decisions concerning the upbringing, education, and care of their children and promotes parental involvement in the District's public school system. In addition, parents have certain rights in the school system to know about their student's educational experience. Specific rights are listed in the topic areas of these policies.

Sexuality Content/Mental, Emotional, or Physical Health or Well Being/Health Care Services

Definitions:

For purposes of this policy:

"Age-appropriate" and "developmentally appropriate" content refers to activities or items that are generally accepted as suitable for children of the same chronological age or level of maturity or that are determined to be developmentally appropriate for a child, based on the development of cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities that are typical for an age or age group.

"Student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being" includes, at a minimum, any of the following:

- A. A student's academic performance;
- B. Any significant sickness or physical injury, or any psychological trauma suffered by a student;
- C. Any harassment, intimidation, or bullying, as defined in section 3313.666 of the Revised Code, by or against a student in violation of School District policy;
- D. Any request by a student to identify as a gender that does not align with the student's biological sex;
- E. Exhibition of suicidal ideation or persistent symptoms of depression or severe anxiety, or other mental health issues.

"Sexuality content" means any oral or written instruction, presentation, image, or description of sexual concepts or gender ideology provided in a classroom setting. "Sexuality content" does not mean any of the following:

- A. Instruction or presentations in sexually transmitted infection education, child sexual abuse prevention, and sexual violence prevention education provided under division (A)(5) of section 3313.60 or section 3314.0310 or 3326.091 of the Revised Code;
- B. Instruction or presentations in sexually transmitted infection education emphasizing abstinence provided under section 3313.6011 of the Revised Code;
- C. Incidental references to sexual concepts or gender ideology occurring outside of formal instruction or presentations on such topics, including references made during class participation and in schoolwork.

Sexuality Content and Parental Notification

The Board will ensure that any sexuality content is age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate for the age of the student receiving the instruction, regardless of the age or grade level of the student. The Board will not permit instruction that includes sexuality content in grades kindergarten through grade three (3).

Prior to providing instruction that includes sexuality content or permitting a third party to provide such instruction on behalf of the District, the Board will provide parents the opportunity to review any instructional material that includes sexuality content. Upon request of the student's parent, a student shall be excused from instruction that includes sexuality content and shall be permitted to participate in an alternative assignment.

Student Services/Mental, Emotional, Physical Health or Well-Being/Safe and Supportive Learning Environment and Parental Notification

The Board will promptly notify a student's parent of any substantial change in the student's services, including counseling services or monitoring related to the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being or the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for the student. Such notification will be provided by the student's building administration through email and/or a telephone conference. The Board will not inhibit parental access to the student's education and health records maintained by the school.

School District personnel will not directly or indirectly encourage a student to withhold from a parent information concerning the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being, or a change in related services or monitoring.

School District personnel will not discourage or prohibit parental notification of and involvement in decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being.

Procedure for Authorization From Parents for Health Care Services

Authorization of parents must be obtained by the Board prior to providing any type of health care service to students, including physical, mental, and behavioral health care services. Parents may choose whether to authorize the Board to provide a health care service to the parent's child.

To facilitate parental involvement and decision-making on such authorization, at the beginning of each school year, the Board will notify parents of each health care service offered at, or facilitated in cooperation with, their student's school of attendance and of the parents' option to withhold consent or decline any specified service. If granted, parental consent to health care services does not waive the parent's right to access their child/children's educational or health records or to be notified about a change in the student's services or monitoring as set forth herein.

Prior to providing a health care service to a student, the building administration of the student's school of attendance will notify a parent whether the service is required to be provided by the School District under State law and if other options for a student to access the service exist. These notification requirements do not apply to emergency situations, first aid, other unanticipated minor health care services, or health care services provided pursuant to a student's IEP or the District's obligation under section 504 of the "Rehabilitation Act of 1973," 29 U.S.C. 794.

Process for Resolving Parental Concerns

Parents may file written concerns with the Principal or other building administrator of the student's school of attendance regarding any topics addressed in the above Parental Rights and Parental Involvement section of this policy. Parents will be notified at the beginning of each school year of their right to file a written concern. The Principal or other building administrator will take steps with the parent(s) to resolve the concern within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written concern. If not satisfied with the outcome of the resolution by the Principal or building administrator, the parent(s) may appeal a decision at that level to the Superintendent.

If a parent appeals the Principal's or building administrator's decision, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will conduct a hearing on the decision. Based on the findings of that hearing, the Superintendent shall decide whether to affirm the Principal's or building administrator's decision. If the Superintendent determines not to affirm the decision, the Superintendent shall determine a resolution to the parent's concern and communicate the decision to the parent. A parent may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board of Education.

If the Superintendent's decision is appealed, the Board shall review the Superintendent's decision and, if the Board determines it necessary, hold a hearing on the decision and, based on that hearing, either affirm the Superintendent's decision or determine a new resolution to the parent's concern.

Nothing in this policy shall be read to prevent a parent from contacting a member of the Board regarding a concern with the operation of a school under the supervision of the Board of Education. This policy shall require any disclosure or activity otherwise prohibited by applicable law, regulation, or judicial order.

Policy 7434: Use of Tobacco on School Premises

The Board of Education is committed to providing students, staff, and visitors with a tobacco and smoke-free environment. The negative health effects of tobacco use for both users and nonusers, particularly in connection with second hand smoke, are well established. Further, providing a non-smoking and tobacco-free environment is consistent with the responsibilities of teachers and staff to be positive role models for our students.

For purposes of this policy, "use of tobacco" means to chew or maintain any substance containing tobacco, including smokeless tobacco, in the mouth to derive the effects of tobacco, as well as all uses of tobacco, including cigars, cigarettes, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, any other matter or substances that contain tobacco, in addition to papers used to roll cigarettes and/or the smoking of electronic, "vapor," or other substitute forms of cigarettes, clove cigarettes and any other lighted smoking devices for burning tobacco or any other substance.

The term "tobacco" includes any product containing, made of, or derived from tobacco or nicotine (including synthetic nicotine) that is intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed, whether inhaled, absorbed, or ingested by any other means including, but not limited to, a cigarette, a cigar, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or snus; any electronic smoking device and any substances that may be aerosolized or vaporized by such device, whether or not the substance contains nicotine; an e-cigarette (including, but not limited to, "JUUL", "NJOY," "BREEZE," "Puff Bar," etc.), e-cigar, e-pipe, vape pen, or e-hookah; but does not include any cessation product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use as a medical treatment to reduce or eliminate nicotine or tobacco dependence.

TOBACCO USE PROHIBITED

No student, staff member, volunteer, or school visitor is permitted to use tobacco products at any time, including non-school hours, in or on District property, including:

- A. in any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented, or chartered by the School District; and
- B. on school grounds, athletic grounds or parking lots; and
- C. at any school-sponsored or school-related event, whether such event occurs on campus or off campus.

TOBACCO POSSESSION PROHIBITED

Students are not permitted to possess any tobacco products, papers used to roll cigarettes, or lighters on any school property at any time.

TOBACCO PROMOTION PROHIBITED

Tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in or on all school property including school vehicles, in all school-sponsored publications, at all school-sponsored events, and any other publication or event under the control of the District.

NOTICE

Appropriate signs indicating that tobacco use is not permitted will be posted throughout the district at entrances and other appropriate locations on all academic buildings, administrative spaces, and athletic fields. Students will be provided notice of this policy through student handbooks and district personnel will be provided notice of this policy through personnel handbooks. Announcements will be made during home athletic events both before the event and during intermission, as well as at all school functions, where deemed appropriate. School programs will include a written reminder of the tobacco free policy.

EDUCATIONAL REINFORCEMENT

Tobacco use prevention education should be coordinated with other components of the school health program.

DISCIPLINARY ENFORCEMENT

Disciplinary measures taken against students and staff for violations of this policy need to comply with requirements of Ohio law, related District policies, and contractual agreements.

Disciplinary actions may be taken against school visitors found in violation of this policy and may include a verbal notification of the policy for the first offense, and removal from the school property or school activity if off-campus for a subsequent offense.

Policy 7540.03 – Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety

Technology directly affects the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. Educators are expected to continually adapt their means and methods of instruction and the way they approach student learning to incorporate the latest technologies. The Board of Education provides Information & Technology Resources (as defined in Bylaw 0100) (collectively, "District Information & Technology Resources") to support the educational and professional needs of its students and staff. With respect to students, District Information & Technology Resources afford them the opportunity to acquire the skills and knowledge to learn effectively and live productively in a digital world. The Board provides students with access to the Internet for educational purposes only and utilizes apps and services (as defined by Bylaw 0100) to enhance the instruction delivered to its students. The District's computer network and Internet system do not serve as a public access service or a public forum and the Board imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent with its stated educational purpose.

The Board regulates the use of District Information & Technology Resources in a manner consistent with applicable local, State, and Federal laws, the District's educational mission, and articulated expectations of student conduct as delineated in the Student Code of Conduct. This policy and its related administrative guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct govern students' use of District Information & Technology Resources and students' personal communication devices ("PCDS") when they are connected to District Information & Technology Resources, including apps/services, regardless of whether such use takes place on or off school property (see Policy 5136).

Students are prohibited from using District Information & Technology Resources to engage in illegal conduct (e.g., libel, slander, vandalism, harassment, theft, plagiarism, inappropriate access, etc.) or conduct that violates this Policy and its related administrative guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct (e.g., making personal attacks or injurious comments, invading a person's privacy, etc.). Nothing herein, however, shall infringe on students' First Amendment rights. Because its Information & Technology Resources are not unlimited, the Board may institute restrictions aimed at preserving these resources, such as placing limits on use of bandwidth, storage space, and printers.

Students have no right or expectation to privacy when using District Information & Technology Resources (including, but not limited to, privacy in the content of their personal files, messages/e-mails, and records of their online activity).

While the Board uses various technologies to limit students using its Information & Technology Resources to only use/access apps/services and other resources that have been pre-approved for the purpose of instruction, study, and research related to the curriculum, it is impossible to prevent students from accessing and/or coming in contact with online content that has not been pre-approved for use by students of certain ages. It is no longer possible for educators and community members to review and screen materials to assess their appropriateness for supporting and enriching the curriculum according to adopted guidelines and reasonable selection criteria (taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students who would be exposed to them) when significant portions of students' education take place online or through the use of apps/services.

Pursuant to Federal law, the Board implements technology protection measures that protect against (e.g., filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions/materials that are obscene, constitute child pornography, and/or are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). At the discretion of the Board or the Superintendent, the technology protection measures may be configured to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access. The Board also utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor the online activity of students to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate, and/or harmful to minors. The technology protection measures may not be disabled at any time that students may be using District Information & Technology Resources if such disabling will cease to protect against access to materials that are prohibited under CIPA. Any student who attempts to disable the technology protection measures will be disciplined.

The Superintendent may temporarily or permanently unblock access to websites or apps/services containing appropriate material if access to such sites has been mistakenly, improperly, or inadvertently blocked by the technology protection measures. The determination of whether material is appropriate or inappropriate shall be based on the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the protection actions of the technology protection measures.

Parents are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to online content and/or apps/services that the Board has not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to content that they and/or their parents may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable, or controversial. Parents of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the Internet.

Principals are responsible for providing training so that students under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Pursuant to Federal law, students shall receive education about the following:

- A. safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- B. the dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally identifiable information;
- C. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking", "harvesting", "digital piracy", "data mining", etc.), cyberbullying, and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online; and
- D. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally identifiable information ("PII") regarding minors.

Staff members shall provide guidance and instruction to their students regarding the appropriate use of District Information & Technology Resources and online safety and security as specified above. Additionally, such training shall include, but not be limited to, education concerning appropriate online behavior including interacting with others on social media, including in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. Furthermore, staff members will monitor, in accordance with Federal and State law, the online activities of students while they are at school.

Monitoring may include, but is not necessarily limited to, visual observations of online activities during class sessions or use of specific monitoring tools to review browser history and network, server, and computer logs. The District will provide parents with appropriate notice – to the extent required by State law – when such monitoring takes place.

All students who use District Information & Technology Resources (and their parents if they are minors) are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and its accompanying guidelines. See Form 7540.03 F1.

In order to keep District Information & Technology Resources operating in a safe, secure, efficient, effective, and beneficial manner to all users, students are required to comply with all District-established cybersecurity procedures. Principals are responsible for providing such training on a regular basis and measuring the effectiveness of the training.

Students will be assigned a District-provided school email account that they are required to use for all school-related electronic communications, including those to staff members, peers, individuals, and/or organizations outside the District with whom they are communicating for school-related projects and assignments. Further, as directed and authorized by their teachers, they shall use their school-assigned e-mail account when signing up/registering for access to various apps/services.

Students are responsible for good behavior when using District Information & Technology Resources – i.e., behavior comparable to that expected of students when they are in physical classrooms and school buildings and at school-sponsored events. Because communications on the Internet are often public in nature, general school rules for behavior and communication apply. The Board does not approve any use of its Information & Technology Resources that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students may only use District Information & Technology Resources to access or use social media if it is done for educational purposes in accordance with their teacher's approved plan for such use.

Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools For School Work

To ensure the integrity of the educational process and to promote fair and equal opportunities for all students, except as outlined below, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools is strictly prohibited for the completion of school work. The use of AI tools, without the express permission/consent of a teacher, undermines the learning and problem-solving skills that are essential to academic success and that the staff is tasked to develop in each student. Students are encouraged to develop their own knowledge, skills, and understanding of

course material rather than relying solely on AI tools and they should ask their teachers when they have questions and/or need assistance. Unauthorized use of AI tools is considered a form of plagiarism, and any student found using these tools without permission or in a prohibited manner will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. (See Policy 7540.09 - Artificial Intelligence ("AI")).

Notwithstanding the preceding, students can use AI tools in the school setting if they receive prior permission/consent from their teacher, so long as they use the AI tools in an ethical and responsible manner. Teachers have the discretion to authorize students to use AI tools for the following uses:

- A. Research assistance: AI tools can be used to help students quickly and efficiently identify background information, including locating relevant information and sources for their school projects and assignments, suggesting research questions, providing opposing viewpoints, identifying blind spots, and suggesting other perspectives.
- B. Data Analysis: AI tools can be used to help students with pattern identification and to analyze, understand, and interpret large amounts of data, such as text documents or social media posts. This can be particularly useful for research projects or data analysis assignments – e.g., scientific experiments and marketing research.
- C. Language translation: AI tools can be used to translate texts or documents into different languages, which can be helpful for students who are learning a new language or for students who are studying texts written in a different language. AI tools can also remove abstract language from a text, adjust text complexity, and provide background information about a culture to help a student understand texts.
- D. Writing assistance: AI tools can provide feedback on a student's writing, including grammar and spelling corrections, as well as suggest alternative word choices and sentence structure, to help students improve their writing skills. Similarly, AI tools can offer suggestions to modify tone and voice, organize a student's thinking, identify bias, suggest additional topics, and ask questions to expand the student's thinking on a topic.
- E. Accessibility: AI tools can be used to help students with disabilities access and understand written materials. For example, text-to-speech software can help students with specific learning disabilities or visual impairments to read texts and AI-powered translation tools can help students with hearing impairments understand spoken language (e.g., create transcripts or provide closed-captioning for spoken material).

When AI tools are used responsibly and effectively, they can supplement, not replace, traditional learning methods. If a student has any questions about whether they are permitted to use AI tools for a specific class assignment, they should ask their teacher.

In accordance with their teacher's direction, students are required to cite/identify work generated/created with the use of AI tools and explain/demonstrate how the AI tools were used in the creation of the work.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked and disciplinary action taken against them. Users are personally responsible and liable, both civilly and criminally, for uses of District Information & Technology Resources that are not authorized by this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

The Board designates the Superintendent as the administrator(s) responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to students' use of District Information & Technology Resources.

Administrative Guideline 7540.03 - Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety

Students shall use District Information & Technology Resources (see definition Bylaw 0100) for educational purposes only. District Information & Technology Resources shall not be used for personal, non-school related purposes. Use of District Information & Technology Resources is a privilege, not a right. When using District Information & Technology Resources, students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Students who engage in unauthorized or inappropriate use of District Information & Technology Resources, including any violation of these guidelines, may have their privilege limited or revoked, and may face further disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook and/or civil or criminal liability. Prior to accessing or using District Information & Technology Resources, students (eighteen (18) years of age and older) and parents of minor students must sign the Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement (Form 7540.03 F1). Parents should discuss their values with their children and encourage students to make decisions regarding their use of District Information & Technology Resources that are in accord with their personal and family values, in addition to the Board's standards.

This guideline also governs students' use of personally-owned communication devices (PCDs) (see definition Bylaw 0100) when the PCDs are connected to District Information & Technology Resources or when used while the student is on Board-owned property or at a Board-sponsored activity.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of unauthorized uses and prohibited behaviors. This guideline further provides a general overview of the responsibilities users assume when using District Information & Technology Resources.

- A. All use of District Information & Technology Resources must be consistent with the educational mission and goals of the District.
- B. Students may only access and use District Information & Technology Resources by using their assigned account and may only send school-related electronic communications using their District-assigned e-mail addresses or services/apps connected/linked to their District-assigned email addresses. Use of another person's account/e-mail address is prohibited. Students may not allow other users

to utilize their account/email address and should not share their password or other multifactor authentication (MFA) device/app with other users. Students may not go beyond their authorized access. Students should take steps to prevent unauthorized access to their accounts by logging off or "locking" their PCDs when leaving them unattended and employing MFA techniques whenever possible/available.

- C. No user may access another person's private files. Any attempt by users to access another user's or the District's non-public files, or phone or email messages, is prohibited. Any attempts to gain access to unauthorized resources or data/information on District Information & Technology Resources or other services/apps are prohibited. Similarly, students may not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the District's Information & Technology Resources.
- D. Students may not intentionally disable any security features used on District Information & Technology Resources.
- E. Students may not use District Information & Technology Resources or their PCDs to engage in vandalism, "hacking," or other illegal activities (e.g., software pirating; intellectual property violations; engaging in slander, libel, or harassment; threatening the life or safety of another; stalking; transmission of obscene materials or child pornography, including sexting; fraud; or sale of illegal substances and goods).
 - 1. Slander and Libel - In short, slander is "oral communication of false statements injurious to a person's reputation," and libel is "a false publication in writing, printing, or typewriting or in signs or pictures that maliciously damages a person's reputation or the act or an instance of presenting such a statement to the public." (The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language. Third Edition is licensed from Houghton Mifflin Company. Copyright © 1992 by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved.) Students shall not knowingly or recklessly post/publish false or defamatory information about a person or organization. Students are reminded that material distributed over the Internet is "public" to a degree no other school publication or utterance is. As such, any remark may be seen by literally millions of people, and harmful and false statements will be viewed in that light.
 - 2. Students shall not use District Information & Technology Resources to transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based upon their race, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), age, disability, religion, or political beliefs. Sending, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, e-mails, or other materials of a sexual nature (e.g., sexting) in electronic or any other form, including the contents of a PCD or other electronic equipment, is grounds for discipline. Such actions will be reported to local law enforcement and child services as required by law.
 - 3. Vandalism and Hacking – Deliberate attempts to damage the hardware, software, or information residing in District Information & Technology Resources or any services/apps attached through the Internet are strictly prohibited. In particular, malicious use of District Information & Technology Resources to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate District Information & Technology Resources or PCDs and/or damage District Information & Technology Resources or PCDs is prohibited.

Attempts to violate the integrity of private accounts, files, programs, or services/apps, the deliberate infecting of District Information & Technology Resources or PCDs attached to the network with a "virus", and/or attempts at hacking into any internal or external computer systems using any method will not be tolerated.

Students may not engage in vandalism or use District Information & Technology Resources or their PCDs in such a way that would disrupt others' use of District Information & Technology Resources.

Vandalism is defined as any malicious or intentional attempt to harm, steal, or destroy data/information of another user or District Information & Technology Resources. This includes, but is not limited to, creating and/or uploading computer viruses, installing unapproved software, changing equipment configurations, deliberately destroying or stealing hardware and its components, or seeking to circumvent or bypass network security and/or the Board's technology protection measures. Students also must avoid intentionally wasting limited resources. Students must immediately notify a teacher, or Principal, if they identify a possible security problem. Students should not go looking for security problems, because this may be construed as an unlawful attempt to gain access.

- 4. Use of District Information & Technology Resources to access, process, distribute, display, or print child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate, and/or harmful to minors is prohibited. As such, the following material is prohibited: material that appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, and excretion; material that depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and material that lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors. If a student inadvertently accesses material that is prohibited by this paragraph, the student should immediately disclose the inadvertent access to a teacher or Principal. This will protect the user against an allegation that the user intentionally violated this provision.
- 5. Unauthorized Use of Software or Other Intellectual Property from Any Source – All communications and information accessible via the Internet should be assumed to be private property (i.e., copyrighted and/or trademarked). Laws and ethics require proper handling of intellectual property. All copyright issues regarding software, information, and attributions/acknowledgment of authorship must be respected.

Software is intellectual property and, with the exception of freeware, is illegal to use without legitimate license or permission from its creator or licensor. All software loaded on District Information & Technology Resources must be approved by the

Technology Director, and the District must own or otherwise obtain, maintain, and retain the licenses for all copyrighted software loaded on District computers. Students are prohibited from using District Information & Technology Resources for the purpose of illegally copying another person's software. Illegal peer-to-peer file trafficking of copyrighted works is prohibited.

Online articles, blog posts, podcasts, videos, and wiki entries are also intellectual property. Students should treat information found electronically in the same way they treat information found in printed sources – i.e., properly citing sources of information and refraining from plagiarism. Rules against plagiarism will be enforced.

- F. Transmission of any material in violation of any State or Federal law or regulation, or Board policy, is prohibited.
- G. Students may not use District Information & Technology Resources for private gain or commercial purposes (e.g., purchasing or offering for sale personal products or services by students), advertising, or political lobbying. This provision shall not limit the use of District Information & Technology Resources for the purpose of communicating with elected representatives or expressing views on political issues.
- H. Students may not use District Information & Technology Resources to engage in cyberbullying. "Cyberbullying" involves the use of information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, which is intended to harm others. (Bill Belsey (<http://www.cyberbullying.org>)) Cyberbullying may occur through e-mail, instant messaging (IM), chat room/Bash Boards, small text messages (SMS), websites, voting booths, social media, and other technological means of communicating/publishing text, audios, and/or videos.

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. posting/publishing slurs or rumors or other disparaging remarks about a student on a website or weblog;
 2. sending e-mails or instant messages that are mean or threatening or so numerous as to negatively impact the victim's use of that method of communication and/or drive up the victim's cell phone bill;
 3. using a smartphone to take and/or send embarrassing and/or sexually explicit photographs/recordings of students;
 4. posting/publishing online misleading or fake photographs of students.
- I. Students are expected to abide by the following generally-accepted rules of online etiquette:
 1. Be polite, courteous, and respectful in your messages to others. Use language appropriate to school situations in any communications made through or utilizing District Information & Technology Resources. Do not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, sexually explicit, defamatory, threatening, abusive, or disrespectful language in communications made through or utilizing District Information & Technology Resources.
 2. Do not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
 3. Do not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. If a student is told by a person to stop sending that person messages, the student must stop.
 4. Do not post information that, if acted upon, could cause damage or a danger of disruption.
 5. Never reveal names, addresses, phone numbers, or passwords of yourself or other students, family members, teachers, administrators, or other staff members while communicating on the Internet. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, disclosing personally identifiable information on commercial websites.
 6. Do not transmit to third parties/unknown individuals pictures or other information that could be used to establish identity without prior approval of a teacher.
 7. Never agree to get together with someone you "meet" online without parent approval and participation.
 8. Regularly check District-provided e-mail account and delete e-mails no longer need.
 9. Students should promptly disclose to a teacher or administrator any messages they receive that are inappropriate or make them feel uncomfortable, especially any e-mail that contains sexually explicit content (e.g. pornography). To aid in any investigation, students should not delete such messages until instructed to do so by an administrator.
 - J. Downloading of files onto District Information & Technology Resources is prohibited without prior approval. If a student transfers files from online services/apps (e.g., electronic bulletin board services), the student must check the file with a virus detection program before opening the file for use. Only public domain software may be downloaded. If a student transfers a file or installs a program that infects District Information & Technology Resources with a virus and causes damage, the student will be liable for any and all repair costs associated with making the District Information & Technology Resources once again fully operational.
 - K. Students must secure prior approval from a teacher or the Principal before joining a Listserv (electronic mailing lists) and should not post personal messages on bulletin boards or Listservs.
 - L. Students may use real-time electronic communication, such as chat or instant messaging, only under the direct supervision of a teacher or in moderated environments that have been established to support educational activities and have been approved by the

Board, Superintendent, or Principal. Students may only use their school-assigned accounts/e-mail addresses when accessing, using, or participating in real-time electronic communications for education purposes.

- M. Privacy in communication over the Internet and through the District's Information & Technology Resources is not guaranteed. In order to verify compliance with these guidelines, the Board reserves the right to access, monitor, review, and inspect any directories, files, and/or messages residing on or sent using the District's Information & Technology Resources. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
- N. Use of the Internet and any data/information procured from the Internet is at the student's own risk. The Board makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or services provided by or through District Information & Technology Resources will be error-free or without defect. The Board is not responsible for any damage a user may suffer including, but not limited to, loss of data/information, service interruptions, or exposure to inappropriate material or people. The Board is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of data/information obtained through the Internet. Data/Information (including text, graphics, audio, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers, reports, and projects must be cited the same as references to printed materials. The Board is not to be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of District Information & Technology Resources. Students or parents of students will indemnify and hold the Board harmless from any losses sustained as the result of a student's misuse of District Information & Technology Resources.
- O. Disclosure, use, and/or dissemination of personally identifiable information of minors via the Internet is prohibited, except as expressly authorized by the minor student's parent/guardian on the "Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement Form" (see Form 7540.03 F1).
- P. Proprietary rights in the design of websites, web pages, and services/apps hosted on Board-owned or District-affiliated servers remain at all times with the Board.
- Q. File-sharing is strictly prohibited. Students are prohibited from downloading and/or installing file-sharing software or programs on District Information & Technology Resources.
- R. Students may not use District Information & Technology Resources to establish or access web-based e-mail accounts on commercial services (e.g., Gmail, iCloud, Outlook, Yahoo mail, etc.).
- S. Since there is no central authority on the Internet, each site is responsible for its own users. Complaints received from other sites regarding any of the District's users will be fully investigated and disciplinary action will be imposed as appropriate.
- T. Preservation of Resources and Priorities of Use: District Information & Technology Resources are limited. Each student is permitted reasonable space to store e-mail, web, and personal school-related files.

Game playing is not permitted unless under the supervision of a teacher.

- U. **Artificial Intelligence/Natural Language Processing Tools:** Absent express direction/permission from a teacher, a student may not use Artificial Intelligence (AI) or Natural Language Processing (NLP) tools to complete school work – i.e., to create, compose, generate, or edit original content that they intend to submit as their own work. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, the use of AI and NLP tools to prepare a writing assignment or creative art project or to answer questions on a quiz, test, or in-class or homework assignment. The preceding prohibition does not include and does not limit a student's use of AI/NLP tools that are features built into apps, including a word processing program, installed by the District on District-issued PCDs (e.g., Chromebooks), or AI/NLP tools that is/are listed as approved accommodation(s) or assistive technology pursuant to a student's individualized education program or Section 504 Plan. In particular, this prohibition does not include the use of speech-to-text features that are part of District-issued PCDs unless the purpose of the class work/assignment is to assess/test a student's knowledge of spelling, grammar, etc. If a student has any question(s) as to whether specific AI/NLP tools can be used for an assignment, the student should ask their teacher. If a student violates this prohibition, the student will be charged with plagiarism and disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, including not receiving credit for the assignment.

Abuse of Network Resources

Peer-to-peer file sharing, mass mailings, and downloading of unauthorized games, videos, and music are wasteful of limited network resources and forbidden. In addition, the unauthorized acquisition and sharing of copyrighted materials are illegal and unethical.

Unauthorized Printing

District printers may only be used to print school-related documents and assignments. Printers, like other school resources, are to be used in a responsible manner. Ink cartridges and paper, along with printer repairs and replacement, are very expensive. The District monitors printing by users. Print jobs deemed excessive and abusive of this privilege may result in charges being assessed to the student. Users are prohibited from replacing ink cartridges and performing any other service or repairs to printers. Users should ask, as appropriate, for assistance to clear paper that is jamming a printer.

Any questions and concerns regarding these guidelines may be directed to the Chief Technology Officer.

Policy 8330: Student Records

For complete information regarding Student Records, see the full text of Policy 8330.

Notification to Parents Regarding Student Records/FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over eighteen (18) years of age ("adult students" or "eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records.

Each student's records will be kept in a confidential file located at the student's school office. The information in a student's record file will be available for review only by the parents or legal guardian of a student, an adult student, and those authorized by State and Federal law and Board policy/guidelines. State and Federal law permits access by school officials who have a legitimate educational purpose. School officials for purposes of the Board's policy include a person employed by the Board as an administrator, supervisor, teacher/instructor (including substitutes), or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the Board; a person or company with whom the Board has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, insurance carrier, medical consultant, or supplemental education service provider); a contractor, consultant, volunteer or other party to whom the Board had outsourced a service otherwise performed by Board employees (e.g. a therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks (including volunteers). An individual will have a "legitimate educational purpose" if the record is necessary in order for the school official/employee to perform an administrative, supervisory, or instructional task, or to perform a service or benefit for the student or the student's family. The Board directs that reasonable and appropriate methods (including but not limited to physical and/or technological access controls) be utilized to control access to student records and to make certain that school officials obtain access to only those education records in which they have legitimate educational interest.

In addition to school officials with a legitimate educational purpose, the Board may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student:

- A. To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of 34 C.F.R. 99.34.
- B. To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the Ohio Department of Education. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of 34 C.F.R. 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State- supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of personally identifiable information to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf.
- C. In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.
- D. To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (1) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (2) administer student aid programs; or (3) improve instruction.
- E. To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions.
- F. To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes.
- G. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena.
- H. To State and local officials or authorities in the juvenile justice system as it pertains to the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, upon certification that the information will not be unlawfully released to third parties.
- I. To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency.
- J. Information the school has designated as "directory information," as defined below, and subject to the restrictions explained below.

A parent or adult student has the right to:

- A. Inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five (45) days after the school receives a request for access or within such a shorter period as may be applicable to students with disabilities. The school has a form that can be used to submit such a request. The school principal is considered the Custodian of Records ("COR") and will notify the parent or adult student of the time and place where the records can be inspected. Parents and adult students are not permitted to inspect and review the education records of other students. If there is a valid reason why a parent or adult student cannot personally inspect and review a student's education records, or if the parent or adult student specifically requests copies of education records, the COR may arrange for copies of the requested records to be delivered to the parent or adult student directly. The Board may charge a reasonable fee for the copying of records, which may be waived under circumstances of unusual hardship.

- B. Request the amendment of the student's education records if the parent or adult student believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. Parents or adult students who believe that a change is necessary should ask the COR to correct the record. Such a request should be made in writing and should identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the record is not changed to the parent's or adult student's satisfaction or if the COR informs the parent or adult student that the record does not appear to be misleading, inaccurate, or in violation of any privacy right, the parent or adult student will be informed of his/her right to request a hearing. The parent or adult student may submit a written request for a hearing. A hearing officer who will submit his/her findings to the Superintendent will conduct the hearing. The Superintendent will make the final decision concerning whether to change the record. A parent or student who remains dissatisfied with the final decision of the Superintendent may request that an explanatory statement be placed in the student's file explaining the basis for the disagreement. The school has a form that may be used to identify which information in the record the parent or adult student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or a violation of the student's privacy rights, and to specify why it is inappropriate.
- C. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that Federal and/or State law authorizes disclosure without consent (e.g. disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests). The school's AG 8330 describes those exceptions and is available upon request. Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
- D. Challenge the Board's noncompliance with a parent's request to amend the records through a hearing. If the COR decides not to amend the record, the parent or adult student will be notified and provided the opportunity for a hearing. Additional information concerning the hearing will be provided when the individual is notified of the opportunity for a hearing. (See paragraph B above).
- E. Obtain a copy of the District's policy and administrative guideline on student records (Policy 8330 and AG 8330).

Directory Information

Both FERPA and Ohio's Student Privacy Law (O.R.C. 3319.321) require that the Board, with certain exceptions, obtain a parent or adult student's written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information about a student. However, the Board may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless the parent or adult student advises the Board to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Board to include this type of information in certain school publications. Examples include: a playbill, showing a student's role in a drama/musical production; the annual yearbook; honor roll or other recognition lists; graduation programs and sports activity sheets (e.g. showing weight and height of team members). Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's or adult student's prior written consent. In addition, two (2) Federal laws require the District to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three (3) directory information categories, names, addresses, and telephone listings – unless parents or adult students have advised the District that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

Each year the District will provide public notice to students and their parents of its intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information". The Board designates as student "directory information": a student's name; address; telephone number; date and place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially-recognized activities and sports; height and weight, if a member of an athletic team; dates of attendance; date of graduation; or awards received.

The District will make the above information available upon a legitimate request unless a parent, guardian, or adult student notifies the school in writing within ten (10) days (refer to Policy 8330) from the date of this notification that s/he will not permit distribution of any or all such information.

Parents or eligible students who choose to prohibit the Board from disclosing any or all such directory information may not prevent the Board from requiring a student to wear, publicly display, or disclose a student ID card or badge that exhibits directory information. Students enrolled in online courses or programs sponsored or conducted by the Board must disclose or permit the disclosure of the student's name, identifier, or school email address in a class in which the student is enrolled.

Policy 8420: Emergency Situations at Schools

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe learning and work environment. Unfortunately, natural and man-made disasters do occur. Such emergencies are best met by preparedness and planning.

The Board directs that a system of emergency preparedness be developed that addresses the following goals and/or objectives:

- A. The health and safety of students and staff are safeguarded
- B. Minimum disruption to the educational program occurs
- C. Students are helped to learn self-reliance and trained to respond sensibly to emergency situations

All threats to the safety of District facilities shall be identified by appropriate personnel and responded to promptly in accordance with the plan for emergency preparedness.

For complete information regarding Emergency Situations at school, see the full text of Policy 8420.

Policy 8431 - Preparedness for Toxic Hazards and Asbestos Hazard

The Board of Education is concerned for the safety of the students and staff members and will attempt to comply with all Federal and State statutes and regulations to protect them from hazards that may result from industrial accidents beyond the control of school officials or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction.

ASBESTOS

In its efforts to comply with Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), the Ohio Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), and the Ohio Public Employment Risk Reduction Act (PERRA) the Board recognizes its responsibility to:

- A. inspect all District buildings for the existence of asbestos or asbestos- containing materials;
- B. take appropriate actions based on the inspections;
- C. establish a program for dealing with friable asbestos, if found;
- D. maintain a program of periodic surveillance and inspection of facilities or equipment containing asbestos;
- E. comply with EPA regulations governing the transportation and disposal of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials.

The Superintendent shall appoint a person to develop and implement the District's Asbestos-Management Program. Said individual will be responsible for the District's proper compliance with Federal and State laws and the appropriate instruction of staff and students.

The Superintendent shall also verify that, when conducting asbestos abatement projects, each contractor employed by the District is licensed pursuant to the Ohio Department of Health Regulations.

Nothing in this policy should be construed in any way as an assumption of liability by the Board for any death, injury, or illness that is the consequence of an accident or equipment failure or negligent or deliberate act beyond the control of the Board or its officers and employees.

For complete information regarding Preparedness for Toxic Hazards and Asbestos Hazard, see the full text of Policy 8431.

Policy 9150: School Visitors

The Board of Education welcomes and encourages visits to school by parents, other adult residents of the community and interested educators. But in order for the educational program to continue undisturbed when visitors are present and to prevent the intrusion of disruptive persons into the schools, it is necessary to invoke visitor controls.

The Superintendent or principal has the authority to prohibit the entry of any person to a school of this District or to expel any person when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be detrimental to the good order of the school. If such an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the principal is authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency whatever assistance is required to remove the individual.

The Superintendent shall promulgate such administrative guidelines as are necessary for the protection of students and employees of the District from disruption to the educational program or the efficient conduct of their assigned tasks.

Rules regarding entry of persons other than students, staff, and faculty upon school grounds or premises shall be posted conspicuously at or near the entrance to such grounds or premises if there are no formal entrances, and at the main entrance to each school building. In addition, the rules shall be posted in a central location in each school and made available to students, upon request.

Individual Board members who are interested in visiting schools or classrooms on an unofficial basis shall make the appropriate arrangements with the principal.

The Board member shall be visiting as an interested individual in a similar capacity to any parent or citizen of the community. These visits should not be considered to be inspections nor as supervisory in nature.

If, during a visit to a school or program, a Board member observes a situation or condition which causes concern, the Board member should discuss the situation first with the principal/Superintendent as soon as convenient or appropriate. Such a report or discussion shall not be considered an official one from the School Board.

If the Board member believes the situation or condition is deemed serious enough, the Board member may wish to also inform the Superintendent.

Policy 9150.01: Entry Upon School Premises

R.C. 2917.211: "No person shall trespass, loiter, or remain in the building or upon the grounds of any school in violation of the rules and regulations of the Board of Education or other authority of the school district in which such school is located. Whoever violates this section shall be fined not more than ten dollars or imprisoned not more than ten (10) days, or both."

No persons shall trespass, loiter, or remain in the building or upon the grounds of any school in violation of the rules and regulations of the Kettering Board.

- A. All persons, except those hereinafter defined, upon entering any building of the Kettering Board during the regular school day; i.e., 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., must report to the office of the building principal.

Students and members of the faculty of the building, or persons who have been authorized by the Superintendent and/or building principal to enter any such building for professional or business purposes, or persons who are attending a regularly scheduled meeting or conference authorized by the principal are exempt from this provision.

- B. After 4:30 p.m. only employees who are working at their regularly assigned duties and persons who are attending regularly scheduled school activities or other events for which formal Board permits have been issued, or who have been granted permission by the Superintendent of schools or the building principal, are authorized to be on school property.

In accordance with the provisions of R.C. 3313.20, a copy of this regulation shall be posted at or near the entrance to grounds or premises owned by the Board and at the main entrance to each school building.

For more information regarding these Board of Education policies, please contact: Director of Business Services 499-1418

APPENDIX B
KETTERING BOARD OF EDUCATION
Student Conduct Code

Reasonable and necessary order in the educational institution itself is essential to the fostering and maintaining of educational opportunity. A student may forfeit the right to educational opportunities by conduct, which substantially disrupts the educational process or deprives others of their rights. Students are subject to school disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion, for all actions that affect the good order, efficiency, morale, management and welfare of the school. Primary emphasis will be directed to activities taking place on school premises, at any school activity, function or event, during any school transportation (in a school vehicle or in any mode of transportation arranged by the school), and near school premises before, during or after any school-related activity. In addition, students are subject to discipline for misconduct that occurs off of property owned or controlled by the School District if it is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school property. Thus, any student misconduct, which directly affects the school, regardless of place or time, will be subject to disciplinary control by the school. Similarly, a student may be disciplined for any misconduct which is directed at a School District official or employee, or the property of a School District official or employee, regardless of where the misconduct occurs.

A violation of these rules, regulations, policies, statutes, or ordinances, including the rules listed below, may result in disciplinary action.

Due process procedures, as mandated by law and approved by the Board of Education, will be followed.

The following school district rules are in effect:

Rule 1. Truancy: Unexcused failure to attend class or school may result in suspension or expulsion.

Rule 2. Behavioral Problems:

- A. No student shall by use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance or by any other conduct, cause any significant disruption or obstruction of any mission, process or function of the school.
- B. No student shall fail to comply with directions of teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher's aides, principals or other authorized school personnel during any period of time when subject to the authority of school personnel.
- C. No student shall use profane, vulgar, coarse, abusive or other offensive language or gestures.
- D. No student shall intentionally provide an administrator, school resource officer, counselor, teacher or staff member with false information that may impede an ongoing investigation. Providing false information includes forgery and falsifying student or staff identification.
- E. No student shall engage in gambling or extortion.
- F. Violating board of education policies, including but not limited to:
 - 1) Circulation of Literature: Circulation by or to students of literature for or against any candidate or cause is prohibited in the school or on school premises with the exception of literature pertaining to Kettering City School District levies and bond issues.
 - 2) Fund Drives: There shall be no fundraising drives for students other than those which have been approved by the principal and student activities coordinator.
 - 3) Lunch Period (Secondary): Secondary school lunch periods are closed. Students requesting to leave the school premises during lunch hour must submit a written request by parent. Permission, when granted, will be in effect for not more than one week at a time.
 - 4) Secret Societies: Secret societies, sororities and fraternities are forbidden.
 - 5) Anti-hazing: No student shall commit any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person.
 - 6) Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy: No student shall abuse the computer equipment, programs, services or conditions of use as outlined in the Acceptable use Policy of The Kettering School District
 - (7). Misuse of a personal communication device, including unauthorized use or possession, covert recording or listening, or inappropriate photography..

Rule 3. Fighting/Violence: No student shall cause or attempt to cause physical harm to another or behave in such a manner that their conduct is likely to result in physical harm to themselves or another.

Rule 4. Vandalism: No student shall cause or attempt to cause destruction or damage of school or private property.

Rule 5. Theft: No student shall cause or attempt to cause theft of school or personal property.

Rule 6. Use/Possession of a Gun: No student shall possess, use, threaten the use of or exhibit a gun.

A "firearm" includes any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer.

- Rule 7. Use/Possession of a Weapon other than a Gun or Explosive: No student shall possess, use, threaten the use of or exhibit any object that can reasonably be considered a dangerous weapon. A "knife" includes any cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle; a razor blade; or any similar device (including sharp, metal martial arts weapons such as ninja throwing stars) that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury.
- Rule 8. Use/Possession of any Explosive, Incendiary or Poison Gas: No student shall possess, use, threaten the use of or exhibit any object that can reasonably be considered but not limited to any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, or rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine or device similar to any of the devices described above.
- Rule 9. Use/Possession of Tobacco or Tobacco Related Products: No student shall use or possess tobacco in any form, including but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other matter or substances that contain tobacco, in addition to papers used to roll cigarettes and/or the smoking of electronic, "vapor," or other substitute forms of cigarettes, clove cigarettes or other lighted smoking devices for burning tobacco or any other substance in or about a school building, on school grounds, or school busses, or at any activity supervised by the school district.
- Rule 10. Use/Possession of Alcohol: No student shall possess, use, transmit, sell or attempt to sell, or be under the influence of alcohol. No student shall come to school, remain at school, or attend any school sponsored activity with the smell of alcohol on his/her breath/clothing or showing signs of consumption, regardless of when or where the alcohol was consumed.
- Rule 11. Use/Possession of other Drugs: No student shall possess, (including, but not limited to possession in purse, wallet, locker, desk, automobile on school property, etc.) use, transmit, sell or attempt to sell, have the distinct odor of, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, controlled substance, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid, mind altering substance of any kind or intoxicant of any kind. No student shall come to school, remain at school, or attend any school sponsored activity with the smell of such chemicals or substances on his/her breath/clothing or showing signs of consumption regardless of when or where the chemical or substance was consumed/used. Use of a drug authorized by a medical prescription from a registered physician shall not be considered a violation of this rule if Board Policy 5330 – Use of Medication in School form is properly followed. No student shall use, possess or transport paraphernalia that is commonly associated with or construed to be used for any of the above mentioned chemicals or substances.
- No student shall make, sell, offer to sell, or possess counterfeit drugs or controlled substances.
- Rule 12. Sale/Distribution of Weapons: No student shall be involved in the sale or distribution of any weapon as listed in rules 6, 7, 8, and 15 of this policy.
- Rule 13. Sale/Distribution of Alcohol and/or other Drugs: No student shall be involved in the sale or distribution of alcohol or other drugs as listed in rule 10 and 11 of this policy.
- Rule 14. False Alarm/Bomb Threats: No student shall cause or attempt to disrupt or obstruct any mission, process or function of the school by means of false alarms or bomb threats.
- Rule 15. Firearm Look-A-Likes: No student shall possess any item that resembles a firearm but does not have the explosive characteristics of a firearm but may use a spring loaded device or air pressure by which to propel an object or substance (i.e. toy guns, cap guns, bb guns, pellet guns).
- Rule 16. Sexual Misconduct and/or Harassment: The board will not tolerate sexual misconduct or unlawful sexual harassment. Conduct constituting sexual misconduct and or unlawful sexual harassment may take different forms, including, but not limited to, the following:
1. *Verbal:* The making of offensive written or oral sexual innuendos, suggestive comments, jokes of a sexual nature, sexual propositions, threats, or propositions toward or by a student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties.
 2. *Nonverbal:* Causing the placement of offensive sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or the making of offensive sexually suggestive or insulting gestures, sounds, leering, whistling, and the like to or by a student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties.
 3. *Physical Contact:* Threatening or causing unwanted touching, contact, or attempts at same, including patting, pinching, brushing the body, or coerced sexual activity with or by a student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties.

4. **Unlawful Sexual Harassment:** Unlawful sexual harassment may include any of the above conduct, but is specifically defined in Board Policy 2266.

Rule 17. Nondiscrimination: The board will not tolerate discriminatory practices. Conduct constituting harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, religion, or ancestry may take different forms, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. **Verbal:** The making of offensive written or oral innuendoes, comments, jokes, insults, threats, or disparaging remarks concerning a person's race, color, national origin, disability, age, religious beliefs, or ancestry.
2. **Nonverbal:** Placing offensive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or making insulting or threatening gestures based upon a person's race, color, national origin, disability, age, religious beliefs, or ancestry.
3. **Physical:** Any intimidating or disparaging action such as hitting, pushing, shoving, hissing, or spitting on or by a fellow staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, or third parties, based upon the person's race, color, national origin, disability, age, religious beliefs, or ancestry.

Rule 18. Serious Bodily Injury: No student shall participate in an incident that results in serious bodily injury to oneself or others. Serious bodily injury is defined as "A bodily injury that involves substantial risk of death; extreme physical pain; protracted and obvious disfigurement; or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or faculty".

Rule 19. Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation: Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials. Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

- A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or
- B. violence within a dating relationship.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistance (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Rule 20. Academic Dishonesty: Instances of academic dishonesty include:

- A. using verbal, written or electronic communication (ie. cell phone) concerning the content of homework, a test or quiz, or using resources (notes, calculators, copies of quizzes/tests) that are not teacher approved on projects, tests, or homework
- B. plagiarism-the act or instance of stealing and passing off as one's own the ideas or words of another without documenting the source
- C. collusion-allowing classmates to copy work you completed and in turn submitting it as their own

Any student with the knowledge of the behaviors listed above, or involved directly or indirectly in those behaviors are equally responsible.

APPENDIX C

KCS K-12 1:1 Chromebook Handbook

The goal of the 1:1 Chromebook program is to create a collaborative, interactive learning environment for all students. This environment will enable and support students and teachers to implement transformative uses of technology while enhancing students' engagement with content and promoting the development of self-directed and lifelong learners.

Teachers in grades K-5 may choose to utilize Chromebooks in the classroom and/or send Chromebooks home for students to complete homework assignments.

1. RECEIVING YOUR CHROMEBOOK:

Chromebooks will be distributed within the first three weeks of the school year. This 1:1 Chromebook Handbook outlines the procedures and policies for families to protect the Chromebook investment for the Kettering City School District.

2. TAKING CARE OF YOUR CHROMEBOOK:

Students are responsible for the general care of the Chromebook they have been issued by the school. Chromebooks that are broken, or fail to work properly, must be reported and turned in to the school.

- Elementary students should turn the Chromebook into the classroom teacher or main office.
- Middle School students should turn the Chromebook into the classroom teacher, unit office, or library.
- High School students should turn the Chromebook into the library.

Do not take district owned Chromebooks to an outside computer service for any type of repairs or maintenance.

2a: General Precautions

- Do not attempt to repair your Chromebook yourself.
- Never transport your Chromebook with the power cord plugged in.
- Vinyl decals or non adhesive/removable stickers must leave no residue on the chromebook and must be removed by the student before turning the device into the district.
- Chromebooks will have a Kettering City School District Inventory tag on them. Any attempt to remove or alter this tag will result in disciplinary action.
- Chromebooks should never be left in a car or any unsupervised area.

2b: Screen Care

The Chromebook screens can be easily damaged! The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure on the screen.

- Do not lean or put pressure on the top of the Chromebook when it is closed.
- Do not poke the screen with anything that will mark or scratch the screen surface.
- Do not place anything on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, or disks).
- Only clean the screen with a soft, dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.

3. USING YOUR CHROMEBOOK

3a: Chromebooks left at home

- Fully-charged Chromebooks must be brought to school every day; repeated violations will result in disciplinary action.

3b: Inappropriate Media

- Inappropriate media, including but not limited to: guns, weapons, pornographic materials, inappropriate language, alcohol, drug, gang-related symbols or pictures are prohibited and will result in disciplinary actions.

3c: Sound

- Headphones may be used at the discretion of the teacher.

3d: Printing

- Students will not have the ability to print from their Chromebooks at school (assignments will be submitted digitally).

3e: Account Access

- ***Students should only login to their Chromebook using their Kettering City Schools Google account.***
- Students should not allow anyone else to use their Chromebook.

- Take care to protect your password. Do not share your password.
- Make sure you log out when you are done using your Chromebook.

4. MANAGING & SAVING YOUR DIGITAL WORK WITH A CHROMEBOOK

- Files will be stored online.
- OFFLINE MODE - Many Google Apps allow for offline access which will allow for school work to be accomplished even when the Chromebook does not have access to WiFi. Any work done in offline mode will be synced with the student's Google account when the Chromebook rejoins WiFi.

5. OPERATING SYSTEM ON YOUR CHROMEBOOK

- Chromebooks should be restarted weekly to allow for Chrome OS updates.
- Chromebooks are built with layers of protection against malware and security attacks.

6. PROTECTING & STORING YOUR CHROMEBOOK

- Chromebooks are the responsibility of the student. This device will be yours for the duration of the school year. *Take good care of it!*

7. DAMAGED OR STOLEN CHROMEBOOK:

7a: Reporting Chromebook Damage

- If your Chromebook is damaged, report the incident immediately to your teacher. Do not try to repair it yourself.
- ***All repairs due to accidental damage will be assessed a \$25 charge.***

7b: Stolen Chromebook

- Parent(s)/guardian(s) must file a police report for the stolen device. Upon receipt of the police report, the District will then replace the Chromebook.

7c: Chromebooks under repair

- A loaner Chromebook will be provided to the student while repairs are taking place. Loaner Chromebooks will fall under the same guidelines as any other student-issued Chromebook.

8. RETURNING YOUR CHROMEBOOK:

All district owned Chromebooks must be returned following these guidelines:

- Chromebook and charger must be returned in good working condition upon request or withdrawal from the school district.
Students should not write on their Chromebook.
- Parents will be responsible for the replacement cost of any Chromebook or charger not returned and student records will be held until payment is made to Kettering City Schools.

Updated July 2, 2021

APPENDIX D

Ohio Immunization Summary for School Attendance, 2026-2027													
Vaccine/Grade	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
DTaP Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	4 or more doses												
Hep B Hepatitis B	3 or more doses												
MMR Measles, Mumps, Rubella	2 doses												
Polio	3 or more doses												
Varicella (Chickenpox)	2 doses												
Tdap Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis								1 dose					
MCV4 Meningococcal ACWY								1st dose				2nd dose	

Important Notes:

- Vaccine doses administered less than or equal to four days before the minimum interval or age are valid (grace period). Doses administered greater than or equal to five days earlier than the minimum interval or age are not valid doses and should be repeated when age appropriate.
- If MMR and varicella are **not** given on the same day, the doses must be separated by at least 28 days with no grace period.
- For additional information, please refer to the [Ohio Revised Code 3313.67](#) and [3313.671](#) and the [Ohio Department of Health \(ODH\) Director's Journal Entry](#) regarding school immunization requirements, recommended vaccines, and exemptions to immunizations.
- Please contact the Ohio Department of Health Immunization Program at 800-282-0546 or 614-466-4643 with questions.**

APPENDIX E

Kettering City Schools Acknowledgement Form

I acknowledge I have received the following documents:

Parent/Student Acknowledgement of:

Student Handbook

- Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Policy (Policy 7540.03) and Guidelines (Administrative Guidelines 7540.03) Appendix A
- Student Records/Notification to Parents Regarding Student Records/FERPA (Policy 8330) Appendix A
- Suspension of Bus/Transportation Privileges (Policy 5610.04) Appendix A
- Directory Information (contained in Policy 8330) Appendix A

Teacher's Name: _____

We, _____ and _____ ,
Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) *Student Name (Please Print)*

have received and read the 2026-2027 Student Handbook, Student Education Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Policy and Guidelines, the Notification to Parents Regarding Student Records, the Safety Guidelines for Riding Kettering City School Buses and Directory Opt-out Information. We understand the rights and responsibilities pertaining to students and agree to support and abide by the rules, guidelines, procedures and policies of the Kettering City School District. We also understand that this handbook supersedes all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects.

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

Student Signature (Date)

Student handbooks may be accessed on any student Chromebook, the district/school website, and written copies will be available in any school office.

