



St. Martin Parish School System Student/Parent Handbook 2026-2027

**Mr. Frederick Wiltz,
Superintendent**

"Striving for Educational Excellence and Equal Access for all Students"

www.saintmartinschools.org

**Department of Administration Building:
Ph. 337-332-2105/ Fax 337-332-3050
600 Corporate Blvd | Breaux Bridge, LA 70517**

**Federal Programs Building:
Ph. 337-332-3388 | Fax 337-332-4086 |
625 Corporate Blvd | Breaux Bridge, LA 70517**

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The St. Martin Parish School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, handicap, or disability.

The following person has been designated to handle the inquiries regarding the NONDISCRIMINATION POLICIES:

Kevin BonHomme, Supervisor Child Welfare & Attendance
337/332-2105, EXT 2819/FAX 337-332-3050
P. O. Box 1000
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

Communications with Language Minority Students and Parents

All schools with language minority students are obligated to provide written or verbal communication with these students and parents in a language they can best understand. This handbook may be translated or interpreted to meet the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) Standards and the Equal Educational Opportunity Act (EEOA) Guidelines of 1974. For more information, contact 337-909-2842.

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ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Steve Fuselier	District I
Wanda B. Vital	District II
Edna M. Johnson, Vice President	District III
Jimmy Durio	District IV
Russell C. Foti,	District V
Mike Clay	District VI
Richard Potier	District VII
Frederic Stelly	District VIII
Floyd Knott	District IX
Mark Hebert, President	District X

DISCIPLINE POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Kevin BonHomme, Supervisor	Child Welfare & Attendance
Corky Matthews, Supervisor	Compliance Officer
Tiffany Francis, Director	Curriculum & Instruction
Pam Jordan, Director	Special Services
Dr. Shirley Thibodeaux, Supervisor	Special Services
Khristy Hulin, Coordinator	Safe & Drug Free Schools
Angel Delaunay Coordinator	Truancy
Adrienne Huval, Coordinator	School Based Health Centers
Nicole Hamilton	Special Services
Cora Siner	Special Services
Felicia Dalcour	Special Services
Rodricka Wilson, Asst. Principal	Breaux Bridge Primary
Coy Darby, Asst. Principal	Breaux Bridge Junior High
Lacresia Charlot, Asst. Principal	St. Martinville Junior High
Alyson David, Asst. Principal	St. Martin STEAM Academy
Jacoby Lewis, B.I.	St. Martin STEAM Academy
Brandy Jolivette, Asst. Principal	Teche Elementary
Allie Dore, Asst. Principal	Breaux Bridge Elementary
Christopher Shirley, Principal	Stephensville Elementary
Ervin Mitchell, Dean of Students	St. Martinville High
Alphonso William, Dean of Students	Cecilia High
Brandi Charles, Asst. Principal	Cecilia Junior High
Jasmine Taylor, Asst. Principal	Cecilia Primary
Jessica Wiltz, Asst. Principal	St. Martin Early STEAM Academy
Meaghan Gibbs, Asst. Principal	JCEP
Tiffany James, Asst. Principal	Parks Primary
Kirstin Hanks, Asst. Principal	Breaux Bridge High School
Courtney White, Asst. Principal	Parks Middle



Telephone 337-332-2105
Fax 337-332-3050

FREDERICK WILTZ
SUPERINTENDENT

MARK HEBERT
PRESIDENT

EDNA M. JOHNSON
VICE PRESIDENT

• DISTRICT 1
STEVE FUSELIER

• DISTRICT 2
WANDA B. VITAL

• DISTRICT 3
EDNA M. JOHNSON

• DISTRICT 4
JIMMY DURIO

• DISTRICT 5
RUSSEL C. FOTI

• DISTRICT 6
MIKE CLAY

• DISTRICT 7
RICHARD POTIER

• DISTRICT 8
FREDERIC STELLY

• DISTRICT 9
MARLIN D'AUGEREAU

• DISTRICT 10
MARK HEBERT

St. Martin Parish School Board

P. O. Box 1000 Breaux Bridge Louisiana 70517

Dear Students, Parents, Faculty, and Staff,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year!

As we begin a new year of learning and opportunity, I am excited to welcome everyone back to the St. Martin Parish School System. Whether you are returning or joining us for the first time, we look forward to working together to ensure a successful year for every student.

This year, we recommit ourselves to a renewed vision and mission that will guide our work and strengthen our focus on student success.

Our Vision (Our Ultimate Goal):

St. Martin Parish School System is a thriving and inclusive educational community that cultivates lifelong learners.

Our Mission (Our Daily Work):

Every school, every classroom, every day, we commit to creating a safe and positive environment that focuses on delivering engaging, high-quality instruction.

These guiding principles reflect our commitment to providing every student with the opportunities, support, and encouragement needed to reach their full potential.

As Louisiana's school accountability system continues to evolve, student growth is becoming an increasingly important measure of success. While achievement remains important, we are placing a greater emphasis on ensuring that every student demonstrates meaningful academic progress throughout the year. Our goal is not only to help students meet expectations but to inspire them to exceed them.

To accomplish this, we will continue to focus on high-quality instruction, strong support systems, and engaging learning experiences that challenge students to think critically, persevere through obstacles, and take ownership of their learning. We believe every student can grow, and we are committed to helping each child achieve success.

The partnership between our schools, families, and community remains essential. Together, we create the foundation that supports student achievement and personal growth. We encourage parents and guardians to stay actively involved, communicate with teachers, and participate in school activities whenever possible.

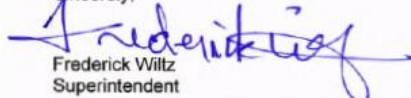
To our faculty and staff, thank you for your dedication and commitment to excellence. Your work makes a lasting impact on the lives of our students and helps move our district forward each day.

To our students, this is your year to grow, learn, and shine. Embrace new opportunities, work hard, and take pride in the progress you make along the way.

As we begin the 2026–2027 school year, let us move forward with purpose, unity, and a shared commitment to our vision and mission. By working together and focusing on growth, we will continue building a school system where every student has the opportunity to thrive.

I wish everyone a successful, rewarding, and inspiring school year.

Sincerely,



Frederick Wiltz
Superintendent



St. Martin Parish School Board

P. O. Box 1000 Breaux Bridge Louisiana 70517

2026-2027

Parent's Right to Know Information for Title I Schools Only (BBP, BBE, BBIH, BBHS, SE, ELC, SMP, SMJH, SMSH, CP, TE, CJH, PP and PM)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child's school received Federal Title I funds to assist students in meeting state achievement standards. This letter lets you know about your rights to request information about the qualifications of classroom staff working with your child and information about student assessments given during the school year. Title I schools must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teacher's training and credentials. At any time, you may ask:

*If the teacher meets state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching

*If the teacher has received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived

*What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration

*Whether your child received help from a paraprofessional, and if so, his/her qualifications. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the ESEA, contains additional parent right to know requests including:

*Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out

* Information on required assessments including:

- Subject matter tested Purpose of the test Source of the requirement (if applicable)

-Amount of time it takes students to complete the test Time and format disseminating

results All of the above information can be requested through your school principal.

St. Martin Parish School District staff is fully committed to helping your child develop the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in school and beyond. We appreciate your support and partnership as we work to provide the best education for your child.

Sincerely,

Pamela Jordan
Federal Programs Director

Telephone 337-332-2105
Fax 337-332-3050

FREDERICK WILTZ
SUPERINTENDENT

MARK HEBERT
PRESIDENT

EDNA M. JOHNSON
VICE PRESIDENT

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• DISTRICT 7
RICHARD POTIER

• DISTRICT 8
FREDERIC STELLY

• DISTRICT 9
MARLIN D'AUGEREAU

• DISTRICT 10
MARK HEBERT

CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Superintendent

Mr. Frederick Wiltz

Curriculum

Tiffany Francis, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Mrs. Sarah Allen, Elementary Curriculum Supervisor

Mrs. Redell Louis, Supervisor of Technology & Libraries

Mrs. Charee Theriot, Middle School, Supervisor

Mr. Kevin Dugas, Supervisor of High Schools, Technology, Testing & Accountability

Mr. Jon Downs, Magnet Coordinator/MSAP Project Director

Federal Programs

Ms. Pamela Jordan, Director of Federal Programs,

Mrs. Melanie Taylor, Title I Supervisor

Dr. Shirley Thibodeaux, Supervisor of Special Education 6-8

Mrs. Nicole Angelle, Supervisor of Early Childhood, St. Martin Parish Early Childhood Network Lead Agency

Mr. Michael Hebert, Supervisor Sped 9-12, G/T, Homebound, APE, IEP Facilitator/Behavior Strategist

Human Resources

Mrs. Julie Laviolette, Supervisor of Human Capital

Finance

Ms. Casey Broussard, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. John Chevalier, Supervisor of Maintenance and Transportation

Mrs. Wanda Phillips, Food Service Supervisor

Mr. Reginald Hill, Transportation Manager

Student Services

Mr. Kevin BonHomme, Supervisor Child Welfare & Attendance/Parish Athletic Director

Mr. Corky Matthews, Compliance Officer

Mrs. Khristy Hulin, Safe & Drug Free Coordinator

Mrs. Angel Delaunay, Truancy Coordinator

Ms. Meaghan Gibbs, Alternative Programs Assistant Principal

Ms. Adrienne Huval, Coordinator of SBHCs and School Nurse Program

Technology

Mrs. Christine Foster, Supervisor of Computer Services

Mr. Todd Meche, Network Manager

School Nurses/School-Based Health Centers

Breaux Bridge 909-3040

Cecilia 909-3960

St. Martinville 909-3260

2026-2027 School Calendar



2026-2027 School Calendar

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

August 2026						
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30	31					

September 2026						
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October 2026						
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November 2026						
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29	30					

December 2026						
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27	28	29	30	31		

Aug 10	Students' First Day
May 24	Students' Last Day
Holidays	
Sep 7	Labor Day
Oct 19	Fall Break
Nov 3	Election Day
Nov 23-27	Thanksgiving Vacation
Dec 21-Jan	Christmas Break
Jan 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Feb 8-12	Mardi Gras Break
Mar 26-Apr	Easter Break
May 31	Memorial Day

Early Dismissal	
Apr 30	Crawfish Festival (12:00pm)

Professional Development Days	
Aug 3-7	Professional Development Days
Oct 20	Professional Development Day
Jan 4	Professional Development Day
May 25	Records/ Report Card Day

Parent Teacher Conferences	
Oct 16	Fall Parent Teacher Conference
Mar 19	Spring Parent Teacher Conference

Grading Periods	
1st	8/10/2026 - 10/8/2026
2nd	10/9/2026 - 12/18/2026
3rd	1/5/2027 - 3/12/2027
4th	3/15/2027 - 5/24/2027

Graduation	
May 14	Graduation

Aug 3	Teacher's First Day
May 25	Teacher's Last Day

January 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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31						

February 2027						
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28						

March 2027						
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28	29	30	31			

April 2027						
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May 2027						
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30	31					

June 2027						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

School Closed

Employee Planning (no school for students)

First & Last Day of School

Parent Teacher Conferences

MISSION STATEMENT

Every school, every classroom, every day, we commit to creating a safe and positive environment that focuses on delivering engaging, high-quality instruction.

GOALS OF HANDBOOK

The goals of this handbook are to provide:

1. Pupils, parents, and school personnel with clearly stated advance knowledge of the courses of action to be followed in handling disciplinary matters;
2. Consistency in the administration of disciplinary actions.
3. A sequential discipline program in which actions taken, progress from moderate to most severe;
4. The pupils who have discipline problems with ample opportunity for the modification of unacceptable behavior.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

NOTICE TO PARENTS

St. Martin Parish School Board is an equal-opportunity employer who seeks to employ qualified and certified teachers. In compliance with Public Law 107-110, No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, local education agencies are required to notify parents of their right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of teachers.

The following information may be requested:

Whether the Louisiana State Department of Education has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.

Whether the Louisiana State Department of Education has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.

The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.

Whether any teachers' aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of the information, please call Mrs. Julie Laviolette, Supervisor of Human Resources 337-909-2835

Act No. 155
Section 1

ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM TEACHER BILL OF RIGHTS

Respecting the authority of teachers is essential to creating an environment conducive to learning, effective instruction in the classroom, and proper administration of city, parish, and other local public schools. To maintain and protect that authority, it is important that teachers, administrators, parents, and students are fully informed of the various rights conferred upon teachers pursuant to this Section, which are:

- A teacher has the right to teach free from the fear of frivolous lawsuits, including the right to qualified immunity and to a legal defense, and to indemnification by the employing school board, pursuant to R.S. 17:416.1(C), 416.4, 416.5, and 416.11, for actions taken in the performance of duties of the teacher's employment.
- A teacher has the right to appropriately discipline students in accordance with R.S.17:223 and through any city, parish, or other local public school board regulation.
- A teacher has the right to remove any persistently disruptive student from his classroom when the student's behavior prevents the orderly instruction of other students or when the student displays impudent or defiant behavior and to place the student in the custody of the principal or his designee pursuant to R.S.17:416(A)(1)(c).
- A teacher has the right to have his or her professional judgment and discretion respected by school and district administrators in any disciplinary action taken by the teacher in accordance with school and district policy and with R.S.17:416(A)(1)(c).
- A teacher has the right to teach in a safe, secure, and orderly environment that is conducive to learning and free from recognized dangers or hazards that are causing or likely to cause serious injury in accordance with R.S.17:416.9 and 416.16.
- A teacher has the right to be treated with civility and respect as provided in R.S.17:416.12.
- A teacher has the right to communicate with and to request the participation of parents in appropriate student disciplinary decisions pursuant to R.S.17:235.1 and 416(A).
- A teacher has the right to be free from excessively burdensome disciplinary paperwork.
- A beginning teacher has the right to receive leadership and support in accordance with R.S.17:388.1 including the assignment of a qualified, experienced mentor who commits to helping him become a competent, confident professional in the classroom and offers support and assistance as needed to meet performance standards and professional expectations.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students, as citizens of the United States, are guaranteed certain individual rights and have corresponding individual responsibilities. While student rights in most cases are specific, student responsibilities are implied. The word “responsibility”, in this context refers mainly to the individual’s obligation to others within his/her society, because, in order for an individual to preserve his/her rights, each must take upon himself/herself a sense of responsibility toward the preservation of the rights of others. Parents, teachers, and administrators have a responsibility, indeed a duty, to protect the rights of students while maintaining an educational atmosphere conducive to the teaching, learning process. The concept of balancing the rights of the individual with the rights of society is as valid in the educational community as in the larger community. Responsibilities then become the foundation upon which individual rights become meaningful and effective.

If one were to enumerate the various responsibilities incumbent upon students, the list would be endless. However, within a school setting and in society, there are certain special responsibilities required of a citizen, who is a student in school that are of vital significance.

Each student has the responsibility to:

- A. Become informed of and adhere to reasonable rules and regulations established by the School Board and implemented by administrators and teachers.
- B. Respect the human dignity and worth of every other individual.
- C. Refrain from libel, slanderous remarks and obscenity in verbal and written expression.
- D. Study diligently and maintain the best possible level of academic achievement.
- E. Be punctual and present in the regular school program to the best of his/her ability.
- F. Dress and groom in a manner that meets reasonable standards; health, cleanliness, safety, and the uniform dress and appearance code.
- G. Help maintain and improve the school environment; preserve school property and exercise the utmost care while using school facilities.
- H. Refrain from gross disobedience, misconduct or behavior that disrupts the educational process.
- I. Respect the reasonable exercise of authority by school administrators and teachers in maintaining discipline in the school and at school sponsored activities.
- J. Continue or become actively involved in one’s education, understanding of people and preparation for adult life.

St. Martin Parish School Board is committed to providing the best education possible for every student in St. Martin Parish regardless of race, sex, religion, disability or national origin. In order to meet its commitment to guard and maintain for all students the right to equal opportunity in education and to assure an atmosphere conducive to learning, while protecting the United States Constitution and its Amendments, the St. Martin Parish School Board has adopted this “Statement of Policy” concerning student rights and responsibilities.

Every school in itself is a community made up of students, teachers, principals and other support staff. The school, as a community, exists and operates subject to policies and laws that guide the conduct of its members. The function of policies and laws is to assure the community membership that individual rights, privileges and freedoms will not be abridged by disruptive behavior of individuals or groups.

The primary goal of the school system is to provide a quality education for all its students. The rights and responsibilities contained in this handbook have been adopted by the St. Martin Parish School

Board to achieve this goal. It is the responsibility of everyone in the school community to respect and accept student rights, recognize and support student responsibilities, and utilize administrative policies for the betterment of the educational process in the school system.

Below are the student rights and responsibilities:

- A. **QUALITY EDUCATION** - Students have the right to pursue, through study and application, a quality education at public expense and to attain personal goals through participation in the entire school program. In order to obtain a quality education, students must attend classes daily, be on time for all classes, and obey school and district regulations.
- B. **ATTENDANCE** - Students, including those married or pregnant, have the right to attend school until graduation provided they are not expelled because of their conduct. Regular attendance in school is expected of all students. Students shall attend school between kindergarten and 18 years of age. Students 17 and 18 years of age may withdraw prior to graduation with written consent of a parent, tutor, or legal guardian in order to attend an alternative education program or a vocational-technical education program but will remain under compulsory attendance for fulfilling the attendance requirement for said alternative programs. (La. R. S. 17:226). To be eligible to receive grades/credits for course work, students in grades 1-12 shall be in attendance a minimum of 180 days a school year. (State of LA, Bulletin 741 & St. Martin Parish Policy). The responsibility for a child attending school lies with the parents or the legal guardian. If the child is chronically absent from school, the parent and/or child may be referred to Child Protection, Court, FINS, and/or the local District Attorney's Office by the Child Welfare & Attendance Office.
- C. **SAFETY** - Students have the right to expect that the school will be a safe place to obtain an education. In order to assure the safety of others, students must follow established rules and regulations and conduct themselves in accordance with the rules. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that the school is given current, working telephone and emergency numbers. The school must be informed of any change in status concerning these numbers. Students have a responsibility to report any problems at the school to the teachers and/or administrators.
- D. **ON CAMPUS COMMUNICATIONS** - Students have the right to express their opinions verbally, provided such expressions are not indecent, vulgar, or lewd and are not slanderous of another person. Students have the right to distribute written materials, but prior to distribution, the student must receive written approval from the principal or his/her designee. The written approval will include the number of times a day and the number of days the material can be distributed in the schools. At least 48 hours prior to the intended time for distribution, materials should be submitted for review to determine compliance with the above stated prohibitions. Distribution of materials in areas of the campus that would disrupt order or impede the free flow of student movement is prohibited. Students receiving permission to distribute the materials are also responsible for the cleanup of the materials distributed in a manner that is not disorderly or coercive, and all materials must bear a permanent official disclaimer of school sponsorship. Students are responsible for knowing that certain expressive activities are prohibited, such as: indecent, vulgar or lewd material or obscenity, materials that invade the privacy of others, materials that promote illegal activities for minors, materials that infringes on someone's copyright, and materials form non-student sponsored organizations.
- E. **OFFICIAL INFORMATION** - 1) Parents or guardians have the right to review with a counselor all official files and data which pertain to the student personally. Students over 18 years of age may make the same request. They have a right to challenge the accuracy of the data through a formal hearing. Schools must produce such records for examination within 30 days of a written request. The school shall respond to reasonable requests for explanation and

interpretation of a student's records. 2) No official record, file or data pertaining to any individual student that is personally identifiable to the student shall be released to anyone other than the student and /or parents except as authorized by law unless the student and/or parents have executed a written release of such information to a particular person or agency.

- F. **FULL PARTICIPATION** - Students have a right to expect to be able to have full participation in all school organizations based upon their academic credentials and personal talent in accordance with School Board policy and guidelines governing that particular activity. Students have a responsibility to take part in all school activities which are designed to help develop them into full functioning, self-reliant adults.
- G. **DECISION MAKING** - Students have the right to assist in decisions that affect their lives in school. This right includes decisions related to election of courses of study beyond the required curriculum, participation in activities, and representation in an active student government organization. Students should take part in student government by running for office or voting for the candidate of their choice. They are also responsible for making any problems known directly to the staff or through this representation.
- H. **DUE PROCESS** - No student shall be punished for committing any offense except in accordance with law and School Board regulations, and every student shall be afforded due process of law. Copies of School Board and school system regulations requiring or prohibiting certain conduct and the ensuing punishments for violations shall be made available to all students. Due process shall include that the student be advised by the principal or a designee of misconduct of the regulation that has been violated and the detailed reasons for such accusation. The student must be given the opportunity to respond to the accusation. The right of due process is more fully described in La. R.S. 17:416 and in another part of this handbook.
- I. **BUS SAFETY** - Students have the right to ride the school bus to and from school and should recognize that it is a privilege. Students have the right to expect that the school bus will be a safe means of transportation. Students must obey the rules or lose the privilege of riding the bus. Students must follow established school bus rules and regulations in order to insure the safety of others. Any misbehavior on the bus or when going to or returning from school may result in temporary or permanent loss of bus riding privileges. In this case, transportation to and from school becomes the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
- J. **DRESS AND GROOMING** - Students have a responsibility to dress and appear on school campus according to the standards of propriety, safety and health set forth by the St. Martin Parish School Board and/or its schools. Profane or obscene language, gestures or inference of profanity or advertisement of tobacco, alcohol, drugs or illegal substances or weapons on any article of clothing or jewelry is prohibited at all grade levels. Uniforms are mandatory at all grade levels.

Seclusion and Restraint Guidelines

Purpose

These guidelines establish procedures for the safe, limited, and documented use of seclusion and physical restraint when a student's behavior presents an imminent risk of harm to self or others.

A. Notification and Documentation

- Parents/guardians, the Principal, appropriate Special Services Supervisor, and Director of Federal Programs must be notified within 24 hours of any use of seclusion or physical restraint.
- Documentation must include:
 - Reason for intervention
 - Procedures used
 - Duration
 - Names and titles of involved staff
 - Date, time, method, and person making parent contact
- Reports must be signed by the staff member and an administrator and distributed to required parties within 24 hours.

B. Staff Training

- School administrators, behavior facilitators, special education teachers, and alternative-site personnel are required to complete district-approved training.
- The district uses the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) Program by the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI).
- Training includes behavior management, crisis prevention, de-escalation techniques, safety interventions, physical holding skills, post-crisis procedures, and a written assessment.
- Staff authorized to use holding skills must receive annual recertification.

C. Approved Safety Interventions

District-approved interventions include:

- Disengagement Skills
- Child Control Position
- Seated Holds (Low, Medium, High)
- Standing Holds (Low, Medium, High)

Interventions must be applied only by trained personnel and only when necessary to prevent harm.

D. Seclusion Guidelines

Seclusion may be used only:

- As a last resort after less restrictive interventions have failed.
- When a student poses an imminent risk of harm.
- Under continuous visual and auditory supervision.
- In an approved room that is safe, appropriately sized, ventilated, and equipped with an observation window.

Seclusion is prohibited:

- As punishment or discipline.
- For noncompliance, academic refusal, or convenience of staff.
- As a threat or coercive measure.

- When medical or psychological conditions contraindicate its use.

E. Physical Restraint Guidelines

Physical restraint may be used only:

- To prevent imminent harm to the student or others.
- As a last resort.
- In a manner that causes no injury, minimizes discomfort, and does not interfere with breathing or communication.

Physical restraint is prohibited:

- As punishment or discipline.
- For staff convenience.
- When unsafe, unnecessary, or medically contraindicated.
- In any form involving mechanical restraint.

F. Monitoring and Review

- Continuous monitoring is required during seclusion or restraint.
- Documentation must occur at least every three minutes.
- Students must be released immediately when the danger has subsided.
- After two incidents within a school year, the SBLC/IEP Team must review and revise the student's behavior intervention plan and continue reviews every three weeks as needed.
- Incidents involving students with disabilities must be reported through the Louisiana Department of Education reporting system.

G. Mechanical Restraint

Mechanical restraint is prohibited except for approved medical, therapeutic, transportation, orthopedic, adaptive, or law-enforcement devices used for their intended purposes. Such devices may never be used to punish or restrict behavior.

H. Dissemination and Compliance

- Procedures will be posted on district and school websites.
- Copies will be available to school personnel and parents upon request.
- A statement directing parents to these procedures will be included in the Student Code of Conduct.
- The procedures will be provided to the Louisiana Department of Education and reviewed periodically for effectiveness and compliance.

I. Guiding Principle

Seclusion and restraint are emergency safety interventions to be used only when necessary to prevent imminent harm, with priority given to prevention, de-escalation, positive behavioral supports, student dignity, and continuous oversight.

ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

Parent Involvement: Empowering parents to participate in their children's education.

The St. Martin Parish School Board recognizes that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement. The term *parent* refers to any caregiver who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for children, including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, foster parents, stepparents, etc. Studies demonstrate that when parents are involved in their children's education, the attitudes, behaviors, and achievement of students are positively enhanced.

Parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children; consequently, parents are vital and necessary partners, with the educational communities, throughout their children's school career. Although parents come to the schools with diverse cultural backgrounds, primary languages, and needs, universally all parents want what is best for their children. Parental involvement must be a focus in the classroom if schools are to be able to achieve high academic standards and create productive citizens. Schools in collaboration with parents, teachers, students and administrators, must establish and develop efforts that enhance parental involvement and reflect the needs of students, parents, and families in the communities which they serve.

District personnel, including a Family Involvement/Early Childhood coordinator, will provide coordination and technical assistance to schools as schools plan and implement effective parental involvement activities by hosting two parental involvement committee chair meetings annually. District personnel will work with school personnel to present activities to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement. A Family Involvement Coordinator will be available for consultation, assistance and coordination of parental involvement activities during the school year in collaboration with the Title I schools in the district with the ultimate goal of working with parents to improve student academic achievement and school performance.

A district Parental Advisory Council (PAC) will be organized from parent representatives of Title I schools. This Council will meet two times per school year to address parental concerns, plan and evaluate educational workshops, review and /or revise the Title I Student-Parent-School Compact, and evaluate and revise the district and school Parental Involvement Policies.

The St. Martin Parish School System will take action, with the involvement of parents, to complete an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy in improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies. Specifically, the annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy will be conducted by the Family Involvement/Early Childhood coordinator and Title I School Family Involvement Committee to identify ways of improving the academic quality of the schools and employ new methods of obtaining a greater participation in parental involvement at the school and district levels.

Employing group presentations and individual meetings, school personnel, with assistance from

District

& Title I personnel, will promote parental understanding of the State's Academic content standards, State student achievement standards, and State and local assessments. These presentations will occur at the beginning of each academic year and upon receipt of assessment results. Presentations will provide detailed overviews of the standards and assessments along with suggestions for monitoring student's progress and improving student achievement.

Workshops using Dr. Ruby Payne's "A Framework for Understanding Poverty" will be presented to facilitators from each school who, in turn, will train personnel at their respective schools. This training will address many of the issues influencing effective parental involvement in schools with high poverty.

At the onset of each year and quarterly, a collaborative agency partnership meeting is held between Headstart, Office of Family Support, Department of Health and Hospitals, Families Helping Families, St. Martin Parish Special Services, Title I and LA4 representatives to discuss the program year and outreach for parental involvement. It is the intent of this partnership to provide families with avenues the necessary tools and resources needed to ensure student success in school by addressing all needs of the family. In order to enhance parental involvement, **six essential elements** should be promoted:

1. Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful:

Effective communication requires school-initiated contact with the parent and parent-initiated contact with the school where both parties provide vital information about a child's strengths, challenges, and accomplishments. To effectively communicate, both parties must be aware of issues such as cultural diversity and language differences and appropriate steps must be taken to allow clear communication for all participants. LEP tutors are available to translate oral or print materials sent to homes of parents whose dominant language is not English.

2. Responsible parenting is promoted and supported: The family plays a primary role in a child's education, and schools must respect and honor traditions and activities unique to a community's cultural practices and beliefs. Parents are linked to programs and resources within the community that provide support services to families.

3. Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning: Educators recognize and acknowledge parents' roles as the integral and primary facilitator of their children's education. Research demonstrates that student achievement increases when parents are actively involved in the learning process.

4. Schools are open and inviting to parents and families and are actively seeking parental support and assistance for school programs: Parents are welcome in the school. Their support and assistance are sought. Capitalizing on the expertise and skills of the parents strengthens the family, school and community partnership.

5. Parents are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families: Parents and educators have a joint responsibility to make informed decisions related to all aspects of education provided to St. Martin Parish's youth. The role of parents in shared decision making should be continually evaluated, refined, and expanded. Activities to promote effective participation of parents in decision making will include, but is not limited to:

- a. At least one parent, who is NOT a St. Martin Parish school employee, will serve as a member of each school's advisory council as an equal member.
- b. Parent representatives will be involved in the development, review and evaluation applications for State and/or Federal funds.
- c. District personnel will provide coordination and technical assistance needed in

schools' planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities.

- d. District personnel will present activities to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.

Periodic collaboration of personnel in charge of school, State and Federal program parental involvement projects will coordinate activities at the school and district levels.

A District Parent Advisory Council consisting of a parent representative from each school (to include parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background) will meet at least twice each year. Once at the beginning of the school year to present the District Parental Involvement Policy and to discuss how the policy should be examined and monitored. Once at the end of the school year to evaluate the policy and consider suggestions for improvement. The policy is read and the effectiveness of each item is determined. Parents participate in a needs assessment at the end of each school term. Suggestions for improvements are reflected in the revised Parental Involvement Policy. The determination of barriers is made through information provided by school personnel, comments made at Parish Advisory Committee meetings, personal contact with parents, and responses provided on meeting evaluations. School, State and/or Federal programs will coordinate activities to involve parents in school activities. Some activities conducted are: District-wide parent/teacher conference days (two per year), school open house activities (including school's parental involvement plan/policy) at the beginning of each school year, inclusion of parents on school advisory councils, parent workshops to strengthen parenting skills and/or to focus on activities to improve students' academic performance. Individual schools and projects will provide additional activities.

6. **Community resources are made available to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning:** Schools and parents will cultivate relationships with additional members of the community in order to promote and effectively increase educational opportunities for children. The district has implemented a Partner in Education program which involves the community (business & parents) in adopting & partnering with schools. A yearly system report is published and distributed to parents and community leaders which include test results, school accomplishments, programs and activities, and participating community leaders. Together, parents, educators and community members will join efforts toward identifying and promoting community resources and innovative programs for strengthening schools, families, and student learning.

Providing all St. Martin Parish's children with equal access to quality education is a primary goal. It is vital that all partners (parents, educators, communities, etc.) have the opportunity to provide input and offer resources to meet this goal. These partnerships are mutually beneficial. Developing cooperative efforts and linking access to resources will ensure improved academic achievement for all students, as well as quality schools.

SECTION 504 of THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

PARENT AND STUDENT RIGHTS IN STUDENT DETERMINATION OF PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) to students with disabilities. The law states that “qualified disabled persons will not be discriminated against on the basis of disability in any program, activity or employment practice. A disabled person is defined as any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment.” The intent of the law is to keep students and parents fully informed concerning decisions about the student and their right to agree or disagree with any of these decisions.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- A. Have the school system advise you of your rights under federal law (Section 504).
- B. Have your child receive free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school system make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in academic, nonacademic, and extra- curricular activities offered by the school system.
- C. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disabling condition.
- D. Receive notice and an invitation to participate in meetings with respect to identification, evaluation, and educational placement of your child, including proposals to initiate or change, or refusal to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, and educational placement of your child. Notice should be made to you in your native language, unless it clearly is not feasible to do so.
- E. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided non-disabled students.
- F. Have your child receive accommodations/modifications and related services that will meet his/her needs as well as the needs of non-disabled students if he/she is found to be eligible for services under Section 504.
- G. Have fair evaluation, educational and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student, the evaluation date, and placement options.
- H. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if your child were placed in a program operated by the school system.
- I. Request changes in the educational program of your child.
- J. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions made regarding your child’s identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement.
- K. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
- L. Receive a response from the school system to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child’s records.
- M. Request amendment of your child’s educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school system refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing.

- N. Have an opportunity to present complaints and/or to request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. You and your child may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you. Hearing requests must be made through the St. Martin Parish 504 Coordinator.
- O. Request payment of reasonable attorney fees if you are successful in your claim.
- P. File a local grievance.

The person in St. Martin Parish who is responsible for assuring that the system complies with Section 504 is:

Redell Louis
St. Martin Parish School Board
625 Corporate Blvd.
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517
337-909-2

ST. MARTIN PARISH HOMELESS POLICY

The mission of the St. Martin Parish School District Homeless program is to provide homeless children and youth equal access to its educational programs and an opportunity to meet the same challenging State of Louisiana and District academic standards. Students will be protected from discrimination and will not be segregated on the basis of their homelessness.

Homeless students are identified during enrollment. The students shall be immediately enrolled even if the student lacks records normally required for enrollment. School secretaries and/or guidance counselors submit referral forms to the homeless liaison who, in turn, sends forms to the homeless advocate. The homeless advocate completes a home visit to assess living arrangements and assist the parent/guardian in completing the homeless forms to ensure needs are being identified. Once the residency questionnaire form is completed, it along with the referral form, is sent to the homeless liaison's office. The homeless liaison reviews and approves the forms. The student is then identified as homeless on the parish mainframe by entering the student's primary nighttime residence. A copy of the referral form is sent to the School Food Service Supervisor to keep on file and to the school to be placed in the student's cumulative record. Homeless students automatically qualify for free lunch. The Title I Homeless Program provides school fees, supplies and uniforms for each registered homeless child.

Referral forms are sent to the School-Based Health Center coordinator. A social worker shall contact the homeless family to see if any assistance is needed. The school-based health centers offer preventive and primary health services that address the physical, emotional and educational needs of students.

For students requesting to stay in the school of origin, the homeless liaison contacts the transportation supervisor who then makes arrangements for transportation to school of origin when feasible. Transportation shall be provided in accordance with District transportation guidelines. If a family chooses

to stay in the school of origin after permanent housing has been found, transportation (when possible) will be provided for the duration of that school year, if requested by the family and if feasible

Each homeless child/youth shall be provided services comparable to other students in the school. Student data is used to determine the need for further academic services. The District uses Dibels, RTI and tutors paid with Title I. The district also provides access to Virtual School for high school students. Student folders are kept in the Homeless Liaison's office with homeless forms and documentation that the students' needs were met.

Grievances may be filed, by the student's parent or guardian, if they feel that student rights have not been served appropriately. Grievances shall be processed in a timely manner utilizing the following steps: (1) A grievance is filed with school. Administrator and Supervisor attempt to resolve grievance. (2) If grievant is not satisfied, may appeal to the Superintendent or designee. Superintendent shall conduct a full hearing on grievance. A written recommendation is provided to grievant. (4) If unsatisfied, grievant may appeal to St. Martin Parish School Board. (5) If unsatisfied, grievant may appeal to the State Department of Education.

It is the goal of the District to provide the best education possible to every student and to blend homeless students into the general school population without the stigma of their home situation.

Homeless Dispute Resolution Process Policy

The No Child Left Behind, Title X, Part C, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act acknowledges that disputes may arise between the school district and homeless students/parents/guardians when the student is denied enrollment in school or is placed in a school other than the one requested by students/parents/guardians. The purpose of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is to ensure that homeless students enroll in school immediately and continue their education with as little disruption as possible. The St. Martin Parish School District dispute resolution process follows the guidelines set forth in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and in accordance with The Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators, Bulletin 741, and Section 341, which is available online at the following website address: <http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osr/lac12?v115l28v115.doc>. This bulletin contains detailed procedures established for resolving complaints filed against the Department of Education or a local education agency pursuant to provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. 56301, et. seq. (ESEA).

The following process will be used in a case where a dispute occurs regarding the education of a homeless child or youth.

Dispute Resolution Process (1) If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment, the child/youth must be immediately enrolled in the school in which he/she is seeking enrollment, pending the resolution of the dispute (five days). The dispute process may be initiated by the parent/guardian, unaccompanied youth, principal or other school officials. (2) The parent/guardian or unaccompanied youth must be referred to the Homeless Liaison, provided a written explanation of the school's decision to deny enrollment or school selection and the rights of Homeless parents/guardians/unaccompanied youth, including the right to appeal any school district decision. (3) When the parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth is referred to the Homeless Liaison, the liaison will carry out the dispute resolution process within a reasonable amount of time. (4) After reviewing pertinent information related to the dispute, the Homeless Liaison shall provide the parent with a decision in writing within five (5) days of the receipt of the written complaint. (5) If the written resolution is not acceptable to the parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth, the Homeless Liaison will forward the dispute to the State Homeless Coordinator.

ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

Guidelines for Food Brought from home into the School Nutrition Facilities

(A school principal may have additional guidelines established for the school which is not outlined below.) These school guidelines may encompass areas outside of the dining facilities, sharing of food items, or food brought from home for class activities or school functions.

A school principal has the right to investigate the contents of items brought from home for consumption. If you have any questions regarding your child's school, please contact the school principal.

Following are parish guidelines for food brought into the School Nutrition facilities during meal service: Meals should be nutritious and comparable to the ones served in the facility.

No commercial labeling on noncompliant food. For example: Drinks which are allowable are 100% full strength juice, both plain and flavored milk, and non-flavored noncarbonated water. Place all other drink choices in a thermos container or wrap the container with foil or napkin.

No food shall be brought in from outside in fast food containers.

If a meal is not claimed with the School Nutrition Program, regardless of the child's status, milk, juice, and water must be purchased at the established price.

No consumption of competitive foods will be allowed during meal service.

SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY SUMMARY

The St. Martin Parish School Board promotes student health, preventing childhood obesity, and combating problems associated with poor nutrition and physical inactivity. The healthy, physically active child is more likely to be academically successful. The school district has goals and action plans for the following areas: nutrition education, physical activity, nutrition standards for all foods available on school campus during the school day, and other school-based activities designed to promote student wellness. All state and federal guidelines were incorporated in this policy. The policy will be monitored, assessed, reviewed, and improved, as needed by the SHAC.

In addition, it is the policy of the St. Martin Parish School Board that students, employees and/or visitors are not allowed to use any tobacco product on any St. Martin Parish School Board property, including all schools, administrative buildings, school buses, and any other St. Martin Parish School Board vehicle. The use or possession of tobacco products at any school function, including school functions held off school grounds and/or after school hours is also prohibited. Violations shall subject students, employees, and visitors to appropriate disciplinary action.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

School Resource Officers will function under dual administration of the St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office and the St. Martin Parish School Board with law enforcement being the priority supervisor. While school is in session, the School Resource Officer will report to the school principal or his/her designee at their assigned school.

Focusing on the prevention of juvenile delinquency and enhancing the relationship of law enforcement and the school community, including students, school staff and the community at large are two of the objectives of the School Resource Officer Program. In addition, the program will establish a rapport

with young people to promote a better understanding of the role of law enforcement and its attempts to divert youth from the juvenile justice system by providing interaction, reality-based counseling, education, and problem identification of students both at home and at school.

SCHOOL VISITORS

All visitors shall check in with the main office of the school and obtain clearance from the school administrator prior to contact with a staff member or student. Visitors shall not be allowed to contact or visit with students on campus at any time without approval of the school administrator. All unauthorized visitors are subject to prosecution.

STUDENT RECORDS (FERPA)

Notification of Rights

Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA)

Release of Student Records: According to La. R.S. 17:81, education records or information from education records may be released to state and local law enforcement officials and other officials within the juvenile justice system without the consent of the parent or guardian of the student who is the subject of the records according to the terms set forth in said statute.

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

- A.** The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the St. Martin Parish School Board receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- B.** The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the St. Martin Parish School Board to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write to the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the School Board decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School Board will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- C.** The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School Board as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the St. Martin Parish School Board has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or 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 or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. [Optional] Upon request, the St. Martin Parish School Board discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

- D.** The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by St. Martin Parish School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education 400
Maryland Avenue. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

The following "Directory Information" shall also be released when necessary. "Directory Information" includes name of student, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, photo, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of the athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent educational institution or agency attended by the students. If parents do not want this information distributed, they must notify the school in writing, within the first fifteen (15) days of the school year.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law designed to protect the privacy of a student's education records. The law applies to all schools which receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student, or former student, who has reached the age of 18 or is attending any school beyond the high school level. Students and former students to whom the rights have transferred are called eligible students.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENT

GENERAL POLICY

The St. Martin Parish School Board shall have authority and responsibility for the assignment, placement, transfer, and continued education of all students attending schools within its jurisdiction. The School Board shall require a student to attend the appropriate school as determined by the domicile of the parent and/or legal guardian. Each student shall have only one residence (domicile) which is

determined to be the place where he/she predominantly sleeps, takes meals, and maintains personal belongings. When legal custody has been awarded by a court of law, or by provisional custody by mandate/court decree, the domicile shall be the principal residence of the parent awarded primary or domiciliary custody, or if he/she is eighteen years old or has been emancipated by a court order, by the student's own domicile, if not specifically contrary to the provisions of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction providing for the assignment of students.

The United States District Court order governing desegregation of St. Martin Parish Schools generally requires students to attend a school located in the attendance zone in which the custodial

parent or legal guardian of the child is domiciled.

LEGAL CUSTODY DECREES IN DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS

In case of divorce, a student shall attend school in the zone in which the parent who has domiciliary custody resides. Proof of domiciliary custody shall be a certified copy of the decree of the court which issued the custody order, whether the order grants temporary or permanent custody. Where the custody decree provides for split custody, the decree should specify at which parent's domicile the child should attend school. A custody decree which orders a student to attend a school which is located in a zone other than a zone in which the child's domiciliary parent or other party enjoying legal custody resides would violate the desegregation order and cannot be implemented unless the child's assignment is approved under the process of approval of attendance out-of-zone spelled out below.

AWARD OF CUSTODY OF PERSON OTHER THAN A PARENT If a court determines that joint or sole custody to either parent would result in substantial harm to a student, and awards custody to another person, then the child shall attend school in the zone where the custodial person is domiciled. A certified copy of the court's order shall be provided to the school board.

PROVISIONAL OR TEMPORARY CUSTODY BY COURT DECREE

Where any other legally valid temporary or provisional custody decree has been granted by a court giving an individual of legal age custody of a minor student, then that student may attend school in the zone where the student's provisional custodian is domiciled. A certified copy of the temporary or provisional custody decree shall be provided to the school board.

JUVENILE COURT CUSTODY DECREES IN CASES OF ABANDONED OR ABUSED CHILDREN

When a child has been abandoned by being placed in the physical custody of a non-parent or the Louisiana Department of Social Services and/or if parental rights have been terminated by a juvenile court for any of the grounds specified in Article 1015 of the Louisiana Children's Code or any other applicable law, then the child shall attend school in the zone where the person or persons given temporary custody of the child by the juvenile court are domiciled. A certified copy of the juvenile court's order shall be provided to the School Board.

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

A child placed in foster care by the Louisiana Department of Social Services and/or pursuant to Juvenile Court Order and temporarily residing in the district shall be enrolled and allowed to attend school in the zone where the foster parent or parents are domiciled.

CHILDREN OF EMPLOYEES

A child of employees who reside in St. Martin Parish shall be allowed to attend the school where their parent is employed.

STUDENTS FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH WHO ARE CHILDREN OF EMPLOYEES

Normally, a student who does not actually reside in the geographical boundaries of a St. Martin Parish School System shall not attend a school in the system. However, if in the opinion of the principal, the child of an employee can enroll without creating an undue hardship in respect to overcrowding, or materially impacting the racial balance at the school, he/she may attend school in the school system with School board approval.

STUDENT FROM ST. MARTIN REQUESTING ATTENDANCE IN ANOTHER PARISH

Requests of students who are domiciled in St. Martin Parish to attend public schools located outside of St. Martin Parish will be reviewed by the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance and the Superintendent of St. Martin Parish and by the principal of the out-of-parish school, which the student desires to attend. The decision to grant or deny the requests will be made by the Transfer Review Committee.

AVOIDING SPLIT OF FAMILIES IN STUDENT ASSIGNMENT

Where two or more students from a particular family are being assigned or transferred siblings should not be split in the process. **(Board approved 2007)**

HOME VISITS

Information provided to the Supervisor of Child Welfare & Attendance to be presented to the committee may be verified with a home visit by the Superintendent's designee. **(Board approved March 2011)**

ASSIGNMENTS FOR DISABLED STUDENTS

The School Board shall require that disabled students be assigned to programs within attendance zones, if possible. However, if an appropriate program is unavailable within a student's attendance zone, the student may be placed in a school specifically designed to provide for the appropriate needs of the student.

ATTENDANCE OUT OF ZONE- EXCEPTIONS

Special Education Students

Special exceptions may be granted for the children attending special education classes. These students must be recommended and approved by the Supervisor of Special Education in order to attend a school other than the one in their zone.

EXTREME HARDSHIP

On the ruling of the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance, a hardship temporary transfer may be granted for the following reasons:

Medical or psychological recommendation from competent authority that a child's health requires for a change of school or residence. A certified medical record supporting such a recommendation must be supplied with a request.

Serious illness in the family that warrants a change of residence.

Other extraordinary circumstances wherein the best interests of the pupil would be served by a transfer.

D) Location of a child care provider's residence will not suffice to create an extreme hardship to justify a student's transfer. **(Board approved March 2011)**

A transfer request shall not be considered unless form T-100 is submitted to the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance.

TRANSFERS AND TRANSFER REVIEW COMMITTEE

The school board will grant transfer to a student from one attendance zone to another, only when a student moves from one zone or district to another or if the student requires special education or

hardship exception. All requests for transfer shall be evaluated and either granted or denied by a Transfer Review Committee which shall be composed of four central office administrators and four principals from St. Martin Parish Schools. The racial composition of the Transfer Review Committee shall be four blacks and four whites. The Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance and the Truancy Coordinator shall serve as two of the administrators on the transfer review committee.

DEADLINE FOR TRANSFER REQUESTS

All requests for transfer for the coming academic year must be made to the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance by the end of the day on May 1st of each year.

DECISION OF TRANSFER REVIEW COMMITTEE FINAL

All decisions granting or denying a request for transfer by the Transfer Review Committee are final.

MAJORITY TO MINORITY TRANSFER POLICY

A student attending a school in which his or her race is in the majority may request assignment to another school where space is available and where his race is in a minority. All such requests shall be made to the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance by the end of the day on May 1st of each year.

VERIFICATION OF DOMICILE

The principal shall be responsible for monitoring school enrollment and shall have authority to remove or transfer any student attending school out of district or out of zone. When investigating the domicile of a student, the School Board, through the principal, shall attempt to verify the primary place of residence of the legal parent or legal or provisional guardian. Such verification of domicile shall be based on such items as the following:

Voter registration data, utility deposit receipts, homestead exemption receipts, 911 addresses, home rental receipts, and home visit by a school official, or certified copy of a judicially ordered tutorship, custody or guardianship of any minor child student not domiciled or in the custody of their natural and/or legal parent. Verification of the physical residency of the legal custodian, tutor/tetra or non-parent shall also be required, or any other documentation as may be stipulated by the Board.

The school principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for monitoring the school enrollment list and shall immediately refer to the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance to determine proper school assignment.

DISCOVERY OF ATTENDANCE OUT OF ZONE

If a principal or administrator in St. Martin Parish discovers that a student is attending school out of the proper zone during the course of the school year before mid-term, the student must be withdrawn and enrolled in the proper school in the student's correct zone. In cases discovered after mid-term, the student will be allowed to complete the school year at the student's current school. The student must be transferred to the correct school in the proper zone for the beginning of the next school year.

*Revised 2007/Board approved 2007
Revised 2010/Board approved 09/10
Revised Jan. 2011/Board approved 3/2011*

FALSIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS

Falsification of any documents or information provided to the St. Martin Parish School personnel by someone seeking the transfer or admission of a student to a particular school shall be grounds for rejecting the request for transfer or admission without further consideration.

STUDENT APPEARANCE

A. STUDENT DRESS & APPEARANCE CODE

The St. Martin Parish School Board has a responsibility to establish a dress and appearance policy that balances the rights of its students for freedom of expression and individuality against its duty and responsibility to maintain a positive learning environment on campus and to foster the values of the communities served by the public schools.

Students will wear clothing and optional accessories that do not detract from the learning process. To ensure an atmosphere of order, discipline, and safety, which are prerequisites to providing education, students will be required to follow the guidelines below at school, on a school bus, or at a school sponsored activity or field trip:

1. All students enrolled in St. Martin Parish shall wear school IDs.
2. If earrings (including “body piercing” jewelry) are allowed by individual school policy, they can only be worn on the ear.
3. Heavy chains hanging from belt loops or pockets and other type items are prohibited.
4. Hair curlers and rakes of any kind are prohibited.
5. Sunglasses (unless prescribed by a physician) are prohibited. A principal or designee may request a statement from the physician.
6. Book bags, Knapp sacks, or other bags used to carry student books and accessories must be mesh or see-through.
7. Gang-related jewelry, insignias, colors, paraphernalia, and materials are prohibited. Such may vary school to school and may change year to year.
8. Make-up, hair designs, and hair colors which cause undue attention, distracting from the educational environment as determined by the principal, are not allowed.
9. Excessive jewelry or clothing that is considered a distraction or a danger by the administrator is prohibited. (ex. Black trench coats, large dangling or hoop earrings, oversized purses etc.).
10. Body art/tattoos which cause undue attention, distracting from the educational environment as determined by the principal must be covered.

Individual school administrators have the right to implement a more restrictive student dress and appearance code policy. Any student who violates the Student Dress and Appearance Policy will be subject to the following consequences:

(See Discipline Portion of Handbook)

ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH UNIFORM CODE (*The principal has the right to be more stringent with the following policy.*)

Appropriate Parish approved Uniform Allowed (Grades Pre-K through 8):

<u>Shirt:</u>	Solid color: Red or white Polo (golf) Short or long sleeves Two or three buttons at the top front and collar No emblems, insignias, or monograms Designated school PBIS uniform shirt
<u>Jumpers:</u>	Allowed grades Pre-K - Grade 6 Uniform Navy Blue Uniform shirts must be worn under jumpers Styles must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean material) Set in-side pockets, no patch pockets Hems no more than 2" above knees when student is kneeling Navy blue shorts must be worn under jumper
<u>Skirts:</u>	Solid color: Navy blue Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean material) Hems no more than 2 inches above the knee when student is kneeling Must be worn at waistline
<u>Skorts:</u>	Allowed in Grades Pre-K - Grade 6 Solid color: Navy blue Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean material) Hems no more than 2 inches above the knee when student is kneeling Must be worn at waistline
<u>Shorts:</u>	Solid color: Navy blue Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean material) Set in-side pockets, no patch pockets Hems no more than 4 inches above the knee when student is kneeling No pockets on pant legs Can be pleated or flat front Must have front waistband and belt loops (Elastic allowed on back and sides for pre-k -5) Must be worn at the waistline (Pre-K & Kindergarten students may wear pull-on shorts)
<u>Slacks:</u>	Solid color: navy blue Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean material) Set in-side pockets, no patch pockets No elastic or gathered at the ankles (joggers) Must be hemmed and length not to exceed top of shoe No pockets on lower legs Can be pleated or flat front Must have front waistband and belt loops Elastic allowed on back and sides Must be worn at waistline (Pre-K & Kindergarten students may wear pull-on pants) Cropped, stirrup, parachute, wind, stretch/warm-up, and jean-style pants not allowed
<u>Belts:</u>	Mandatory when wearing slacks, shorts, or skirts (with belt loops) Belt buckles must be plain. Large or oversized belt buckles are not allowed Emblems, insignias, or initials are also prohibited Belts must be the appropriate length for waist size
<u>Socks/Tights:</u>	Mandatory wear (No random color knee high socks or random color tights)

Tights/Knee high socks must be blue or white with no graphics, etc.

Shoes:

No sandals, boots, moccasins, crocs, slippers, or heels above one-inch Closed toe and close heel shoes (no Yeezy foam runner style shoes)

If tie shoes, shoes should be properly tied

No rollerblade, lighted or any extraordinary features

Sweatshirts/Sweaters: **NO HOODS** Solid Color: black, navy, white, red, gray, green (Cecilia), maroon (Breaux Bridge), purple (St. Martinville) Pullover, no hood (v-neck, crew) may be worn over polo shirts. No pictures or writing on clothing. School spirit sweatshirts may be worn.

T-Shirts/Undershirts, Turtlenecks/Mock Turtlenecks:

Solid color: navy, red, or white

No designs, emblems, insignias, or monograms

Can only be worn under polo shirts.

Hats/Caps:

No caps, “do rags”, sweatbands, sport bands, bandanas, hairnets, wrap caps, or scarfs are allowed on buses, playgrounds, or inside buildings.

Winter knit pullover hats shall be allowed on buses and outdoors during cold weather.

Spirit Shirts:

A school approved spirit shirt may be worn on the pre-designated days, not to exceed one day a week. No jeans allowed.

Coats & Jackets: **PRE-K thru 5th Grade** Coats and jackets of any color (zip or pull-over) are acceptable. Hoods may not be worn in the building. No long, below the knee dusters or trench coats allowed.

Coats & Jackets: **6 – 8** Solid color: black, navy, red, gray, white and the following additional colors: Maroon (BB Area), Purple/Green (Jr. High) (St. Martinville Area), Green (Cecilia Area), Parks (Green.). **NO HOODS ALLOWED**

School issued jackets are permissible (letter jacket, A-team, band, etc.) Coats, jackets, and sweaters (open front, button, zip, and Quarter zip) are allowed in the building. Hoods may not be worn in the building. No long, below the knee dusters or trench coats allowed.

General Information:

The uniforms will be classic-traditional style. No baggy or oversized clothes will be allowed. All clothing worn must be appropriate size, not oversized or too tight. Shorts and slacks must fit at the waist and the crotch (within one size of student’s actual waist and in-seam measurement). All clothing must be hemmed (not frayed or slit at the seams or stapled or taped at the hem) and may not have any holes or tears. Pants or skirts which are too tight, revealing, or which allow underclothing to show are not allowed. Shirts must be worn tucked into slacks, shorts or skirts so that the waist is visible. Sweaters, sweatshirts, or jackets worn in cold weather do not have to be tucked in. Belts must be kept in the belt loops. Girls may wear shorts under their skirts or jumpers as long as the shorts are not visible. Socks or tights must be worn.

Pre-Designated Days/Spirit Days:

The principal may allow on the pre-designated days for students on an approved list to wear “A” Team t-shirts, 4-H shirts, spirit shirts or their Boy/Girl Scout sashes. All other school uniform clothing must be worn on pre-designated days. This is also true for field trips.

All faculty, staff and students will be allowed to wear jeans (school appropriate) with a school approved spirit shirt on the following designated days. August 14 and 28, September 11 and 25, October 9 and 23, November 6 and 20, December 4 and 18, January 15 and 29, February 26, March 12 and 25, April 9 and 23, May 7 and 21.

Incentive Days:

Principals may allow for special dress days, including jeans, for school incentives.
(ex. Perfect attendance, Honor roll, Student of the month, positive behavior support)

School Pictures:

Fall Semester Pictures are uniform pictures only. The level of free dress for students for the Spring Semester pictures shall be determined by the school administrator. Any deviations from the uniform policy must comply with the Dress and Appearance Code.

Medical Necessity:

Slings, casts, prosthesis, bandages or the like shall not be considered to violate this policy. If the principal or other official deems it necessary, the child can be asked to bring a medical certificate as to the wearing of the item. Follow-up with the parents is indicated where the child fails to comply with such a request.

Penalty for Violation of Uniform Policy: (See Discipline portion of the Handbook)

HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM CODE (The principal has the right to be more stringent with the following policy.)

Appropriate Parish approved Uniform Allowed (Grades 9 through 12):

Shirt: Solid color: White or
School Colors as follows: BBHS-Maroon, CSH-Green and SMSH-
Purple or Polo (golf)
Short or long sleeves
Two or three buttons at the top front and
collar No emblems, insignias, or monograms
School-approved logo optional
Designated school PBIS uniform
shirt

Skirts: Solid color: Khaki
Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean material)
Hems no more than 2 inches above the knee when student is
kneeling Must be worn at waistline

Shorts: Solid color: khaki
Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean
material, spandex, jeggings)
Set in-side pockets, no patch pockets
Hems no more than 3 inches above the knee when student is
kneeling
No pockets on pant legs
Can be pleated or flat front

Must have front waistband and belt loops

Must be worn at the waistline

Slacks:

Solid color: khaki

Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean material) Set in-side pockets, no patch pockets

No elastic or gathered at the ankles (Joggers)

Must be hemmed and length not to exceed top of shoe No pockets on lower legs

Can be pleated or flat front

Must have front waistband and belt loops

Elastic allowed on back and sides

Must be worn at waistline

Cropped, stirrup, parachute, wind, stretch/warm-up, and jean-style pants not allowed

Belts:

Mandatory when wearing slacks or skirts (with belt loops)

Belt buckles must be plain. Large and oversized belt buckles are not allowed

Emblems, insignias, or initials are also prohibited

Belts must be the appropriate length for waist size

Socks/Tights:

Mandatory (No random color knee high socks or random color tights)

Tights/Knee high socks must be blue or white with no graphics, etc.

Shoes:

No sandals, boots, moccasins, crocs, slippers, Yeezy foam runner style shoes, or heels above one-inch Closed toe and close heel shoes

If shoes tie, shoes should be properly tied.

Sweatshirts: **NO HOODS** Solid color black, gray, navy, white, purple (SMSH), maroon (BBHS), green (CHS), Pullover, (v-neck, crew) may be worn over polo shirts in the building. No pictures or writing on clothing. School spirit sweatshirts may be worn.

T-Shirts/Undershirts, Turtlenecks/Mock Turtlenecks:

Solid color: white, black, or gray the following school colors

maroon (BBHS), purple (SMSH), green (CHS)

No designs, emblems, insignias, or monograms

Can only be worn under polo shirts.

Hats/Caps:

No caps, "do rags", sweatbands, sport bands, bandanas, hairnets, wrap caps, or scarfs are allowed on buses, playgrounds, or inside buildings

Winter knit pullover hats shall be allowed on buses and outdoors during cold weather.

Spirit Shirts: A school approved spirit shirt may be worn on the designated days, not to exceed one day a week. No jeans allowed.

Coats, Jackets, & Sweaters: Solid color: black, navy, red, gray, purple (SMSH), maroon (BBHS), green (CHS).

NO HOODS ALLOWED

School issued jackets are permissible (letter jacket, A-team, band, etc.).

Coats, jackets, & sweaters (open front, button, zip and Quarter zip) are allowed in the building. No long, below the knee dusters or trench coats are allowed.

General Information:

The uniforms will be classic-traditional style. No baggy or oversized clothes will be allowed. All

clothing worn must be appropriate size, not oversized or too tight. Slacks must fit at the waist and the crotch. All clothing must be hemmed (not frayed or slit at the seams or stapled or taped at the hem) and may not have any holes or tears. Pants or skirts which are too tight, revealing, or which allow underclothing to show are not allowed. Shirts must be worn tucked into slacks or skirts so that the waist is visible. Sweaters, sweatshirts, or jackets worn in cold weather do not have to be tucked in. Belts must be kept in the belt loops. Girls may wear shorts under their skirts as long as the shorts are not visible. Socks or tights must be worn.

Pre-Designated /Spirit Days

The principal may allow on the pre-designated days for students on an approved list to wear "A" Team t-shirts, 4-H shirts, spirit shirts or their Boy/Girl Scout sashes. All other school uniform clothing must be worn on pre-designated days. This is also true for field trips.

All faculty, staff and students will be allowed to wear jeans (school appropriate) with a school approved spirit shirt on the following designated days. August 14 and 28, September 11 and 25, October 9 and 23, November 6 and 20, December 4 and 18, January 15 and 29, February 26, March 12 and 25, April 9 and 23, May 7 and 21.

Incentive Days:

Principals may allow for special dress days, including jeans, for school incentives.
(ex. Perfect attendance, Honor roll, Student of the month, positive behavior support)

School Pictures:

Fall Semester Pictures are uniform pictures only. The level of free dress for students for the Spring Semester pictures shall be determined by the school administrator. Any deviations from the uniform policy must comply with the Dress and Appearance Code.

Medical Necessity:

Slings, casts, prosthesis, bandages or the like shall not be considered to violate this policy. If the principal or other official deems it necessary, the child can be asked to bring a medical certificate as to the wearing of the item. Follow-up with the parents is indicated where the child fails to comply with such a request.

Penalty for Violation of Uniform Policy:

(See Discipline portion of the Handbook)

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, TRUANCY & WITHDRAWAL

Students shall be expected to attend every student activity day scheduled by the St. Martin Parish School Board. In order to be eligible to receive grades, high school students, primary, elementary, and junior high school students shall be in attendance 180 days have no more than 13 excused or unexcused absences in a school year. (*Bulletin 741*)

Any elementary student missing fourteen (14) days, excused or unexcused, shall be denied credit. Any high school student missing seven (7) excused or unexcused days in a full credit class, will lose credit for that class.

In order to ensure that parents and students are properly notified of a student's attendance problem, the following procedures have been instituted.

A. GRADES PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 8 ATTENDANCE

1. Any student having three (3) unexcused absences, tardies, or early checkouts from school:
 - a. A computer-generated letter should be sent to the home
 - b. The parent/guardian shall be contacted by a school official to discuss the student's absences. This may be by telephone.
2. Any student having five (5) unexcused absences, tardies, or early checkouts from school:
 - a. A computer generated 5-Day Letter should be sent home.
 - b. An appointment letter with a specific date and time shall be sent to the parents/guardian who, along with the student, shall meet with the principal or designated person to discuss the absences. The parent/guardian is expected to meet with the school official.
 - c. Contract should be presented to the parent/guardian by a school official and signed by student and parent agreeing that the student will comply with the attendance policies.
 - d. If the parent/guardian fails to attend or respond to the appointment letter, an immediate referral should be made to the Child Welfare and Attendance Supervisor or Attendance Coordinator and copies forwarded for referral to FINS.
3. Any student having seven (7) unexcused absences, tardies, or early checkouts from school:
 - a. The student and parents will be referred to the District Attorney's Office (Truancy FINS) When forwarding information, the following student information shall be included: truancy documentation, grades, discipline, and basic family information.
4. Any students missing fourteen (14) days, excused or unexcused, shall be denied credit shall be referred to FINS by the school, the Truancy Coordinator or TASC/Early Intervention. (*According to La R.S. 17:221, the only exceptions to the attendance regulation shall be the delineated extenuating circumstances that are verified by the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance.*)

B. GRADES 9-12 ATTENDANCE POLICY (4 X 4 BLOCK)

Due to the concentrated time frame of 4 x 4 Block, the attendance requirements become more stringent and will be strictly enforced.

1. Any student having three (3) unexcused absences, tardies, or early checkouts from school or individual block periods:

- a. A computer generated **3-Day Letter** shall be sent home with the student.
 - b. The parent/guardian shall be sent an appointment letter with a specific date and time for the parents/guardian along with the student, to meet with the principal or designated person to discuss the absences and possible loss of credit. The parent/guardian is expected to meet with the school official.
 - c. A contract shall be presented to the parent/guardian by a school official
 - i. for agreement by student and parent that the student will comply with the attendance policies.
 - d. If the parent/guardian fails to attend or respond to the appointment letter, an immediate referral should be made to the Child Welfare and Attendance Supervisor or Attendance Coordinator and copies forwarded to the District Attorney's Office.
2. Any high school student having **five (5)** unexcused absences, tardies, and early checkouts per school term:
- a) A second letter shall be sent home with the student.
 - b) Students 17 and under shall be referred to the District Attorney's Office for FINS. Students over 17 shall be referred to court.
 - c) The student is notified that he/she is in danger of losing credit.
 - d) Any high school student missing **seven (7)** excused or unexcused days in a full credit class, will lose credit for that class. *(According to La. R.S. 17:221, the only exceptions to the attendance regulation shall be the delineated extenuating circumstances that are verified by the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance.)*
- Enrollment in the Pre-G.E.D. program may also be denied.

C. **TYPES OF ABSENCES**

The days absent for students shall include excused absences, unexcused absences, and suspensions.

1. **Excused Absences:** Students shall be considered excused from school for personal illness, serious illness in the family, death in the family (not to exceed one week), or for recognized religious holidays of the student's own faith. All original excuses must be submitted within three (3) school days, if not, absences shall be considered unexcused. Proper documentation includes original doctor excuses, subpoenas, obituaries, and health center excuses. Parental notes and phone calls are not acceptable documentation for absences. **Students who turn in proper documentation within the allotted time will be allowed to make-up work for full credit.**
2. **Unexcused absences:** Students shall not be excused for any absences other than those listed above. Students shall not be excused from school to work on any job including babysitting, agriculture, and domestic service, even in their own homes. **Students will be allowed to make-up work and earn full credit. The absence(s) will still be considered unexcused.**
3. **Suspensions:** Student absences as a result of any out of school suspension shall be counted as unexcused and shall be given failing grades for those days suspended. Upon students return to school, students suspended shall be allowed to make-up work for days suspended only. **Students will earn seventy percent (70%) of the actual score earned for all make-up work.**

Any absences shall be considered unexcused until the proper documentation is presented to school officials. All original excuses must be presented within three (3) days of return to school.

School-Based Health Centers can provide medical excuses for students who have been seen at

one of the health centers and the student is sent home due to illness or injury. (refer to "Excuse Policy)

Students who are absent due to lice will be allowed three (3) excused absences. Excessive absences due to lice infestation shall be referred to Families in Need of Services (F.I.N.S.).

D. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES:

Listed below are extenuating circumstances as established by state law and as adopted by the St.

Martin Parish School Board.

1. Extended personal or emotional illness as ***verified by a physician.***
2. Extended hospital stay as ***verified by a physician.***
3. Extended recuperation from an accident as ***verified by a physician.***
4. Extended contagious disease within a family as ***verified by a physician.***
5. Prior school system approval travel for education. Death in immediate family ***(Obituary or written verification must be presented).***
6. Natural catastrophe and/or disaster.
7. Court subpoena ***(copy of subpoena must be presented)***
8. Visitation with a parent who is a member of the armed forces/national guard ***(not to exceed five school days per school year)***
9. For any other extenuating circumstances parents must make a formal appeal in accordance with the due process procedure established by the St. Martin Parish School Board.

Parents may appeal the decision by presenting additional information to the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance. Students participating in school-approved activities that necessitate their being away from school shall be considered present and given an opportunity to make up work.

E. MAKEUP WORK

All makeup work **for excused absences** must be completed within **five (5) school days** upon receipt of verification of excused absence(s). **Make-up work for unexcused absences must be completed within five (5) days of return to school. Make-up work for suspensions must be completed within three (3) days of student return.**

F. STUDENT ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

Student Attendance Guidelines for Reporting Purposes

The following guidelines were developed to address the need for standardization of the definition of attendance and procedures for reporting to the Louisiana Department of Education. All absences whether excused or unexcused shall be counted as an absence for reporting purposes to the State Department.

Half-Day Attendance- A student is considered to be in attendance for one-half day when he or she (1) is physically present at a school site or is participating in an authorized school activity and (2) is under the supervision of authorized personnel for more than 25 % but not more than half (26%-50%) of the student's instructional day.

Whole-Day Attendance- A student is considered to be in attendance for a whole day when he or she (1) is physically present at a school site or is participating in an authorized school activity and (2) is under the supervision of authorized personnel for more than 50% (51% - 100%) of the

student's instructional day.

NOTE: students who are not physically present or who are participating for less than 25% of the school day shall be deemed absent for attendance reporting purposes.

G. COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGES

State law establishes that any child between the ages of seven (7) and eighteen (18) inclusive (i.e., from his/her seventh to his/her eighteenth birthday) shall be required to attend school except as exemptions are provided by statute. (La. R.S. 17:221 and La. R.S. 17:226) Any child below the age of seven (7) who legally enrolls in school shall also be subject to the provisions of said statute.

H. LOUISIANA SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LAW

State law establishes that any child between the ages of seven (7) and eighteen (18) inclusive (i.e., from his/her seventh to his/her eighteenth birthday) shall be required to attend school except as exemptions are provided by statute. (La. R.S. 17:221 and La. R.S. 17:226) Any child below the age of seven (7) who legally enrolls in school shall also be subject to the provisions of said statute.

According to the *Louisiana Revised Statute 17:221 (A) (1)*, a child from his seventh birthday to the eighteenth birthday must attend a public or private day school in regularly assigned classes during the regular school hours or participate in an approved home study program. Any child below the age of seven (7) who is legally enrolled in school is subject to the compulsory school attendance laws.

Louisiana Revised Statute 17:221 (A) (2) states whoever violates this (A) (1) shall be FINED not more than \$250.00 or IMPRISONED not more than 30 days or both.

J. CHECKOUT PROCEDURES

Anyone checking out a student must present a picture ID. Students will only be allowed to be checked out with persons listed on the current student information sheet on file at the school.

K. TRUANCY

All instances of possible truancy from school shall be investigated, as required by law, and appropriate measures will be taken by the school administration and/or supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance. A student, absent from school without an authorized excuse or leaves school before the end of the day without permission, shall be subject to suspension. (La. R.S. 17:221, La. R.S. 17:223, La. R.S. 17:228, La. R.S. 17:233)

L. WITHDRAWAL FROM ENROLLMENT

The parent, tutor, or legal guardian of a child who is under eighteen and who is enrolled in school beyond his sixteenth birthday may request that the student be allowed to attend an alternative education program or a vocational technical education program but will remain under compulsory attendance for fulfilling the attendance requirement for said alternative programs. (La. R. S. 17:226). Upon receiving such a request, the school system shall be responsible for determining whether the student remains in regular school or attends an alternative education program or vocational education program and for developing and

implementing an individualized program for such student effective July 1, 2002 (La. R.S. 17:221).

HARASSMENT/BULLYING/INTIMIDATION/CYBERBULLYING/HAZING POLICY

A. GENERAL POLICY

The St. Martin Parish School Board is committed to maintaining a safe, orderly, civil and positive learning environment so that no individual feels threatened while in school or participating in school-related activities. Students and their parents/guardians shall be notified that the school, school bus, and all other school environments are to be safe and secure for all. Therefore, all statements or actions of bullying, cyberbullying, intimidating, threatening, harassing, hazing, or any other violent nature made on campus, at school-sponsored activities, on school buses, at school bus stops, and en-route from home to bus stop and from bus stop to home shall not be tolerated. Even if made in a joking manner, these statements or actions threatening other students, school personnel or school property shall be unacceptable. All students, teachers, and other school employees shall take responsible measures within the scope of their individual authority to prevent violations of this policy.

B. BULLYING, INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT

Bullying, intimidation and harassment shall mean any intentional gesture or written, verbal, or physical act that a reasonable person under the circumstances should know will have the effect of harming an individual or damage his/her property or placing an individual in reasonable fear of harm to his/her life or person or damage to his/her property and is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive environment for an individual.

Cyber bullying

Cyber bullying, harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student on school property by another student using a computer, mobile phone, or other interactive or digital technology or harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student while off school property by another student using any such means when the action or actions are intended to have an effect on the student when the student is on school property.

Hazing

Hazing shall mean any knowing behavior, whether by commission or omission, of any student to encourage, direct, order, or participate in any activity which subjects another student to potential physical, mental, or psychological harm for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with, continued membership in, or acceptance by existing members of any organization or extracurricular activity at a public elementary or secondary school, whether such behavior is planned or occurs on or off school property, including any school bus and school bus stop. Hazing does not mean an adult-directed and school-sanctioned athletic program practice or event or military training program.

Any solicitation to engage in hazing, and the aiding and abetting another person who engages in hazing shall be prohibited. The consent, stated or implied, of the hazing victim shall not be a defense in determining disciplinary action.

C. HARASSMENT/BULLYING/ INTIMIDATION BASED ON RACE, COLOR, and ETHNICITY, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR DISABILITY

For purpose of this policy, racial harassment/bullying/cyberbullying/intimidation of an

individual consists of verbal or physical conduct relating to an individual's race, color, ethnicity, national origin or disability when

1. The harassing conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it affects an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment.
2. The harassing conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic performance; or
3. The harassing conduct otherwise adversely affects an individual's learning opportunities. Examples of conduct which may constitute harassment/bullying/cyberbullying/ intimidation include: graffiti containing racially offensive language-name calling, jokes, or rumors; threatening or intimidating conduct directed at another because of the other's race, color, ethnicity, national origin or disability; notes or cartoons; racial slurs, negative stereotypes, and hostile acts which are based upon another's race, color, ethnicity, national origin or disability; written or graphic material containing racial comments or stereotypes which is posted or circulated and which is aimed at degrading individuals or members of protected classes; a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of or in a manner reasonably related to, race, color, ethnicity, national origin or disability; and/or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property which is motivated by race, color, ethnicity, national origin or disability.

REPORTING PROCEDURES

Any individual who believes he or she has been the victim of sexual harassment, harassment/bullying/ intimidation, cyberbullying on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability or hazing by a student, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of the St. Martin Parish School Board or by any other person who is participating in, observing, or otherwise engaged in activities, including sporting events and other extra-curricular activities, under the auspices of the St. Martin Parish School Board, is encouraged to immediately report the alleged acts to an appropriate School Board official designated by this policy.

Any teacher, administrator, or other school official who has or receives notice that a student has or may have been the victim of sexual harassment, harassment/bullying/ intimidation, cyberbullying based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability or hazing by a student, teacher, administrator or other school personnel of the School Board, or by any other person who is participating in, observing, or otherwise engaged in activities, including sporting events and other extra-curricular activities, under the auspices of the School Board, is required to immediately report the alleged acts to an appropriate School Board official as designated by this policy.

Any other person with knowledge or belief that a student has or may have been the victim of sexual harassment, harassment/bullying/intimidation, cyberbullying based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability, or hazing as set forth above, is encouraged to immediately report the alleged acts to an appropriate School Board official designated by this policy.

The School Board encourages the reporting party or complainant to use the report form available from the principal of each school or available from the School Board Office, but oral reports shall be considered complaints as well. Use of the formal reporting form is not mandated. Nothing in this policy shall prevent any person from reporting harassment directly to the School Board Human Rights Supervisor or to the Superintendent.

1. In each school, the principal is the person responsible for receiving oral or written reports of sexual harassment, harassment/bullying/intimidation, and cyberbullying based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability, or hazing at the building level. Any adult School Board personnel who receives a report of sexual harassment, harassment/bullying/intimidation based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability or hazing shall inform the school principal immediately. Upon completion of a report, the principal must notify the School Board Human Rights Supervisor. The principal may request, but may not insist upon a written complaint. A written statement of the facts alleged will be forwarded as soon as practicable by the principal to the Human Rights Supervisor. If the report was given verbally, the principal shall personally reduce it to written form within 24 hours and forward it to the Human Rights Supervisor. Failure to forward any harassment, bullying, intimidation, cyberbullying, hazing report or complaint as provided herein shall result in disciplinary action against the principal. If the complaint involves the school principal, the complaint shall be made or filed directly with the Superintendent or the Human Rights Supervisor by the reporting party or the complainant.
2. The St. Martin Parish School Board has designated the Supervisor of Child Welfare & Attendance as the Human Rights Supervisor with responsibility to identify, prevent, and remedy harassment, bullying, intimidation, cyberbullying, and hazing for any student. The St. Martin Parish School Board Human Rights Supervisor for students shall: receive reports or complaints of sexual harassment, harassment/bullying/intimidation, cyberbullying based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability, or hazing; oversee the investigative process; be responsible for assessing the training needs of St. Martin Parish staff and students in connection with the dissemination, comprehension, and compliance with this policy; arrange for necessary training required for compliance with this policy; and insure that any investigation is conducted by an impartial investigator who has been trained in the requirements of equal educational opportunity, including harassment/bullying/intimidation/cyberbullying/hazing, and who is able to apply procedural and substantive standards which are necessary and applicable to identify unlawful harassment/bullying/intimidation/cyberbullying/hazing, recommend appropriate discipline and remedies when harassment/bullying/intimidation/cyberbullying/hazing is found, and take other appropriate action to rectify the damaging effects of any prohibited discrimination, including interim protection of the victim during the course of the investigation.
3. If any complaint involves a Human Rights Supervisor, the complaint shall file directly with the Superintendent. The St. Martin Parish School Board shall conspicuously post this policy against harassment and violence in each school that the School Board maintains, in a place accessible to students, faculty, administrators, employees, parents, and members of the public. This notice shall include the name, mailing address, and telephone number of the state agency responsible for investigating allegations of discrimination in educational opportunities and the mailing address and telephone number of the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights.
4. A copy of this policy shall appear in the student handbook and shall be made available upon request of parents, students, and other interested parties.
5. The School Board will develop a method of discussing this policy with students and employees. Training on the requirements of Non-discrimination and the appropriate responses to issues of harassment/bullying/intimidation/cyberbullying/hazing will be provided to all school personnel on an annual basis, and at such other times as the School Board in consultation with the human rights supervisor determines is necessary or appropriate.

- a. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state and federal law.
- b. The St. Martin Parish School Board will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individuals against whom the complaint is filed, the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the School Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations.

E. RETALIATION

The St. Martin Parish School Board will discipline or take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel who retaliates against or attempts to retaliate against any person who reports alleged harassment/bullying/intimidation/cyberbullying/hazing or violence, files a complaint of harassment/bullying/intimidation/cyberbullying/hazing who testifies, assists or participates in any investigation, hearing or proceeding related to such harassment/bullying/intimidation/cyberbullying/ hazing or violence. Retaliation includes but is not limited to any form of threat, intimidation, reprisal or discrimination.

G. STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

The St. Martin Parish School Board, recognizing that problems may arise in schools, shall require student concerns, complaints or grievances to be registered with the school principal or designee. If concerns of students cannot be resolved informally, a written complaint shall be initiated, dated and signed by the complainant, and submitted to the principal.

For the discussion and consideration of the grievance, any student or group of students should request in writing a meeting time and place with the school principal. One faculty member or other designated representative may be present at such a meeting. Such time and place will be designated immediately upon receipt of the written request.

If a grievance is not satisfactorily resolved after meeting with the principal, a student or group of students shall follow the procedures outlined in policy [*GAE, Complaints and Grievances*](#), for further consideration of their grievance (for further procedures please refer to page 100 *Policy GAE*).

HEALTH POLICIES

A. HEALTH CENTERS

St. Martin Parish School Board sponsors three school-based health centers. Parents must complete a consent form before a student can use the health center. The centers are opened from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30

P.M. when school is in session.

There is a full-time staff consisting of a mental health professional, registered nurse or nurse practitioner and a secretary.

The health centers provide treatment of minor illnesses and injuries, immunizations, sport physicals, laboratory testing, Kid-Med screenings, mental health services, including but not limited to crisis counseling, individual, family and group counseling. Parents are encouraged to visit the center when their child is receiving services.

Breaux Bridge School-Based Health Center is located on Breaux Bridge Junior High campus. It serves students attending Breaux Bridge Primary, Breaux Bridge Elementary, Breaux Bridge Junior High, Breaux Bridge High, Parks Primary and Parks Middle.

Cecilia School-Based Health Center is located on Cecilia Junior High campus. It serves students attending Cecilia Primary, Teche Elementary, Cecilia Junior High and Cecilia High.

St. Martinville School-Based Health Center is located on St. Martinville Primary campus. It serves students attending Early Learning Center, St. Martinville Primary, St. Martinville Junior High, St. Martinville High and Catahoula Elementary. Bus transportation is provided by the health centers.

B. POLICY ON SCHOOL MEDICAL EXCUSES

POLICY: It is the policy of St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers to assist in providing medical school excuses.

The St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers can provide up to six (6) medical excuses a year for student absences.

Excuses will be given if:

The student has a completed consent form for services at the SBHC. The parent/guardian contacts the SBHC the day of the absence.

Excuses will be entered into the student's attendance record. The parent does not have to pick up the excuse.

Parents may request a work excuse if their child is receiving an excuse for the same day. The health center staff will have a handwritten excuse available to be faxed or picked-up by the parent. The same guidelines will be followed for parent excuses as for student excuses.

Students leaving school with an illness should receive an excused absence from the school.

C. MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

As a general principle, medications are not to be given at schools. Acutely ill students should be sent home or to the health center, if they have appropriate consent. Students convalescing from an acute illness should remain at home until the need of medication no longer exists. Students are not allowed to have any drugs in their possession on the school grounds.

Special circumstances exist for a health problem that can be expected to be of a longer duration. When such a condition exists, the following will be adhered to:

To assure school attendance for students who must use medication in the treatment of chronic disabilities or illness, any student who is required to take medication during the regular school day, must comply with school regulations. These regulations must include at least the following:

1. Parents may come to the school and administer medication anytime during the school day, after checking in at the school office and signing the necessary document.
2. School nurses will observe trained school personnel before approving staff to administer medication.
3. **Parents will be responsible** for medication at school until staff has completed training.
4. School nurses will be responsible for accepting and/or reviewing new medication (only one medication per form). Please do not bring new medication to school, unless an appointment has been made to meet with a nurse.
5. A parent/guardian is required to call the school nurse and schedule an appointment. The school nurse will meet with the parent/guardian and student at his/her school. See below for nursing staff numbers.
6. When appointments are scheduled, an assessment of the child and pertinent health information from the parent and child will be obtained.
7. Refilled medications will continue to be accepted by the school personnel, after being checked in by nurse, if the orders remain the same for that school year.
8. According to state policy, a parent may not refill a pharmacy bottle with medications from another container. The medication must have the original bottle when filled from the pharmacist.
9. If your child needs medication at school the guardian/parent should contact the nurse responsible for that school.
10. For field trips or school sponsored trips, if a student has medical needs, the school will designate a trained unlicensed school employee (**TUSE**) to supervise that student and provide for the medical needs of that student for the duration of the trip. In addition, the school will also designate an additional school employee to attend the trip to supervise the other student on the trip if the **TUSE** must attend to the medical needs of the student with the medical condition. This cannot be delegated or assigned to a non- employee, such as a parent volunteer.
11. The parent/guardian will provide the school administrator with a written request for the medication to accompany their child prior to the day of the scheduled field trip. The principal/designee will attempt to assign a trained staff member for medication delivery on the field trip. If a problem arises with assignment, the principal/designee will call the parent.
12. School medication orders shall be limited to medication that cannot be administered before or after school hours. Special circumstances must be approved by the school nurse. (example: emergency medicine or court order medicine)

13. The St. Martin Parish School Nurse Program may bill Medicaid for nursing related services, including, but not limited to vision and hearing screenings. Vision/hearing screenings are available to all Medicaid-individuals eligible for EPSDT. Nursing Assessment/Evaluation are covered for all Medicaid eligible students.
14. The school nurse or trained school employee shall have the authority to administer auto-injectable epinephrine, as defined elsewhere in this policy, to a student who the school nurse or trained school employee believes is having an anaphylactic reaction, whether or not the student has a prescription for epinephrine. At least one employee at each school shall receive training from a registered nurse or licensed medical physician in the administration of epinephrine.
15. The School Nurse Program may enter information into my child's LINKS (Louisiana Immunization Network for Kids Statewide) record, which is the state's immunization registry.

Annual Notice Regarding Consent to Bill Medicaid and Share Information with the Louisiana Department of Health

Schools in Louisiana have been approved to receive partial reimbursement from Louisiana Medicaid for the cost of certain health-related services provided by the St. Martin Parish School Board to certain students. In order for St. Martin Parish School Board to get back some of the money spent on services, St. Martin Parish School Board needs to share with Louisiana Medicaid the following types of information about certain students: name; date of birth; gender; type of services provided, when and by whom; diagnosis (if any) and Louisiana Medicaid ID. If your child is eligible to receive services to meet his/her needs, the services may be provided by the school system and/or you may take your child to another provider that accepts Medicaid.

With one-time written parental permission, St. Martin Parish School Board seeks partial reimbursement for services provided by Louisiana Medicaid including, among others, a hearing test or eye exam; occupational or speech or physical therapy; some school nurse visits; and counseling services. After the initial permission is given, this annual notice is provided each year.

Please be advised of the following:

1. St. Martin Parish School Board cannot require families to sign up for Louisiana Medicaid in order to receive the health related and/or special education services to which the student is entitled.
2. St. Martin Parish School Board cannot require families to pay anything towards the cost of a student's health-related and/or special education services.
3. St. Martin Parish School Board is given permission to share information with and request reimbursement from Louisiana Medicaid:
 - a. This will not affect the students' available lifetime coverage or other Louisiana Medicaid; nor will it in any way limit the family's use of Louisiana Medicaid benefits outside of school.
 - b. The permission will not affect the student's special education services or IEP rights in any way, if the student is eligible to receive them.
 - c. The permission will not lead to any changes in the student's Louisiana Medicaid

rights; and

d. The permission will not lead to any risk of losing eligibility for other Medicaid funded programs.

4. Once the permission is given, families have the right to change their mind and withdraw permission at any time.

5. If permission is withdrawn, St. Martin Parish will continue to be responsible for providing the student with the services, at no cost to the family.

If a parent wishes to withdraw previously given written consent, please contact:

Adrienne Huval
adrienne_huval@saintmartinschools.org
(337)909-3045
P.O. Box 1344
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

SCHOOL NURSES

Amanda Bouchereau BBP, BBE, St. Bernard, Virtual School	Office # 909-3890 Cell# 342-9185
Terri Fontenot BBHS, BBJH, CCRC	Office # 909-3618
Tiffany Bertrand CP, CJH, NIS Cec	Office # 909-3905 Cell# 342-9212
Brandie Champagne PP, PMS, JCEP, SE	Office # 909-2915 Cell# 342-9174
Calie Latiolais TE, CHS	Office # 909-3512 Cell# 628-2431
Stephanie Latiolais ELC, SMSh, NIS SM	Office # 909-3320 Cell # 342-9205
Bridget Defelice SMP, SMJ, NIS BB	Office # 909-3266 Cell # 342-9167

****All emails are firstname_lastname@saintmartinschools.org**

School Nursing Services

School nurses provide a wide range of services to students including vision/hearing screenings, dental assessments, and assessment for minor illness or injury at school. If you do not wish to have these services, please send a written declaration to your child's school indicating that you do not wish for your child to receive services from the school nurse. This declaration will not prevent the school nurse from intervening in a medical emergency.

VACCINE INFORMATION STATEMENT

****This is not a school required immunization.**

Louisiana Revised Statute 17:170 Sec E allows for you to refuse immunizations for medical contraindication, religious objection, or parental objection, however, you must sign a form of written dissent. "No person seeking to enter any school or facility enumerated in Subsection A of this Section shall be required to comply with the provisions of this Section if the student or his parent or guardian submits either a written statement from a physician stating that the procedure is contraindicated for medical reasons, or a written dissent from the student or his parent or guardian is presented." Every school has these dissent forms.

HPV Vaccine *What You Need to Know*

(Human Papillomavirus)

Gardasil®

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis Hojas de Información Sobre Vacunas están disponibles en Español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite <http://www.immunize.org/vis>

1. What is HPV?

Genital **human papillomavirus (HPV)** is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States. More than half of sexually active men and women are infected with HPV at some time in their lives.

About 20 million Americans are currently infected, and about 6 million more get infected each year. HPV is usually spread through sexual contact.

Most HPV infections don't cause any symptoms, and go away on their own. But HPV can cause **cervical cancer** in women. Cervical cancer is the 2nd leading cause of cancer deaths among women around the world. In the United States, about 12,000 women get cervical cancer every year and about 4,000 are expected to die from it.

HPV is also associated with several less common cancers, such as vaginal and vulvar cancers in women, and anal and oropharyngeal (back of the throat, including base of tongue and tonsils) cancers in both men and women. HPV can also cause genital warts and warts in the throat.

There is no cure for HPV infection, but some of the problems it causes can be treated.

2. HPV vaccine: Why get vaccinated?

The HPV vaccine you are getting is one of two vaccines that can be given to prevent HPV. It may be given to both males and females.

This vaccine can prevent most cases of cervical cancer in females, if it is given before exposure to the virus. In addition, it can prevent vaginal and vulvar cancer in females, and genital warts and anal cancer in both males and females.

Protection from HPV vaccine is expected to be long-lasting. But vaccination is not a substitute for cervical cancer screening. Women should still get regular Pap tests.

3. Who should get this HPV vaccine and when?

HPV vaccine is given as a 3-dose series

1st Dose Now

2nd Dose 1 to 2 months after

Dose 1 3rd Dose 6 months
after Dose 1

Additional (booster) doses are not recommended.

Routine Vaccination

This HPV vaccine is recommended for girls and boys **11 or 12 years of age**. It *may* be given starting at age 9. **Why is HPV vaccine recommended at 11 or 12 years of age?** HPV infection is easily acquired, even with only one sex partner. That is why it is important to get HPV vaccine before any sexual contact takes place. Also, response to the vaccine is better at this age than at older ages.

Catch-Up Vaccination

This vaccine is recommended for the following people who have not completed the 3-dose series: Females 13 through 26 years of age.

Males 13 through 21 years of age.

This vaccine *may* be given to men 22 through 26 years of age who have not completed the 3-dose series.

It is *recommended* for men through age 26 who have sex with men or whose immune system is weakened because of HIV infection, other illness, or medications. HPV vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

4. Some people should not get the HPV vaccine or should wait.

Anyone who has ever had a life-threatening allergic reaction to any component of HPV vaccine, or to a previous dose of HPV vaccine, should not get the vaccine. Tell your doctor if the person getting vaccinated has any severe allergies, including an allergy to yeast.

HPV vaccine is not recommended for pregnant women. However, receiving HPV vaccine when pregnant is not a reason to consider terminating the pregnancy. Women who are breastfeeding may get the vaccine.

People who are mildly ill when a dose of HPV vaccine is planned can still be vaccinated.

People with a moderate or severe illness should wait until they are better.

5. What are the risks from this vaccine?

This HPV vaccine has been used in the U.S. and around the world for about six years and has been very safe.

However, any medicine could possibly cause a serious problem, such as a severe allergic reaction. The risk of any vaccine causing a serious injury, or death, is extremely small.

Life-threatening allergic reactions from vaccines are very rare. If they do occur, it would be within a few minutes to a few hours after the vaccination.

Several **mild to moderate** problems are known to occur with this HPV vaccine. These do not last long and go away on their own.

Reactions in the arm where the shot was given: - Pain (about 8 people in 10) - Redness or swelling (about 1 person in 4)

Fever: - Mild (100° F) (about 1 person in 10) - Moderate (102° F) (about 1 person in

65) Other problems: - Headache (about 1 person in 3)

Fainting: Brief fainting spells and related symptoms (such as jerking movements) can happen after any medical procedure, including vaccination. Sitting or lying down for about 15 minutes after a vaccination can help prevent fainting and injuries caused by falls. Tell your doctor if the patient feels dizzy or light-headed, or has vision changes or ringing in the ears. Like all vaccines, HPV vaccines will continue to be monitored for unusual or severe problems.

6. What if there is a serious reaction?

What should I look for?

Any unusual condition, such as a high fever or unusual behavior. Signs of a serious allergic reaction can include difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heart beat or dizziness.

What should I do?

Call a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.

Tell your doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.

Ask your doctor, nurse, or health department to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form. Or you can file this report through the VAERS web site at www.vaers.hhs.gov, or by calling **1-800-822-7967**.

VAERS does not provide medical advice.

7. The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) is a federal program that was created to compensate people who may have been injured by certain vaccines.

Persons who believe they may have been injured by a vaccine can learn about the program and about filing a claim by calling **1-800-338-2382** or visiting the VICP website at www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation.

8. How can I learn more?

Ask your doctor.

Call your local or state health department.

Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):- Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or- Visit CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines

VACCINE INFORMATION STATEMENT

Meningococcal Vaccines

What You Need to Know

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis. Hojas de Información Sobre Vacunas están disponibles en Español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite <http://www.immunize.org/vis>

1. What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is a serious bacterial illness. It is a leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children 2 through 18 years old in the United States. Meningitis is an infection of the covering of the brain and the spinal cord.

Meningococcal disease also causes blood infections.

About 1,000 – 1,200 people get meningococcal disease each year in the U.S. Even when they are treated with antibiotics, 10-15% of these people die. Of those who live, another 11%-19%

lose their arms or legs, have problems with their nervous systems, become deaf or mentally retarded, or suffer seizures or strokes.

Anyone can get meningococcal disease. But it is most common in infants less than one year of age and people 16-21 years. Children with certain medical conditions, such as lack of a spleen, have an increased risk of getting meningococcal disease. College freshmen living in dorms are also at increased risk.

Meningococcal infections can be treated with drugs such as penicillin. Still, many people who get the disease die from it, and many others are affected for life. This is why preventing the disease through use of meningococcal vaccine is important for people at highest risk.

2. Meningococcal vaccine

There are two kinds of meningococcal vaccine in the U.S.:

Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (**MCV4**) is the preferred vaccine for people 55 years of age and younger.

Meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (**MPSV4**) has been available since the 1970s. It is the only meningococcal vaccine licensed for people older than 55.

Both vaccines can prevent 4 types of meningococcal disease, including 2 of the 3 types most common in the United States and a type that causes epidemics in Africa. There are other types of meningococcal disease; the vaccines do not protect against these.

3. Who should get the meningococcal vaccine and when?

Routine Vaccination

Two doses of MCV4 are recommended for adolescents 11 through 18 years of age: the first dose at 11 or 12 years of age, with a booster dose at age 16.

Adolescents in this age group with HIV infection should get three doses: 2 doses 2 months apart at 11 or 12 years, plus a booster at age 16.

If the first dose (or series) is given between 13 and 15 years of age, the booster should be given between 16 and 18. If the first dose (or series) is given after the 16th birthday, a booster is not needed.

Other People at Increased Risk

College freshmen living in dormitories.

Laboratory personnel who are routinely exposed to meningococcal bacteria.

U.S. military recruits.

Anyone traveling to, or living in, a part of the world where meningococcal disease is common, such as parts of Africa.

Anyone who has a damaged spleen, or whose spleen has been removed.

Anyone who has persistent complement component deficiency (an immune system disorder). People who might have been exposed to meningitis during an outbreak.

Children between 9 and 23 months of age, and anyone else with certain medical conditions need 2

doses for adequate protection. Ask your doctor about the number and timing of doses, and the need for booster doses.

MCV4 is the preferred vaccine for people in these groups who are 9 months through 55 years

of age. MPSV4 can be used for adults older than 55.

- 4. Some people should not get the meningococcal vaccine or should wait.** Anyone who has ever had a severe (life-threatening) allergic reaction to a previous dose of MCV4 or MPSV4 vaccine should not get another dose of either vaccine.

Anyone who has a severe (life threatening) allergy to any vaccine component should not get the vaccine.

Tell your doctor if you have any severe allergies.

Anyone who is moderately or severely ill at the time the shot is scheduled should probably wait until they recover. Ask your doctor. People with a mild illness can usually get the vaccine.

Meningococcal vaccines may be given to pregnant women. MCV4 is a fairly new vaccine and has not been studied in pregnant women as much as MPSV4 has. It should be used only if clearly needed. The manufacturers of MCV4 maintain pregnancy registries for women who are vaccinated while pregnant.

Except for children with sickle cell disease or without a working spleen, meningococcal vaccines may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

5. What are the risks from meningococcal vaccines?

A vaccine, like any medicine, could possibly cause serious problems, such as severe allergic reactions. The risk of meningococcal vaccine causing serious harm, or death, is extremely small.

Brief fainting spells and related symptoms (such as jerking or seizure-like movements) can follow a vaccination. They happen most often with adolescents, and they can result in falls and injuries. Sitting or lying down for about 15 minutes after getting the shot – especially if you feel faint – can help prevent these injuries.

Mild problems

As many as half the people who get meningococcal vaccines have mild side effects, such as redness or pain where the shot was given.

If these problems occur, they usually last for 1 or 2 days. They are more common after MCV4 than after MPSV4.

A small percentage of people who receive the vaccine develop a mild fever.

Severe problems

Serious allergic reactions, within a few minutes to a few hours of the shot, are very rare.

6. What if there is a moderate or severe reaction?

What should I look for?

Any unusual condition, such as a severe allergic reaction or a high fever. If a severe allergic reaction occurred, it would be within a few minutes to an hour after the shot. Signs of a serious allergic reaction can include **difficulty breathing, weakness, hoarseness or wheezing, a fast heartbeat, hives, dizziness, paleness, or swelling of the throat.**

What should I do?

Call a doctor, or get the person to a doctor right away.

Tell your doctor what happened, the date and time it happened, and when the vaccination was given.

Ask your provider to report the reaction by filing a Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) form. Or you can file this report through the VAERS website at www.vaers.hhs.gov, or by calling **1-800-822-7967**.

VAERS does not provide medical advice.

7. The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) was created in 1986.

Persons who believe they may have been injured by a vaccine can learn about the program and about filing a claim by calling **1-800-338-2382** or visiting the VICP website at www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation.

8. How can I learn more?

Your doctor can give you the vaccine package insert or suggest other sources of information. Call your local or state health department.

Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
- Visit CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines

D. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL POLICY

In compliance with law, all children entering the St. Martin Parish Public School system for the first time, including kindergarten, at the time of registration or entrance, into school shall present satisfactory evidence of having been immunized against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella, or shall present evidence of an active immunization program in progress (La. R. S. 17:170).

Louisiana Revised Statute 17:170 Sec E allows for you to refuse immunizations for medical contraindication, religious objection, or parental objection, however, you must sign a form of written dissent. "No person seeking to enter any school or facility enumerated in Subsection A of this Section shall be required to comply with the provisions of this Section if the student or his parent or guardian submits either a written statement from a physician stating that the procedure is contraindicated for medical reasons, or a written dissent from the student or his parent or guardian is presented." Every school has these dissent forms.

School personnel will cooperate with public health personnel in completing and coordinating all immunization data, waivers and exclusions, including the necessary Vaccine Preventable Disease Section's School Immunization Report forms to provide for control of preventable communicable diseases.

ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers (SBHC's), sponsored by the St. Martin Parish School District, are required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information and to provide you with notice of its legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your protected health information. This Notice of Privacy Practices describes the legal obligations of ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS and your legal rights regarding your protected health information held by ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). HIPAA protects only certain information known as "protected health information" or "PHI." Generally, PHI is individually identifiable health information, including demographic information, collected from you or created or received by a health care provider, a health care clearinghouse, a health plan, or your employer on behalf of a group health plan, that relates to: (1) your past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition; (2) the provision of health care to you; or (3) the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to you.

You are asked to provide a signed acknowledgement of receipt of this Notice. Our intent is to make you aware of the possible uses and disclosures of your PHI and your privacy rights. The delivery of health care services will in no way be conditioned upon your signed acknowledgment. If you decline to provide a signed acknowledgement, we will continue to provide your treatment, and will use and disclose your PHI for treatment, payment and healthcare operations when necessary.

St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers: We consent to the exchange of relevant health information (including information about physical exams, health histories, and other information) between the health center staff and the school nurses, early head start, head start, Pre-K, child welfare and attendance, special services department, and the Superintendent as needed in order to facilitate evaluation of this student's health needs, special education multidisciplinary evaluations, disciplinary referrals, attendance records, and immunization records. We understand that due to the confidential nature of services provided at the health center, only information regarding crisis or threat of grave or serious harm to self or others will be shared with the school principal. An electronic medical record system to support the efficient care and services provided by each of the health centers' licensed health care providers. Your medical record will be maintained in electronic form as a single unified medical record and may be used by the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers for treatment, payment and healthcare operations purposes. Any request for your medical record will encompass the entire unified record unless otherwise specified by you in a written authorization.

Each time you visit ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS a record of your visit is made. This information, often referred to as your health or medical record, serves as a:

- documentation of your symptoms, examinations and test results, diagnoses and treatment;
- means of communication among the many health care providers who contribute to your care;
- means by which you or a third-party payer can verify that services billed were actually provided;
- source for information for public health officials charged with improving the health of the state and the nation; and
- tool with which we can assess and continually work to improve the care we render and the outcomes we achieve.

Understanding what is in your record and how your health information is used helps you to: ensure it is correct, better understand who, what, when, where and why others may access your health information, and make more informed decisions when authorizing disclosure to others.

Louisiana Health Information Exchange (LaHIE): LaHIE is the state's official health information exchange. To give you the safest, best care, your health care provider needs access to important information: your medical history, allergies, prescriptions, specialist visits, lab results and more. LaHIE is designed to provide your doctors with access to this information. Louisiana is an "opt in" state, which means your consent is required in order for your health information to be accessible through LaHIE. You are requested to indicate your decision on the acknowledgement page.

Telehealth Services: Telemedicine is the use of telecommunication and information technologies in order to provide clinical health care. Students attending in St. Martin Parish are eligible to receive services through this modality. Services are provided by a Licensed Mental Health Practitioner, Licensed Practical Nurse/Registered Nurse and Nurse Practitioner and/or Physician.

Patient Portal: The St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers utilize a unified electronic medical record system (Greenway Health). This system allows the patient to view their information through their patient portal which requires an email address from the patient. Patient portal is designed to enhance patient-provider communication; it is not designed to replace a face to face provider encounter. Complex or multiple questions may require an office visit. We strive to keep all of the information in your records correct and complete. If you identify any discrepancy on your record, you agree to notify us immediately. Additionally, by using the patient portal, the user agrees to provide factual and correct information. **All communication via Patient Portal will be included in your permanent patient record.**

LINKS: We also understand that the school health center may enter information into my child's LINKS (Louisiana Immunization Network for Kids Statewide) record, which is the state's immunization registry.

HOW WE MAY USE AND DISCLOSE YOUR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION

St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers collects PHI from you and stores it in a chart, other media, and on a computer. This is your medical record. The medical record is our property, but the information in the medical record belongs to you. We protect the privacy of your PHI. The following categories describe the different circumstances the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers may use or disclose your PHI without obtaining your prior authorization and without offering you the opportunity to object. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed. However, all of the ways we are permitted to use and disclose PHI will fall within one of the categories.

- **For Treatment.** We may use and disclose your PHI to provide treatment to you. We may disclose your PHI to other providers, doctors, nurses, technicians, medical students, or other personnel who are involved in taking care of you at the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers. For example, a doctor treating you for a broken leg may need to know if you have diabetes because diabetes may slow the healing process. In addition, the doctor may need to tell the dietitian if you have diabetes so that he or she can arrange for appropriate meals. Different departments of the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers may also share medical information about you in order to coordinate the different things you need, such as

medications, lab work and x-rays, and we may disclose your PHI to third parties with whom we coordinate to manage your care.

- To Obtain Payment. We may use and disclose your PHI as requested from your health plan payer, in order to be reimbursed for the services we provide to you. For example, we may release to Medicaid the service we rendered to you and your diagnosis. Your insurance company may ask for information to determine when a condition was first diagnosed. **HEIDIS and the Data Collection Process:**

The Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS) is a tool used by more than 90 percent of America's Health Plans to measure performance on important dimensions of care and services. Data is gathered through claims and medical records to determine the effectiveness and quality of care provided by the Health Plans.

- For Health Care Operations. We may use and disclose your PHI for our day-to-day operations and functions, such as quality assessment/improvement activities, business planning and development, and resolution of internal grievances. For example, we may compile your health information, along with that of other patients, in order to allow a team of our health care professionals to review that information and make suggestions concerning how to improve the quality of care provided at our St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers. We may also disclose information to doctors, nurses, technicians, medical students, and other St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers personnel for review and learning purposes and to improve the quality and effective of the services you receive.
- To Business Associates. We may contract with individuals or entities known as Business Associates to perform various functions on our behalf or to provide certain types of services. In order to perform these functions or to provide these services, Business Associates will receive, create, maintain and/or transmit PHI about you, but only after they agree in writing with us to implement appropriate safeguards regarding your PHI.
- Health-Related Benefits and Services. We may contact you about health-related benefits or services, such as disease management programs and community-based activities in which we participate, that may be of interest to you.
- For Communications. We may contact you to provide appointment reminders, information about treatment alternatives or request that you contact us to discuss medical information. We will leave these messages with whoever answers your phone, if you are unavailable, or on your answering machine.
- Research. Under certain circumstances, we may use and disclose health information about you for research purposes through a special approval process designed to protect patient safety, welfare, and confidentiality. This process evaluates a proposed research project and its use of medical information, trying to balance the research needs with patients' need for privacy of their medical information. For example, a research project may involve comparing the health and recovery of all patients who received one medication to those who received another, for the same condition. We may also disclose health information about you to people preparing to conduct a research project, for example, to help them look for patients with specific medical needs, so long as the information they review does not leave the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers.
- Required by Law. As required by federal, state or local law, we may use and disclose your PHI.
- To Avert a Serious Threat of Health or Safety. We may use and disclose health information about you when necessary to prevent a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of the public or another person. Any disclosure, however, would only be to someone able to help prevent the threat.

- For Specialized Government Functions. We may disclose your PHI for military, national security, prisoner, and government health plan benefits purposes.
- For Marketing. For Fundraising Activities: We may contact you as part of our effort to raise funds for our St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers. You have a right to opt out of receiving fundraising communications and all fundraising communications will include information about how you may opt out of future communications.
For Marketing Services provided by St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers: We may contact you by mail, email or telephone.
- Change of Ownership. In the event that St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers is sold or merged with another St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers, your PHI will become the property of the new owner.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS

- Organ and Tissue Donation. If you are an organ donor, we may disclose your PHI to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank, as necessary to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.
 - Military and Veterans. If you are a member of the armed forces, we may disclose your PHI as required by military command authorities. We may also release health information about foreign military personnel to the appropriate foreign military authority.
 - Workers' Compensation. We may disclose your PHI for workers' compensation or similar programs. These programs provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.
 - Public Health Risks. We may disclose your PHI for public health activities to state and/or federal health departments. such as the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control, including the LA Dept. of Health Infectious Disease Epidemiology section via LDH's Electronic Reporting System (ELR). These activities generally include the following:
 - To prevent or control disease, injury or disability
 - To report births and deaths
 - To report to state and federal tumor and/or specialty registries
 - To report child abuse or neglect
 - To report reactions to medications or problems with products
 - To notify people of recalls of products they may be using
 - To notify a person who may have been exposed to a disease or may be at risk for contracting or spreading a disease or condition
 - To provide proof of immunization to a school that is required by state or other law to have such proof with agreement to the disclosure by a parent or guardian of, or other person acting in loco parentis for an unemancipated minor
 - Victims of Abuse, Neglect or Domestic Violence. We may notify the appropriate government authority if we believe a patient has been the victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence. We will only make this disclosure if you agree or when required or authorized by law.
 - Health Oversight Activities. We may disclose your PHI to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law. These oversight activities include, for example, audits, investigations, inspections and licensure. These activities are necessary for the government to monitor the health care system, government programs and compliance with civil rights laws.
- HEIDIS and the Data Collection Process: The Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS) is a tool used by more than 90 percent of America's Health Plans to measure performance on important dimensions of care and services. Data is gathered through claims**

and medical records to determine the effectiveness and quality of care provided by the Health Plans.

- **Law Enforcement.** We may disclose your PHI if asked to do so by a law enforcement official:
 - In response to a court order, subpoena, warrant, summons or similar process
 - To identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person
 - About the victim of a crime if, under certain limited circumstances, we are unable to obtain the victim's agreement
 - About a death we suspect may be the result of criminal conduct
 - About criminal conduct at the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers
 - In emergency circumstances to report a crime, the location of the crime or victims; or the identity, description or location of the person who committed the crime
- **Judicial and Administrative Proceedings.** We may disclose your PHI in the course of any judicial or administrative proceeding in response to an order of a court or administrative tribunal to the extent expressly authorized by such order. We may also disclose your PHI in response to a subpoena, discovery request, or other lawful process by someone else involved in the dispute after we have received assurances that efforts have been made to tell you about the request or to obtain an order protecting the information requested.
- **Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors.** We may disclose your PHI to coroners, medical examiners, or funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties.

We may also use or disclose your PHI in the following circumstances. However, except in emergency situations, we will inform you of our intended action prior to making any such uses and disclosures and will, at that time, offer you the opportunity to object.

- **Individuals Involved in Your Care or Payment for Your Care.** We may disclose your PHI to a friend or family member who is involved in your medical care. We may also give information to someone who helps pay for your care. We may also tell your family or friends your condition and that you are in the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers. In addition, we may disclose your PHI to an entity assisting in a disaster relief effort so that your family can be notified about your condition, status and location.

With few exceptions, we must obtain your written authorization for uses and disclosures of your PHI involving (1) certain marketing communications about a product or service and whether financial remuneration is involved, (2) a sale of protected health information resulting in remuneration not permitted under HIPAA; and (3) psychotherapy notes, except for certain treatment, payment and health care operations purposes, if the disclosure is required by law or for health oversight activities, or to avert a serious threat.

WHEN WE MAY NOT USE OR DISCLOSE YOUR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION

Except as described above, disclosures of your PHI will be made only with your written authorization. You may revoke your authorization at any time, in writing, unless we have taken action in reliance upon your prior authorization, or if you signed the authorization as a condition of obtaining insurance coverage.

YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION RIGHTS

You have the following rights regarding health information we maintain about you:

- **Right to Request Restrictions.** You have the right to request restriction or limitation on the health information we use or disclose about you for treatment, payment or health care

operations. You also have the right to request a limit on the health information we disclose about you to someone who is involved in your care or the payment for your care, like a family member or friend. For example, you could ask that we not use or disclose information about a surgery you had.

Except as provided below, we are not required to agree to the restriction that you request. If we do agree, we will comply with your request unless the information is needed to provide you emergency treatment.

Effective September 23, 2013, we will comply with any restriction request if (1) except as otherwise required by law, the disclosure is to a health plan for purposes of carrying out payment or health care operations (and is not for purposes of carrying out treatment); and (2) the protected health information pertains solely to a health care item or service for which the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers has been paid out-of-pocket in full. The St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers is not responsible for notifying subsequent health care providers of your request for restrictions on disclosures to health plans for those items and services, so you will need to notify other providers if you want them to abide by the same restriction.

To request restrictions, you must make your request in writing. In your request, you must tell us (1) what information you want to limit; (2) whether you want to limit our use, disclosure or both; and (3) to whom you want the limits to apply.

- Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to receive your PHI through a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you can ask that we only contact you by mail. Requests must be in writing and specify how and where you wish to be contacted. You will be responsible for the additional costs, if applicable.
- Right to Inspect and Copy Health Information. You have the right to inspect and receive a copy of your PHI. Usually, this includes medical and billing records, but does not include psychotherapy notes, information compiled in anticipation of or for use in civil, criminal or administrative proceedings, or certain information that is governed by the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act. If the requested PHI is maintained electronically and you request an electronic copy, we will provide access in an electronic format you request, if readily producible, or, if not, in a readable electronic form and format we mutually agree upon. We may charge a reasonable cost-based fee consistent with HIPAA and Louisiana law.
 - Timeliness in Providing Access
In providing access to the individual, a covered entity must provide access to the PHI requested, in whole, or in part (if certain access may be denied as explained below), no later than 30 calendar days from receiving the individual's request. See 45 CFR 164.524(b)(2).

Despite your general right to access your PHI, access may be denied in limited circumstances. For example, access may be denied if you are a participant in a research program that is still in progress. Access may be denied if the federal Privacy Act applies. Access to information that was obtained from someone other than a health care provider under a promise of confidentiality can be denied if allowing you access would reasonably be likely to reveal the source of the information. The decision to deny access under these circumstances is final and not subject to review. Otherwise, we will provide a written explanation of the basis for the denial and your review rights.

To inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about you, you must submit your request in writing. If you request a copy of the information, in accordance with Louisiana state law, you will be charged a fee for the costs of copying, mailing or other supplies associated with your request.

- Right to Request Amendment. You have a right to request that we amend your PHI that, in your judgment, is incorrect or incomplete for as long as the information is kept by or for the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers.

We may deny your request for an amendment if it is not in writing or does not include a reason to support the request. In addition, we may deny your request if you ask us for information that:

- Was not created by us, unless the person or entity that created the information is no longer available to make the amendment;
- Is not part of the medical information kept by or for the St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers;
- Is not part of the information which you would be permitted to inspect and copy; or
- Is accurate and complete.

To request an amendment, your request must be made in writing. In addition, you must provide a reason that supports your request. If we deny your request, you have the right to file a statement of disagreement with us and any future disclosures of the disputed information will include your statement.

- Right to an Accounting of Disclosures. You have a right to receive an accounting of certain disclosures of your PHI made during the six-year period preceding the date of your request. The accounting will include the date of each disclosure, the name of the entity or person who received the information and that person's address (if known), and a brief description of the information disclosed and the purpose of the disclosure. We do not have to account for the following disclosures: (i) disclosures made for the purpose of carrying out treatment, payment or health care operations unless HIPAA provides otherwise; (ii) disclosures made to you; (iii) disclosures of information maintained in our patient directory, or disclosures made to persons involved in your care, or for the purpose of notifying your family or friends about your whereabouts; (iv) disclosures for national security or intelligence purposes; (v) disclosures to correctional institutions or law enforcement officials who had you in custody at the time of disclosure; (vi) disclosures that occurred prior to April 14, 2003; (viii) disclosures made pursuant to an authorization signed by you; (viii) disclosures that are part of a limited data set; (ix) disclosures that are incidental to another permissible use or disclosure; or (x) disclosures made to a health oversight agency or law enforcement official, but only if the agency or official asks us not to account to you for such disclosures and only for the limited period of time covered by that request. We will charge you for the costs of providing the list. We will notify you of the cost involved and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at that time before any costs are incurred.
- Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice. You have a right to a paper copy of this Notice of Privacy Practices.

OUR DUTIES

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your PHI.
- We are required to provide you this Notice of Privacy Practices, which describes our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to PHI.
- We are required to notify you in the event that we discover a breach of unsecured protected health information, as that term is defined under federal law.
- We are required to follow the terms of this Notice of Privacy Practices. We reserve the right to amend this Notice of Privacy Practices at any time in the future and to make those changes applicable to all PHI that we maintain. Prior to October 1, 2013, if we make any material changes to this Notice of Privacy Practices, we will provide you a copy of the revised Notice of

Privacy Practices. After October 1, 2013, any revised Notice of Privacy Practices will be posted on our website, and the revised Notice of Privacy Practices will be available from us upon request.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT A CONCERN

How to Exercise a Right

If you would like to have a more detailed explanation of these rights contact St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers at (337)909-3040. If you would like to exercise any of your rights please submit a request in writing to:

St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers
P.O. Box 1344
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

Complaints

Complaints about this Notice of Privacy Practices or how we handle your PHI should be directed to the Adrienne Huval, Coordinator/ Privacy Officer at (337)909-3040. You may also submit a complaint to the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services if you believe your privacy rights have been violated. You will not be penalized, or in any other way retaliated against, for filing a complaint.

Contact Information

For further information about the complaint process or for further information about this Notice of Privacy Practices, contact Adrienne Huval, Coordinator/ Privacy Officer at (337)909-3040 or submit a request in writing to: St. Martin Parish School-Based Health Centers, Coordinator, P.O. Box 1344 Breaux Bridge, LA 70517. Our physical location is 328 N. Main St. Breaux Bridge, LA 70517. This Notice of Privacy Practices was published and became effective on July 1, 2013. Updated May 13, 2022.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

The St. Martin Parish School Board recognizes the connection between a student's social, emotional, and mental well-being and the student's academic success. The School Board desires to assist students in developing the social and emotional skills needed for participation in the educational environment and society at large. In addition to any support services provided by the School Board, the School Board shall allow behavioral health providers to provide behavioral health services to a student at school during school hours if the student's parent or legal guardian provides a written request for such behavioral health provider and services to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, and all other requirements of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§17:173 and 17:3996, this policy, and any administrative procedures are met.

A behavioral health provider who provides services according to this policy shall:

1. Maintain general liability insurance coverage in an amount not less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence and \$1,000,000.00 per aggregate and provide a certificate of insurance naming the public school as the certificate holder.
2. Complete a criminal background check conducted by the Louisiana State Police and shall pay all related costs.

Behavioral health services shall be permitted during school hours if the student's parent or legal guardian presents a behavioral health evaluation performed by an evaluator chosen by the parent or

legal guardian and the evaluation indicates that the services are necessary during school hours to assist the student with behavioral health impairments that the evaluator determines are interfering with the student's ability to thrive in the educational setting. A behavioral health evaluation presented by the parent or legal guardian of a student shall not be construed as an independent educational evaluation for purposes of determining if a student meets the criteria established for eligibility for special education and related services.

In addition, the parent or legal guardian of a student receiving services from a behavioral service provider shall be required to execute a *consent to release information* form between the provider and the School Board.

Behavioral health services may be provided during instructional time in English, reading, mathematics, and science if the School Board and the behavioral health provider mutually agree that it is in the best interest of the student.

The School Board shall not enter into a contract or an exclusive agreement with a behavioral health provider that prohibits the parent or legal guardian from choosing the behavioral health provider for the student. However, the provisions of this paragraph shall not impair any existing contract on the effective date of this policy, or the renewal thereof.

The cost of all behavioral health services provided to a student shall be the sole responsibility of the parent or legal guardian, individually or through an applicable health insurance policy, Medicaid, or other third-party payor, other than the School Board, that has made funds available for the payment for the services provided.

While on a school campus, a behavioral service provider shall comply with, and abide by, the terms of any *Individualized Education Plan*, *Individualized Accommodation Plan*, *Section 504 Plan*, *Behavior Management Plan*, or *Individualized Health Plan* applicable to a student who is a patient of the provider. The services furnished by a provider shall be incorporated into a written treatment plan applicable to a student.

The School Board shall establish reporting requirements for a behavioral health provider related to the student's progress and student and school safety concerns as related to the student's educational program.

The Superintendent shall approve administrative procedures to provide for student safety and effective implementation of this policy.

The School Board may establish sanctions, including termination of a provider's authorization to provide services on any school campus, against a behavioral health provider for failure to comply with the provisions of this policy and associated procedures and/or any other School Board policy and procedures.

DEFINITIONS

Applied behavior analysis provider shall mean a provider who is licensed, certified, or registered by the Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board and is in good standing to provide applied behavior analysis services.

Applied behavior analysis services shall include the design, implementation, and evaluation of systematic instructional and environmental modifications by an applied behavior analysis provider to produce socially significant improvements in behavior as described in the Behavior Analyst Practice Act.

Behavioral health evaluation shall include but not be limited to the following criteria:

- Diagnosis.
- Type of intervention.
- Length of intervention.

- Identification of a student's goals.
- Identification of impact of student behavior on a student's educational program.
- Recommendations for applied behavior analysis services.

Behavioral health provider shall mean a provider who is licensed by the Louisiana Department of Health or a health profession licensing board and is in good standing to provide behavioral health services in Louisiana including but not limited to a psychiatrist, psychologist, medical psychologist, licensed specialist in school psychology, marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, clinical social worker, applied behavioral analysis provider, or a behavioral health provider organization licensed to provide health services in Louisiana.

Behavioral health services shall include but not be limited to individual psychotherapy, family psychotherapy, psychotropic medication management, community psychiatric support and treatment, crisis intervention, and medically necessary applied behavior analysis services.

Evaluator shall mean a licensed psychiatrist, psychologist, medical psychologist, licensed specialist in school psychology, professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, or applied behavioral analysis provider who is certified by the respective board of examiners in Louisiana to provide necessary evaluations and who is not an employee of the School Board or the Louisiana Department of Education.

No provisions of this policy shall be construed to supersede any of the following:

1. The authority of a student's Individualized Education Program Team or Section 504 Committee to determine appropriate services for a student pursuant to applicable federal and state.
2. The provisions of the *Behavioral Health Services Provider Licensing Law* or any regulation promulgated by the Louisiana Department of Health pursuant to that law.
3. The provisions of the *Behavior Analysis Practice Act*.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND INTERNET SAFETY

The St. Martin Parish School Board offers Internet access for students' use. This document is the *Acceptable Use* policy for student use of technology, Internet, and technological resources. This Internet system has been established for a limited educational purpose to include classroom activities, career development, and limited high-quality, self-discovery activities, which enhance learning and teaching. It has not been established as a public access or public forum. The St. Martin Parish School Board has the right to place reasonable restrictions on the material accessed or posted, require the training needed before a student is allowed to use the system, and enforce all rules set forth in the school code and the laws of the state. Further, students may not use this system for commercial purposes to offer, provide, or purchase products or services through the system or use the system for political lobbying. Access to the Internet is available through school only with permission of the principal or his or her designee and the student's parent(s). Access to the technology systems and resources is available through school only with permission of the principal or his or her designee and the student's parent(s). Access to technology is a privilege accorded to students who agree, along with their parents/guardian, to abide by the *Student Technology and Internet Acceptable Use* policy.

It is the policy of the St. Martin Parish School Board to:

1. Prevent user access over its technology network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via any forms of communications;
2. Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity, network activity and/or use of technology resources and systems;
3. Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and
4. Comply with the *Children's Internet Protection Act* [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)], Federal and state laws, including, but not limited to, Louisiana's cyberbullying laws.

Students found in violation of this policy may have these privileges revoked along with other suitable penalties in accordance with the St. Martin Parish School Board's Discipline policies.

KEY TERMS AS DEFINED IN THE CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT (CIPA)

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the *Children's Internet Protection Act* (CIPA), blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the St. Martin Parish Public Schools online computer network when using electronic mail, forums, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the *Children's Internet Protection Act* (CIPA), prevention of inappropriate network usage includes:

Unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities
Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification
information regarding minors.

Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all St. Martin Parish School Board personnel to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the *Children's Internet Protection Act* (CIPA).

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection mechanisms for adult users shall be the responsibility of St. Martin Parish Schools Network Manager or authorized persons for legitimate scientific or educational purposes or lawful purposes approved by the School Board, or access to online services of a newspaper with a daily circulation of at least 1,000.

Harmful to Minors

The term *harmful to minors* means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. 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
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

Sexual Act; Sexual Contact

The terms *sexual act* and *sexual contact* have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of Title 18, United States Code

Technology Protection Measure

The term *technology protection measure* means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. *Obscene*, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code
2. *Child pornography*, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code
3. Harmful to minors.

PERMISSIBLE USES

Access to the Internet shall enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, museums, and other repositories of information. Families should be aware that the school and District websites may contain links that are maintained and controlled by third parties. Because some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive, School Board personnel shall make every effort to filter, screen, and research links for appropriateness. St. Martin Parish School Board is not responsible for the content in the linked site, any link contained within the linked site, or any changes or updates to the linked site that changes its appropriateness.

The St. Martin Parish School Board believes that the benefits to students from access to the Internet in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Therefore, we support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to allow access.

This policy also grants the following:

- Permission for students to access the Internet at school
- Permission to access and use a safe, District-approved, monitored electronic communication and learning resource account (if permitted by teacher and school administrator) [grades 3-12 only]
- Permission for student's name, schoolwork, pictures/videos of child to be published to the classroom, school, or district website [Personal information (i.e. address, phone number, social security number) about the student shall not be included in a webpage]
- Permission for student to participate in e-Learning activities in the classroom (i.e. Skype, VSEE, videoconferencing whereby child's image may be visible to teacher and students in partnering classroom)
- Permission for student to receive electronic communication from club sponsors, coaches, etc. (i.e. email, text messages, phone call)

Any parent wishing to revoke/suspend/or deny student permission(s) must opt out in writing.

EXPECTATIONS

- Students shall comply with District standards and the specific rules set forth below.
- Students shall display appropriate behavior on the school's computers and network
- Each student shall be personally responsible for his/her actions in accessing and utilizing the school's computer resources.
- Students shall be advised never to access, keep, or send anything that they would not want their parents/guardian or teachers to see.
 - The use of the network is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked if abused.
- Students shall be provided training, annually, on St. Martin Parish District CIPA policies.

Training shall address key issues such as cyberbullying, social networking dangers, Internet/digital safety, and emerging technologies which may endanger children while using the Internet

- In addition, the School Board, in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies, shall develop and distribute age and grade appropriate information to each student regarding Internet and cell phone safety and online content that is a threat to school safety. The information shall include the following:
 - Instruction on how to detect potential threats to school safety exhibited online, including posting on any social media platform.
 - Visual examples of possible threats.
 - The process for reporting potential threats, which shall be in accordance with the procedures referenced in policy *EBBB, School and Student Safety*.

Such information shall be either distributed to or explained to students and school personnel at the beginning of each school year and shall be posted on an easily accessible page of the School Board's website and the website of each school.

If information reported to a school is deemed a potential threat to school safety, the school shall present the written form and any further evidence to local law enforcement.

RULES

Privacy

Network and/or computer storage areas are like school lockers. The computer equipment is School Board property. Network administrators may access and review communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that students are using the system responsibly.

- The student shall not post personal or private contact information about self or others. Personal contact information may include, but not limited to, social security number, home address, home phone number, personal email address, etc. This also includes photographs of oneself and others, as well as student work.
- While accessing the St. Martin Parish School Board's technology system, the student shall not agree to meet with someone they have met online.
- The student shall promptly disclose to the teacher or other school employee any message received that is inappropriate or makes the student feel uncomfortable.

Inappropriate Network Usage

- The student shall not use the School Board's technology network and equipment to download, send, receive, view, or create obscene or pornographic or harmful to minors images or files
- The student shall never download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless given written permission from the Network

Administrator.

- The student shall adhere to all copyright laws. Violations include, but shall not be limited to, copying or reproducing work that is protected by a copyright, files/documents created by others, and copyrighted multimedia content such as music and video clips accessed through file sharing software)
- The student shall not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the St. Martin Parish School Board's technology system (i.e. Forum, JCampus, OnCourse, etc.) or to any other computer system via the School Board's computer system or go beyond the authorized access. This includes attempting to log in through another person's account or access another person's files. These actions are illegal, even if only for the purposes of *browsing*.
- The student shall not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the computer system's performance, destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means. This includes the destruction and vandalism of computer equipment and its components.
- The student shall not use the system to engage in any other illegal act, such as arranging for a drug sale or the purchase of alcohol, engaging in criminal gang activity, participating in virtual games that mimic illegal activities, or threatening the safety of others, etc.
- The student shall not pursue or otherwise access information on weapons and the manufacture or purchase of weapons for purposes other than assigned class research.
- The student shall not use the School Board's technology system or network for personal acquisitions such as shopping, trading stocks, any form of financial gain unrelated to the mission of the school district, personal entertainment, and on-line gambling.
- The student shall not use the School Board's technology system or network to play non-educational, student-initiated games.
- The student shall not use the School Board's technology system or network to conduct plagiarism. *Plagiarism* is using another person's ideas or writings and presenting them as one's own.
- The student shall not use the School Board's technology system to commit the act of cyberbullying. *Cyberbullying*, for the purposes of this policy is the harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student on school property by another student using a computer, mobile phone, or other interactive or digital technology or harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student while off school property when the action or actions are intended to have an effect on the student when the student is on school property.

Inappropriate materials or language

- The student shall not use bullying, intimidating, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, abusive, impolite, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language to communicate. Materials which are not in line with the rules of school behavior should not be accessed. Should students encounter such material by accident, they should report it to their teacher immediately and turn off the monitor. The School Board's computer system is considered a limited forum, similar to the school newspaper, therefore the School Board may restrict speech for valid educational reasons.
- Restrictions against inappropriate language apply to public messages, private messages, and material posted on web pages, social networking sites, and teaming

management sites (i.e. Google Classroom, Class Flow, Schoology, etc.)

- The student shall not access, post, distribute, forward, print, or store materials using language that is inappropriate to the educational setting or disruptive to the educational process.
- The student shall not use the internet and/or any other electronic device or system, on or off campus, that subsequently causes substantial disruption to the educational environment, interferes with the rights of others, or can be considered a threat.
- The student shall not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks, even if made in a joking manner.
- The student shall not harass another person. *Harassment* is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. When requested by another to stop communication in the form of messages, e-mail, or other means of electronic contact, the student shall do so immediately.
- The student shall not knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization.
- The student shall not use his/her access to review, upload, download, store, print, post, or distribute materials that:
 - Are pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit.
 - Use language or images to advocate violence or discrimination towards other people (hate literature); a special exception may be made for hate literature if the purpose of access is to conduct educational research and both the teacher and parent have approved.
 - Contain images of individuals engaged in any illegal act or violate any local, state, or federal statute/law.

Electronic Communication and Learning Resource Accounts

- Students shall not use or access unapproved personal email or electronic communication accounts at school. (i.e. Yahoo, Hotmail, Google)
- Students shall only be allowed to access and use a District-approved school electronic communication and learning resource account which is managed, monitored, and filtered.
- Students shall not be allowed to correspond with others beyond restrictions set by the teacher.
- Student electronic communication and learning resource accounts shall be restricted by district and/or teacher limits.
- Unsolicited communication (i.e. spam) shall be filtered and restricted.

Mobile Devices and Expectations

The term *mobile device*, for the purpose of this policy, refers to, but is not limited to, handheld devices

provided by the St. Martin Parish School Board and allowed in the school system and on the St. Martin Parish School Board's network for educational purposes. Some examples are: iPads, iPods, Tablets, Chromebooks, etc. Said mobile devices are property of St. Martin Parish School Board and must be used in accordance with St. Martin Parish School Board's *Acceptable Use* policy, procedures, and all applicable laws. Only District-issued mobile devices shall be allowed in the schools and on SMPSB's network. All others shall be prohibited. The mobile devices shall remain at school at all times, unless duly checked out through the proper procedures set forth by St. Martin Parish School Board.

- The mobile device is School Board property and all users shall follow the *Technology Acceptable Use and Internet Safety* policy.
 - The mobile device shall be used in a responsible and ethical manner.
 - Passwords shall not be changed or altered on the device.
 - Devices shall be housed in a secure designated area at all times.
 - All software/applications shall be District approved.
 - All downloading/syncing shall be done in accordance with District procedures.
 - Mobile devices shall always be within the protective case provided, if applicable.
- The St. Martin Parish School Board shall have the right to review items for appropriateness and to limit or revoke access to mobile devices at any time for any reason. MISUSE
The student shall use the St. Martin Parish School Board's technology system only for educational and career development activities and limited, high-quality, self-discovery activities.
- The student shall not download files and/or stream music.
 - The student shall not engage in spamming. *Spamming* is sending an annoying or unnecessary message to a large number of people.

DUE PROCESS AND CONSEQUENCES

Users of the School Board's computers, network, and Internet are held personally responsible for actions in accessing and utilizing available resources. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the School Board's computer system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences:

1. Suspension or cancellation of use and access privileges;
2. Payment for damages and repairs;
3. Disciplinary actions in accordance with other appropriate School Board policies as stated in the St. Martin Parish *Student Handbook* including:
 - A. Detention, suspension, and or expulsion from school;
 - B. Civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws;

C. Restitution for restoration

For students who are full virtual and violate the technology agreement, the following consequences will be implemented:

1st offense – Parent conference and Edgenuity assignment on cyber safety

2nd offense – Referral to school or school-based health center counselor

Parent conference and 2-day Edgenuity/Google Classroom suspension

3rd offense – 5-day Edgenuity/Google Classroom suspension. The student

maybe assigned his/her assignments via paper/pencil or required to return to in person learning.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Although the St. Martin Parish School Board enforces a policy of technology and Internet safety and employs technology protection measures to block and or filter inappropriate material from student and employee access, the School Board shall not be responsible for damages suffered, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. The School Board shall not be responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through its services or stored on its system. The School Board shall not be responsible for any costs or liabilities arising from the unauthorized use of the system.

Acceptable Use Policy for Artificial Intelligence

Addendum to the Technology & Internet Acceptable Use Policy for Employees and Student Technology Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy

A. Overview

In recognition of the rapid growth of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and their potential to enhance educational experiences, St. Martin Parish is committed to facilitating the responsible and effective use of AI tools within our schools. This addendum to the District's Acceptable Use Policies outlines guidelines and expectations for using AI technologies. The objective of these guidelines is to ensure that all tools used to support teaching, learning, and school operations are aligned with our mission and values.

B. Definitions

- Artificial Intelligence (AI): Computer systems or software that perform tasks requiring human intelligence, including but not limited to learning, decision-making, and language processing.
- Machine Learning: A subset of AI that involves computers learning from data without being explicitly programmed for specific tasks.
- Natural Language Processing (NLP): AI's ability to understand and generate human language. To the best of its ability, the District will work to ensure AI tools are accessible to all students, including those with disabilities and English Language Learners, in compliance with ADA and

Section 504 requirements.

- Generative AI: AI technologies that can generate new content, including text, images, audio, and video, based on their training data. These tools can be used for creative and educational purposes, but must be used with consideration for accuracy, appropriateness, and originality. (i.e. Google Gemini, Chat GPT)
- AI Review Committee: This committee is made up of members of the District Technology Department, Computer Services, Technology Task Force, and instructional leadership, as appropriate.

C. Access and Permissions

- Access to approved AI tools is granted to students, faculty, and staff for educational and administrative purposes only.
- A list of district-approved AI tools will be maintained by the Technology Department and reviewed biannually. Staff may request evaluation of additional tools by submitting a formal proposal to the district AI Review Committee.

D. Ethical Use

- Users must not employ AI tools to conduct or support cheating, plagiarism, or any academic dishonesty.
- Generative AI content that is inappropriate, offensive, or harmful is strictly prohibited.
- Respect and courtesy must be maintained when interacting with AI systems, recognizing their impact on the learning environment.
- Users should be aware of the potential for AI bias in tools and consider this when interpreting AI-generated information or content. The District encourages critical thinking and scrutiny of AI outputs and training data sets for large language models and other generative AI tools. Teachers are encouraged to guide age-appropriate discussions on AI bias as part of digital literacy instruction.

E. Privacy, Security, and Data Protection

- Users must be aware of data privacy concerns with AI tools, especially regarding the handling of personal and sensitive information.
- Personally identifiable, confidential, and/or sensitive information should never be shared with an AI tool unless such sharing is explicitly approved by the District.
- All AI tools must comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), and other relevant privacy laws.
- Students under age 13 may only use AI tools compliant with COPPA and explicitly approved by the District.
- The District ensures that AI tools employed have robust security measures to protect user data from unauthorized access.
- Users are expected to be aware of and comply with the terms and conditions of all AI tools, specifically with respect to age requirements.
- The District conducts regular security assessments of AI technologies to safeguard against vulnerabilities.

F. Academic Integrity

- AI tools should supplement the educational process without undermining the integrity of academic work. Examples of appropriate use include generating ideas for brainstorming

- sessions, providing tutoring in specific subjects, and automating administrative tasks.
- Direct submission of AI-generated work as one's own without proper attribution or reliance on AI for completing assignments without understanding the content is prohibited.
- When AI-generated content is used in academic work, users must include an attribution statement.

Example of Attribution:

Portions of this content were generated with the assistance of [AI tool name].

In written assignments, this attribution must appear in a footnote or at the end of the document.

- Users must respect copyright laws and intellectual property rights when using AI tools. This includes not using AI to replicate or modify copyrighted materials without authorization and properly citing all sources of content, including AI-generated content, to avoid plagiarism.

G. Staff Use in Instruction

- Educators are encouraged to use AI to support instructional design and differentiation, but should maintain final judgment over instructional decisions and avoid fully automating feedback or grading without human oversight.

H. Professional Development

- The District will provide ongoing professional development on ethical and effective AI use for educators and staff to ensure confidence and competence in using these technologies.

I. Student and Parent Education

- The District will provide students and parents with resources to understand AI tools, their appropriate use, and related risks.

J. Monitoring and Enforcement

- The District reserves the right to monitor the use of AI tools to ensure compliance with this policy.
- This may include real-time monitoring of network activity and/or maintaining a log of Internet activity for later review.
- Users should have no expectation of privacy when using District technology or networks. All activity may be monitored to ensure compliance with this policy.
- Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension of access to technology resources, disciplinary measures as per the student and employee handbooks, and notification of supervisors, parents, or guardians.

K. Examples of Acceptable Use

- Brainstorming ideas
- Language translation support
- Assisting with grading (teacher use)

L. Examples of Unacceptable Use

- Submitting AI-written essays as original work
- Using AI to bypass assigned reading
- Fully automating student grades

M. Policy Review

- This policy will be reviewed annually by the AI Review Committee to ensure continued relevance and compliance.

APPENDIX

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

The St. Martin Parish School Board, recognizing that problems may arise in schools, shall require student concerns, complaints or grievances to be registered with the school principal or designee. If concerns of students cannot be resolved informally, a written complaint shall be initiated, dated and signed by the complainant, and submitted to the principal.

For the discussion and consideration of the grievance, any student or group of students should request in writing a meeting time and place of the school principal. One faculty member or other designated representative may be present at such meeting. Such time and place will be designated immediately upon receipt of the written request.

If a grievance is not satisfactorily resolved after meeting with the principal, a student or group of students shall follow the procedures outlined in policy *GAE, Complaints and Grievances*, for further consideration of their grievance.

St. Martin Parish School Board

DISCIPLINE POLICY

An Important Message from the Office of Child Welfare and Attendance

Welcome to the St. Martin Parish School Board office of Child Welfare and Attendance. To begin this section, we would like to share a brief, but very important message. Part of our job responsibilities includes assisting schools with promoting positive student behavior and good decision making. With that said, occasionally a student who has never received a discipline referral commits a serious violation of our student code of conduct and therefore has to suffer the consequences.

We would like to make you aware of some of those consequences.

Louisiana law states that a student who is found guilty of being in possession of or knowledge of and intentional distribution of or possession with intent to distribute any illegal narcotic drug or other controlled substance on school property, on a school bus or school sponsored event pursuant to a hearing¹ shall be expelled from school for a minimum period of two complete semesters if under the age 16; and a student 16 years of age or older found guilty shall be expelled for a minimum of four complete semesters. In St. Martin Parish schools, a semester is equal to 90 days. Although the expelled student may have the opportunity to return to school on probation, the expulsion term does not change. The law also states that no student expelled for such offense shall be admitted or readmitted to school on a probationary basis until the pupil produces written documentation that he and his parents or legal guardian have entered and participated or is participating in a rehabilitation counseling program related to the reasons for expulsion²

¹ The following is further explanation of the referenced rights to a hearing: A hearing shall be conducted by the superintendent or his designee within fifteen school days to determine the facts of the case and make a finding of whether or not the student is guilty of conduct warranting a recommendation of expulsion. The school board shall provide written notice of the hearing to the student and his parent or legal guardian, and such notice shall advise the student and his parent or legal guardian of their rights. Upon the conclusion of the hearing and upon a finding that the student is guilty of conduct warranting expulsion, the superintendent or his designee shall determine whether such student shall be expelled from the school system or if other corrective or disciplinary action shall be taken. Until such hearing takes place, the student shall remain suspended from the school with access to classwork and the opportunity to earn academic credit. At such hearing, the student may be represented by any person of his choice. A student who is expelled or suspended for longer than ten days shall be provided with academic instruction at an alternative setting. The parent or legal guardian of the student who has been recommended for expulsion may, within five days after the decision is rendered, submit a request to the city, parish, or other local public school board to review the findings of the superintendent or his designee at a time set by the school board. The parent or legal guardian of the student who has been recommended for expulsion pursuant to this Section may, within ten school days, appeal to the district court for the parish in which the student's school is located, an adverse ruling of the school board in upholding the action of the superintendent or his designee. A student expelled may be readmitted on a probationary basis to school at any time during the period of expulsion upon terms agreed upon in writing by the St. Martin Parish School Board, the student, and their parent or guardian.

² Please also note that there are strict provisions related to firearms in the School Board's Weapons Policy. Please also see relevant exceptions to discipline protections for students with disabilities described in the Discipline for Students with Disabilities section.

With that said, the student cannot participate in any school related functions or activities outside of the instructional day until the term of the expulsion is complete. This includes co-curricular and extra-curricular functions and activities such as band, football, ROTC, dances, homecoming, athletic events and even graduation to name a few. Furthermore, Louisiana law also provides for the one-year suspension of driving privileges for students who are expelled or suspended from school for 10 or more consecutive days for committing any of the following infractions:

Sale or possession of drugs, alcohol, or any other illegal substances, possession of a firearm and infractions involving assault or battery on a member of the school faculty or staff.

Finally, if someone ever gives your child something to hold, such as drugs or weapons, they should immediately report this to a faculty member at the school. For more information on the St. Martin Parish student code of conduct, please refer to the information below. We hope this information was beneficial and please call us if we can be of further assistance.

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XVIII. DISCIPLINE

A. DISCIPLINE PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

The St. Martin Parish School Board strives to operate schools in a manner that provides for an orderly process of education for each child in the system. Although supervisors at schools are not absolute insurers of the children's safety, a reasonable standard of care commensurate with the age of the children under the attendant circumstances is required of the School Board in providing adequate supervision. It is the expressed policy of the School Board to prioritize alternatives to suspensions and expulsions and to seek to use suspensions and expulsions as the last step in progressive discipline, based on the nature of the infraction. Principals and school staff will strive to address student behavior with a focus on evidence-based interventions and supports. For behavior that is not criminal, dangerous, or violent, schools will prioritize classroom and school-based interventions in lieu of out-of-school disciplinary removals to address student misconduct and minimize the loss of academic instructional time. The new discipline matrix, and the included levels of intervention and responses, is intended to further implement this approach to discipline.

Education is a parental responsibility, only part of which is delegated to the school. In order to help create an atmosphere that encourages learning according to the school philosophy, it is necessary that certain levels of conduct and discipline be maintained. To achieve this end, certain guidelines are to be followed to enable the teacher and the student to be more comfortable with one another.

Discipline, under this policy, means convincing students that it is to their benefit to follow rules. Self-discipline means the ability to make a plan and carry it out. Responsibility means the ability to look at one's behavior, evaluate it, make a plan to do better, and restore or repair harm to the school community. Allowing individuals to live with the natural and/or reasonable consequences of their actions is, in the opinion of the School Board, the essence of an effective discipline system. Therefore, if disciplinary measures are taken, they will be non-discriminatory, fair, age-appropriate, and proportionate to the severity of the student's behavior.

Every member of the school community, including students, parents, and the school staff, has a responsibility to promote (1) self-respect and self-discipline, (2) maximum opportunities for learning, (3) regular attendance at school, (4) orderly conduct and behavior, and (5) freedom from fear, insult, or injury. To ensure success, School Wide-Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) are continually being implemented in all St. Martin Parish Schools. It is a research-based process that utilizes collaborative, assessment-based approaches to develop effective interventions for problem behavior. PBIS emphasizes the use of proactive, educative and reinforcement-based strategies. PBIS encourages a positive climate school wide, in all locations and for all students. PBIS aims to build effective environments in which positive behavior is more effective than problem behavior. The implementation of these strategies will be monitored to ensure that all schools implement the district's discipline policy in a fair and effective manner. ***(Required by the Juvenile Reform Act of 2003; BESE School Master Plan for Discipline).***

Every member of the school community, including students, parents, and the school staff, has a responsibility to promote (1) self-respect and self-discipline, (2) maximum opportunities for learning, (3) regular attendance at school, (4) orderly conduct and behavior, and (5) freedom from fear, insult, or injury. To ensure success, School Wide-Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) are continually being implemented in all St. Martin Parish Schools. PBIS is an evidence based, three-tiered framework to improve and integrate all of the data, systems and practices affecting student outcomes every day. PBIS utilizes collaborative, assessment-based approaches to develop effective interventions for problem behavior.

Tier 1 PBIS practices and supports are provided universally and school-wide to all students. This practice and systems establish a foundation of regular, proactive support while preventing undesired behaviors. **PBIS Tier 2** practices and systems support students who are at risk for developing more serious problem behavior before those behaviors begin. Tier 2 focuses on supports that will help students develop the skills they need to benefit from core programs at school. The third **Tier (Tier 3)** provides intensive, individualized support to improve student's behavioral and academic outcomes. A student's need is determined by formal assessments.

Implementation of PBIS encourages a positive climate promoting student success school wide, in all locations and for all students. The implementation of these strategies will be monitored utilizing the Tiered Fidelity Inventory to ensure that all schools implement PBIS with fidelity (*required by Required by the Juvenile Reform Act of 2003; BESE School Master Plan for Discipline*).

The State of Louisiana guarantees to all of its citizens the right to a free public education. Each student thus entitled has a corresponding responsibility to join with other members of the school community in respecting the rights and responsibilities of others in that community and in helping to establish an effective climate for learning within the school. When a student's behavior exhibits marked deviation from acceptable norms, it is the responsibility of the teacher, principal, and counselor or other personnel to undertake every effort to identify the problem, to secure parental understanding and cooperation, and to help the student in accordance with their best judgment and available resources.

In those cases where corrective action becomes necessary, the disciplinary measures taken shall be positive, constructive, and directed toward serving educational ends. It must be clearly understood by the student, his/her parents, and educators that the purpose of all disciplinary action is to correct the offense(s) that negatively impact the learning environment of the school, and to teach the student that education is a right, qualified by the responsibility to comply with reasonable rules and regulations. While the school is concerned with the individual and his/her welfare, it must also be concerned with the group and its welfare and in preserving the proper atmosphere for teaching and learning. When the efforts of all concerned fail to modify a student's behavior and the misconduct of the individual is beyond the school system's resources for correction, denial of school attendance, following the School Board's appropriate due process procedures for suspension or expulsion may be initiated.

B. THE RIGHTS OF STUDENTS WITH RESPECT TO DISCIPLINE

All students have certain legal rights related to discipline in school. Students are encouraged to talk with their Principal and/or teacher with questions or for further information. Copies of all discipline policies can be obtained from the Superintendent's office or online at:

www.saintmartinparishschools.org

- 1. The Right to a Free, Public Education.** The Louisiana Constitution guarantees to all of its citizens the right to a free public education.
- 2. Substantive Due Process.** All students have the right to notice of the substance or type of conduct which may result in disciplinary action. This right is known as "substantive due process." This Handbook and student orientation provide that notice. However, if a student has questions concerning the definition or examples of behaviors (either identified in the Discipline Plan or not) or concerning any part of the Discipline Plan, he/she should immediately talk about those

concerns with his/her Principal and/or teacher.

Substantive due process also means that all students have a right to be free from disciplinary action that is so egregious or arbitrary that it may be fairly said to “shock the contemporary conscience.”

3. **Procedural Due Process: Notice and Hearing before Loss of Right to Attend School.** A student who is accused of misconduct that may result in a loss of the right to attend school has the legal right to receive certain notices and opportunities to respond. This right is commonly referred to as “procedural due process.” Prior to any out-of-school suspension, assignment to alternative placement, or expulsion, a student must be provided with notice of: (1) the particular misconduct of which they are accused; and (2) the basis for such accusation. The student shall be given an opportunity at that time to explain their version of the facts. The school principal or their designee shall contact the parent or legal guardian to: (1) give them notice of the out-of-school suspension, assignment to alternative placement, or expulsion; (2) the reasons therefor; and (3) establish a date and time for a conference with the principal or their designee as a requirement for readmitting the student.³

In St. Martin Parish, students who are suspended for more than ten days or expelled are provided alternative placement or alternative programs and, therefore, no student will lose the right to attend school in the District. Nevertheless, the District provides certain due process protections to students anytime suspension or expulsion is recommended. The degree of notice and response depends on the length of the recommended disciplinary action.

4. **The Constitutional Right to Equal Protection:** A school district may not discipline a student or students on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex.
5. **The Constitutional Right to Free Speech:** Children do not lose their First Amendment right to freedom of speech or other forms of expression (including hair and attire) when they enter a school building or participate in school-sanctioned activities. However, the First Amendment rights of students in public schools are subject to the Board’s authority, consistent with fundamental constitutional safeguards, to prescribe and control conduct in the schools. A student may be punished for any form of speech or expression if it is determined that it will invade the rights of other students or cause a substantial disruption of or material interference with school activities. Categories of speech that are not protected by the First Amendment include fighting words, threats, obscenity (indecent, lewd, or vulgar speech), harassment, and imminent incitement to lawlessness. School-sponsored speech may also be limited as long as it is related to the Board’s educational concerns.

6. **The Right to Freedom from Hair Discrimination:** The Louisiana CROWN Act (La. R.S. 17:111)

³ A student whose presence in or about a school poses a continued danger shall be immediately removed from the premises without benefit of this procedure, however the necessary procedure shall follow as soon as practicable.

protects a student from being denied admission into or excluded from any public school because of their hair texture or natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle.

- 7. The Right to Freedom from Discrimination:** The St. Martin Parish School Board is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in the admission or access or treatment in its programs and activities, in accordance with the following federal laws:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) protects people from discrimination based on race, color, or national origin in education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance.

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (Title IX) protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) makes available a free and appropriate education to and ensures special education and related services to eligible children with disabilities.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) protects people from discrimination on the basis of disability in education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance.

C. EXPECTED STUDENT BEHAVIOR

The purpose of the code of conduct is to help provide students, parents, and teachers notice of unacceptable behaviors. It should be used to prevent and/or correct behaviors. This section explains the expectations that the St. Martin Parish School Board have for certain areas of the school and for certain situations.

GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT:

1. **Use inside voices-** Students should speak in a calm voice used in normal conversations.
2. **Walk-**Students are reminded to walk while in hallways, classrooms, cafeteria, and other school environments.
3. **Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself-** Students should not hit, kick, or take other students' materials.
4. **Be respectful-** Students should treat people with common courtesy.
5. **Use appropriate school language-** Students should use proper words and language as a member of the school community.

CAMPUS ACCESS: Once a student has set foot on campus in the morning, he/she may not leave at any time during the day without express permission of the parent/guardian and the principal, the assistant principal, or principal designee.

A student driving to school in an automobile is to register his vehicle with the principal. No one may sit in or use the automobile until after school is dismissed. Exceptions will be made in cases where the parents and family physician request that the student go home for one reason or another.

Students are not allowed on school campuses before or after school hours unless under the supervision of school personnel or chaperons. Supervision begins when the first school bus arrives in the morning and ends when the last bus leaves in the afternoon. Usually the hours are from 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CAMPUS/PLAYGROUND RULES: Students will respect all duty personnel, use playground equipment properly, and remain in the assigned area. *Code of Conduct applies.

SCHOOL BAGS: All school bags, knapsacks or other bags used to carry student books or accessories must be mesh or see-through.

LOCKERS: Students are to use their lockers only at designated times. Lockers will be inspected regularly by the principal or his designee for evidence that the law, a school rule, or parish or city school board policy has been violated. It is each student's responsibility to keep his/her locker clean and neat. Unauthorized sharing of lockers will not be permitted (see Search and Seizure Policy and Locker Policy). *Code of Conduct applies.

GYMNASIUM LOCKER ROOM: Students are to use the locker room area only at authorized times. Lockers will be inspected regularly by the principal or his designee (Assistant Principal) for evidence that the law, a school rule, or parish or city school board policy has been violated. It is each student's responsibility to keep his/her locker clean and neat. Unauthorized sharing of lockers will not be permitted. (See Locker Policy & Search and Seizure Policy) *Code of Conduct applies.

HALLWAYS: Students are allowed in hallways at designated times only. *Code of Conduct applies.

RESTROOMS: Students are allowed in the restrooms only at designated times. Students shall not misuse restroom supplies and facilities. *Code of Conduct applies. Reasonable accommodations for students with a qualified disability will be provided.

LIBRARY: Students are allowed in the library only at designated times. Quiet must be observed at all times in the library. Students will follow all library regulations in return for the privilege of using the facility. *Code of Conduct applies.

CAFETERIA: Students will observe proper manners while eating and leave the tables clean for the students who follow them. Cafeteria food and supplies will be left in the cafeteria. Students will adhere to rules when entering or leaving the cafeteria. *Code of Conduct applies.

OFFICE AREA: Students are not permitted to use the telephone in the office except in cases of emergency. Permission to use the phone must be obtained from the person in charge of the office. *Code of Conduct applies.

CLASSROOMS: Students will adhere to the classroom rules posted in each classroom. In addition, it is each student's responsibility to remain on task throughout class time and have all required classroom materials at all times. The classroom rules shall be fair, clear, concise, and consistent with the school district's disciplinary policy. Students are to report to class on time and are not permitted to leave class without the express permission of the teacher. Students are required to complete their own work. *Code of Conduct applies.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Students and other spectators will show good sportsmanship with regard to winning and losing and will accept the decisions of officials. *Code of Conduct applies.

1. **Participant-Sportsmanship** for participants is the willingness to put forth the best possible effort while competing in a school sport, and to treat their teammates and competitors with courtesy,

respect, and fair play, before-during-after the game or match, regardless of winning or losing.

2. **Spectator (Watcher)**-Sportsmanship for spectators (watchers) requires all who attend school related sports to treat the participants, game officials, and coaches with common courtesy and respect. Spectators should not call participants names, threaten or intimidate players-coaches-officials, and must remain in the stands or sidelines of all contests.

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES: All students will attend assemblies unless excused by the principal, assistant principal, or principal designee. *Code of Conduct applies.

SCHOOL CLUBS: Attendance at school club meetings is for club members only, unless others are specifically invited by club officers or sponsors. *Code of Conduct applies.

FIELD TRIPS: Students will show respect to bus drivers, teachers, chaperons, and personnel of the places being visited. *Code of Conduct applies.

DRESS CODE: Refer to Section VIII

D. §519. DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.17: 1941, et seq.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education⁴

1. **Disciplinary Removals of a Student with a Disability**: A student with a disability who violates the code of conduct may be removed from their current placement to an appropriate interim alternative education setting, or suspension for not more than 10 consecutive school days (to the extent those alternatives are applied to students without disabilities). For separate incidents of misconduct, additional removals of not more than 10 consecutive school days may occur, provided that the additional removals do not constitute a “change of placement.”

- a. **Providing Services During a Disciplinary Removal**: The District shall provide services to a student removed from their current placement for 10 cumulative school days or less in that school year if it provides services to students without disabilities who is similarly removed. After a student with a disability has been removed from their current placement for 10 cumulative school days in the same school year, during any subsequent days of removal the District shall provide: (1) educational services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum and to progress towards meeting the goals set out in the student’s IEP and (2) as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not reoccur.

2. **When a Disciplinary Removal Constitutes a “Change in Placement”**: A removal of a student with a disability from their current educational placement is a *change of placement* if: (1) The removal is for

⁴ Access all Louisiana special education Regulations, at Section XV, at <https://bese.louisiana.gov/policy>.

more than 10 consecutive school days; OR (2) As determined on a case-by-case basis by the District, the student has been subjected to *a series of removals that constitute a pattern because*: (i.) The series of removals total more than 10 consecutive school days in a school year; (ii.) The student's behavior is substantially similar to behavior in previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals; and (iii.) Of such additional factors as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the student has been removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another.

- a. **Notification of Disciplinary Change in Placement:** On the date on which the decision is made to make a removal that constitutes a change of placement of a student with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the district shall notify the student's parent or guardian of that decision and provide them with the procedural safeguards notice.
- b. **Providing Services During a Disciplinary Change in Placement:** If the removal is a change of placement, the student's IEP Team determines the appropriate services that must be provided to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the student's IEP.
- c. **The Manifestation Determination Review (MDR) Requirement for Disciplinary Changes in Placement:** A MDR is a meeting to review the relationship between a child's disability and their behavior that needs disciplinary action. Within 10 school days of any decision to change the placement of a student with a disability because of a violation of the code of student conduct, the District, the student's parent or guardian, and relevant members of the IEP team shall review all relevant information in the student's file to determine:
 - a. (1) If the conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to the student's disability; or
 - b. (2) If the conduct in question was the direct result of the district's failure to implement the student's IEP.

If the District, the student's parent or guardian, and relevant members of the student's IEP team determine that either of those conditions was met, the conduct must be determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability.

- i. **If it is determined that the conduct was a manifestation of the student's disability, the IEP team shall:** (1) Conduct a functional behavioral assessment (FBA), unless the district had conducted a FBA before the behavior that resulted in the change of placement occurred, and implement a behavioral intervention plan (BIP) for the student; or (2) If a BIP already has been developed, review the BIP, and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior. The District shall return the student to the placement from which they were removed, unless the student's parent or guardian and the district agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the BIP.
- ii. **If the district, parent or guardian, and relevant members of the student's IEP team determine that the conduct in question was the direct result of the District's failure to implement the IEP,** the District shall take immediate steps to remedy those deficiencies.

- iii. **If the behavior that gave rise to the violation of the school code is determined not to be a manifestation of the student's disability**, school personnel may apply the relevant disciplinary procedures to students with disabilities in the same manner and for the same duration as the procedures would be applied to students without disabilities, except for the services provided in subsection "b" of this Section ("Providing Services During a Disciplinary Change in Placement"). Also, the student shall receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment, and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur.

- d. **Exception to the MDR Requirement:** School personnel may remove a student to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 school days without regard to whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability, if the student: (1) Carries or possesses a weapon⁵ at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of the LDOE or the district; (2) Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs⁶, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance⁷, while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of the LDOE or the District; or (3) Has inflicted serious bodily injury⁸ upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of the LDOE or the district.

3. Reporting Crime Committed by a Disabled Student to Law Enforcement: Nothing in this Section prohibits the District from reporting a crime committed by a student with a disability to appropriate authorities or prevents state law enforcement and judicial authorities from exercising their responsibilities with regard to the application of federal and state laws to crimes committed by a student with a disability.

- a. **Rights of Disabled Student Referred to Law Enforcement:** If the District reports a crime committed by a student with a disability, the District shall ensure that copies of the student's special education and disciplinary records are transmitted for consideration by the authorities to whom the agency reports the crime only to the extent permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

4. Appeals and Expedited Due Process: The parent or guardian of a student with a disability who disagrees with either any decision regarding a student's disciplinary removal, change of placement or the decision on manifestation determination may appeal the decision by requesting a due process hearing.

- a. **Timeline:** The due process hearing request shall allege a violation that occurred not more

⁵ "Weapon" has the meaning given the term "dangerous weapon" in Section 930 of Title 18, United States Code.

⁶ "Illegal Drug" means a controlled substance, but does not include a substance that is legally possessed, or used, under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional, or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under that Act or under any other provision of federal law.

⁷ "Controlled Substance" means a drug or other substance identified under schedules I, II, III, IV, or V of the Controlled Substances Act.

⁸ "Serious Bodily Injury" means a bodily injury that involves a 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.

than one year before the date the parent knew or should have known about the alleged action that forms the basis of the request of the due process hearing. Whenever a hearing is requested, the parent or guardian (or the district) shall have an opportunity for an impartial due process hearing. The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) or the district shall arrange for the expedited due process hearing to occur within 20 school days of the date the request for the due process hearing is filed. The hearing officer shall make a determination within 10 school days after the hearing.

- b. **Placement of Student During Appeal:** When an expedited hearing has been requested by either the parent or guardian or the District, the student shall remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the time period specified whichever occurs first, unless the parent or guardian and the LDOE or the district agrees otherwise.
- c. **Resolution Meeting:** Unless the parent or guardian and the District agree in writing to waive such a meeting, or agree to use mediation, a resolution meeting shall occur within 7 days of receiving the notice of request for a due process hearing. The due process hearing may proceed unless the matter has been resolved to the satisfaction of both parties within 15 days of receipt of the request for due process hearing.
- d. **Decision Rendered by Hearing State Due Process Hearing Officer:** A state due process hearing officer that meets the requirements shall conduct the due process hearing and make a determination. The hearing officer may: (1.) Return the student with a disability to the placement from which he or she was removed if the hearing officer determines that the removal was a violation of the requirements or that the student's behavior was a manifestation of his or her disability; or (2.) Order a change of placement for the student to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 school days if the hearing officer determines that maintaining the current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or to others. These hearing procedures may be repeated and additional 45 day assignments may be made if the district believes that returning the student to the original placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or to others.
- e. **Evidence Not Disclosed to the Other Party:** the LDOE requires the exclusion of evidence not disclosed to the other party 3 business days before the hearing, unless the parties agree otherwise.
- f. **Notice of Legal or Relevant Services for Parents:** The District shall inform the parent of any free or low-cost legal and other relevant services available in the area if: (1) the parent requests the information; or (2) the parent or the agency files a request for due process hearing under this Section; (3) a parent who is not literate in English or has a disability that limits his or her ability to communicate in writing shall be afforded the opportunity for assistance.

5. **For Students Not Yet Eligible for Special Education and Related Services:** If a student has not been determined eligible for special education and related services and violates a code of student conduct, but the District had knowledge before the behavior that brought about the disciplinary action that the

student was a student with a disability, then the student may assert any of the protections described in this Section.

- a. **When the District Has Knowledge of a Disability:** The District must be deemed to have knowledge that a student is a student with a disability if, before the behavior that brought about the disciplinary action occurred: (1.) the parent or guardian expressed concern in writing that their child is in need of special education and related services to supervisory or administrative personnel of the appropriate educational agency, or to the child's teacher; or (2.) the parent or guardian requested an evaluation related to eligibility for special education and related services under the IDEA; or (3.) the child's teacher or other District personnel expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the child directly to the district's director of special education or to other supervisory personnel of the District.
- b. **When the District Does Not Have Knowledge of Disability:** The District would not be deemed to have such knowledge if: (1.) The parent or guardian did not allow an evaluation of their child or refused special education services; or signed off on an official revocation of consent form; or (2.) the child has been evaluated and determined not to be a student with a disability under the IDEA.

If prior to taking disciplinary measures against a student, the District does not have knowledge that the student is a student with a disability, the student may be subjected to the disciplinary measures that are applied to students without disabilities who engaged in comparable behaviors.

However, if a request is made for an evaluation of the student during the time period in which the student is subjected to disciplinary measures, the evaluation must be conducted in an expedited manner. Until the evaluation is completed, the student remains in the educational placement determined by school authorities, which can include suspension or expulsion without educational services. If the student is determined to be a student with a disability, taking into consideration information from the evaluation conducted by the district and information provided by the parent or guardian, the District shall provide special education and related services in accordance with the IDEA.

6. Students only Covered by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Section 504 applies to qualified students with a disability.

- a. **Students Covered by Section 504,** Under Section 504, a student with a disability is defined as a person who: (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity; (2) has a record of such an impairment; or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment. See 34 C.F.R. § 104.3(j). A qualified student with a disability is a person with a disability and who is any of the following: (1) at an age at which students without disabilities are provided elementary and secondary educational services; (2) at an age at which State law requires schools to provide elementary and secondary educational services to students with disabilities; or (3) a child entitled to FAPE under the IDEA. 34 C.F.R. § 104.3(l)(2).

- b. **Manifestation Review:** Like students with disabilities under IDEA, students only covered by Section 504 may not be suspended or expelled for more than ten (10) school days cumulatively in a school year for misconduct that is a manifestation of the student's disability. If the school system is considering a change in placement for a Section 504-eligible student and/or if the student is being recommended for suspension or expulsion that will exceed ten (10) days in a given school year, the School District must convene a group of knowledgeable individuals to conduct a re-evaluation and manifestation determination (MDR) to decide whether the misconduct at issue is a manifestation of the student's disability. This MDR must also include an examination of whether the school's failure to implement the student's 504 plan, and/or included behavioral support, caused the misconduct at issue.

If the student's misconduct is determined to be a manifestation of his/her disability, the student's 504 Team shall meet to consider a functional behavioral assessment (FBA) and interventions to address the behavior. Unless the 504 Team, including the parent, agree to a change of placement due to misconduct, the student should be returned to his/her regular educational placement.

If the student's misconduct is determined not to be a manifestation of his/her disability, the student may be disciplined like a student without a disability, except that the student must continue to have access to the general curriculum and other services identified in the student's Section 504 Plan and must receive behavioral intervention services and modifications to address the behavior. Appropriate placement and services during the period of suspension and/or expulsion will be determined by the student's Section 504 Team.

E. **SUSPENSION/EXPULSION REGULATIONS**

In an effort to support the on-time graduation of students who are suspended, expelled, or at high risk for dropping out or entry into the juvenile justice system, academic, behavioral, and mental health interventions must be provided.

1. **Expulsions**

In-school Expulsion: Removal of the student from the regular school campus to an alternative setting or program within the District (including, for students 18 years and under, placement in JCEP) for a specified length of time longer than ten school days, and no interruption of instructional/educational services occurs. The student remains under the supervision of the District's personnel. Students participating in in-school suspension shall receive credit for work performed during the in-school suspension.

Out of School Expulsion: Removal of the student from all regular school settings for a period of not less than one school semester. A school semester is defined as not less than ninety days. Students with disabilities who are expelled shall be offered an alternative form of education in which they may continue to earn grades.

Alternative Placement: State law requires the District to provide alternative placement for expulsions (except for certain severe offenses) in which case the student is required to attend school at the alternative

placement site. Any student assigned to alternative placement as a result of an expulsion is required to attend school at the alternative placement site and, if the student refuses or otherwise fails to attend, will be considered truant and receive unexcused absences.

Due Process: Upon the recommendation by a principal for the expulsion of any student as authorized by the Code of Conduct, a hearing shall be conducted by the superintendent or his designee within fifteen school days to determine the facts of the case and make a finding of whether or not the student is guilty of conduct warranting a recommendation of expulsion. The school board shall provide written notice of the hearing to the student and his parent or legal guardian, and such notice shall advise the student and his parent or legal guardian of their rights. Upon the conclusion of the hearing and upon a finding that the student is guilty of conduct warranting expulsion, the superintendent or his designee shall determine whether such student shall be expelled from the school system or if other corrective or disciplinary action shall be taken. Until such hearing takes place, the student shall remain suspended from the school with access to classwork and the opportunity to earn academic credit. A student who is expelled or suspended for longer than ten days shall be provided with academic instruction at an alternative setting in accordance with R.S. 17:416.2.

If the parent or legal guardian is not present for an expulsion hearing after having been properly notified, the hearing may proceed and the results of the hearing shall be mailed to the parent or legal guardian within three (3) school days by certified mail, return receipt requested.

If an administrator recommends expulsion for a student, a certified letter must be sent home to parents with the allegation and the date and time of expulsion hearing.

The student will not be compelled to testify against him/herself. He/she has the right to call witnesses and question witnesses. He/she may have anyone of his/her choosing to represent him/her at the hearing. He/she has the right to review all documentation. He/she will be given a chance to present his/her side of the story.

At the end of the hearing, he/she will be given the decision of the Superintendent or their Designee. Within five (5) days, he/she will receive the results of this hearing by mail.

Appeal: If he/she disagrees with the Superintendent's (Designee) decision, he/she may appeal to the St. Martin Parish School Board.

Parents may request, in writing to the St. Martin Parish School Board, that they review the findings of an Expulsion Hearing within five (5) days of notification. In the event that a parent or student appeals an expulsion decision to the School Board in a timely manner, prior to the beginning of the school board meeting at which such expulsion appeal hearing is to be conducted, the parent or student shall have the right to determine if the expulsion appeal hearing is conducted in a public or private session. The parent or student must notify the Superintendent of their preference. At the beginning of the student expulsion appeal hearing before the school board, the Superintendent or a designee who decided the student's expulsion was appropriate, shall describe the nature of the case, the evidence presented in the hearing, and the basis for the decision to expel the student. Following this explanation, the parent, student or representative shall be given a period of no more than fifteen (15) minutes in which to state reasons why the expulsion decision should be reversed or modified. The Superintendent or a designee and/or the school administrator who recommended the expulsion shall then be given fifteen minutes (15) to respond to the comments made by the parent, student, or representative. If executive session is requested, the board shall excuse the parties from the room and deliberate the case privately. No witnesses will be allowed to testify during the expulsion appeal hearing before the board, but the student will be allowed to address the board if desired, within the time allotted for the student, parent, or representative. The decision of the Board will be based on the evidence presented in the expulsion hearing. The final decision shall be voted on in a public session.

If the St. Martin Parish School Board upholds the decision of the Superintendent, he/she may appeal to the district court within ten (10) school days.

2. Suspensions

In-school suspension: means removing a student from his/her normal classroom setting but maintaining him/her under supervision within the school. Students participating in in-school suspension shall receive credit for work performed during the in-school suspension. However, any student who fails to comply fully with the rules for in-school suspension may be subject to immediate out-of-school suspension.

Out-of-school suspension: means the removal of a student from all classes of instruction on public school grounds and all other school-sponsored activities.

Due Process: A principal or his/her **designee** shall send (by a student or mail to the parent/guardian) a letter of suspension each time a student has been suspended. In addition, an attempt should be made to contact the parent/guardian by telephone. Such an attempt shall be logged on the Louisiana Department of Education's School Behavior Report and in JCampus. Suspension shall begin at the end of the school day, except in cases in which a student's behavior prohibits his/her remaining on campus. A student may not attend, nor participate in, any school activity/function while suspended out of school/expelled, including but not limited to prom, graduation activities and ceremonies, athletic practices, games and/or any school event. A student placed in an alternative school or an alternative education program shall attend and participate in such school, program, or education services.

Students must know what conduct is appropriate and what is forbidden. Therefore, the rules and regulations of the School Board governing students' conduct shall be distributed to students and posted in a conspicuous place.

In discipline cases, the principal or designee shall:

- Make every reasonable effort to investigate all aspects of the discipline problem.
- Advise the student in question of the particular misconduct and the basis of the accusation.
- Provide the student an opportunity to explain (in writing or through dictation) his/her version of the situation.
- Immediately remove from the school premises, without benefits of the above procedures, any student whose continued presence in the school poses an ongoing threat or disruption to the academic process. Necessary procedures shall follow as soon as practical.
- Prior to suspension, notice of the suspension and the reasons thereof shall be given to the parents or guardians of student suspended if the student is under 18 years of age. Initial notification may be in person or via telephone. Prior to suspension, the student shall also be given an opportunity at that time to explain his version of the facts to the school principal or his designee
- A suspended student may be removed from classes, if necessary, and kept under supervision until the close of the school day or the arrival of the parent or guardian to pick up the student. In the event the student may cause a disruption in the orderly operation of school, he/she may be removed from the school premises immediately and placed in the custody of the parent, guardian, next of kin, or police officer.

Appeal: The principal/designee shall mail a report of the suspension to the parent/guardian on the day of the

suspension, if possible, but no later than two school (2) days following the decision to suspend. A copy should be placed in the school file. If the parent or guardian wishes to appeal the suspension, the parent/guardian, within five (5) school days after notification of the suspension, must submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee to review the matter; otherwise, the decision shall stand. While awaiting the Superintendent's decision in suspension appeal cases, the student shall remain suspended out of school; and upon review, if the Superintendent reverses the decision of the school administrator, the student's absences shall be voided.

Right to Receive Schoolwork: A student who is suspended for ten (10) days or fewer shall be assigned school work missed while he/she is suspended and shall receive full credit for such work if it is completed satisfactorily and timely as determined by the principal or his/her designee, upon the recommendation of the student's teacher. A student who is suspended for more than ten days, or is expelled and receives educational services at an alternative school site, shall be assigned work by a certified teacher and shall receive credit for school work if it is completed satisfactorily and timely as determined by the teacher. Such work shall be aligned with the curriculum used at the school from which the student was suspended or expelled.

Positive Behavior Center Alternative to Suspension

The Positive Behavior Center is a program that provides schools with an off- campus alternative to an out-of-school suspension. This program allows students to be counted present and receive academic instruction in lieu of being suspended out of school.

The program is located on the campus of Parks Middle School at 1010-A St. Louis Dr., St. Martinville, La. 70582.

The student's assigned school nurse (RN) will make the necessary accommodations for students who have health concerns that require medication. Students who are assigned to the program will be searched for any prohibited items by the home school prior to boarding the bus for transport.

Transportation is provided from the student's home school by a designated parish school bus. In the morning, students will depart from their home school at approximately 8:00 a.m. Students will be provided breakfast and lunch at the Positive Behavior Center. Students will depart from Parks Middle School and return to their home school by 3:00 p.m. in order to return home via their regularly scheduled transportation.

Juvenile Continuing Education Program (JCEP) Timeline:

Students assigned to JCEP will be assigned based on each grade band as follows:

K – 2nd Grade – 3 week placement

3rd – 4th grade – 6 week placement 5th– 12th grade - 9 week placement

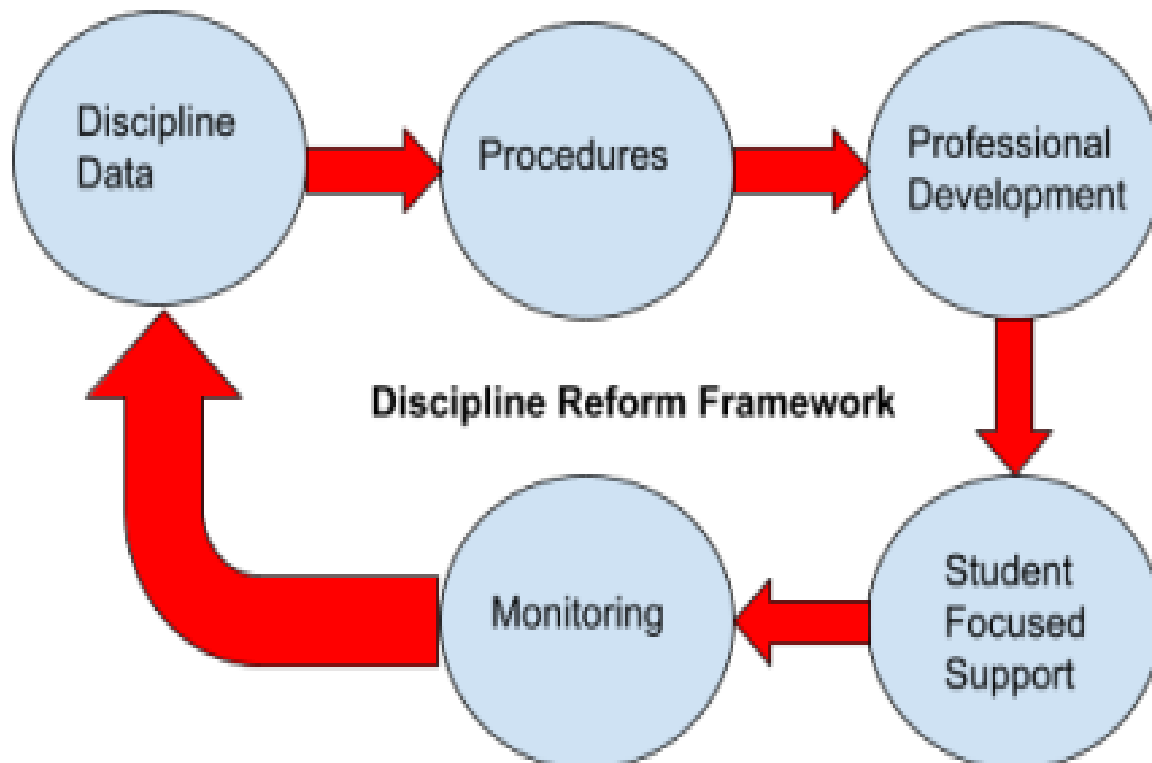
Students who violate any of the three major conduct violations: Drugs, Weapons, or Serious bodily injury will be assigned based on Louisiana Revised Statute 17:416.

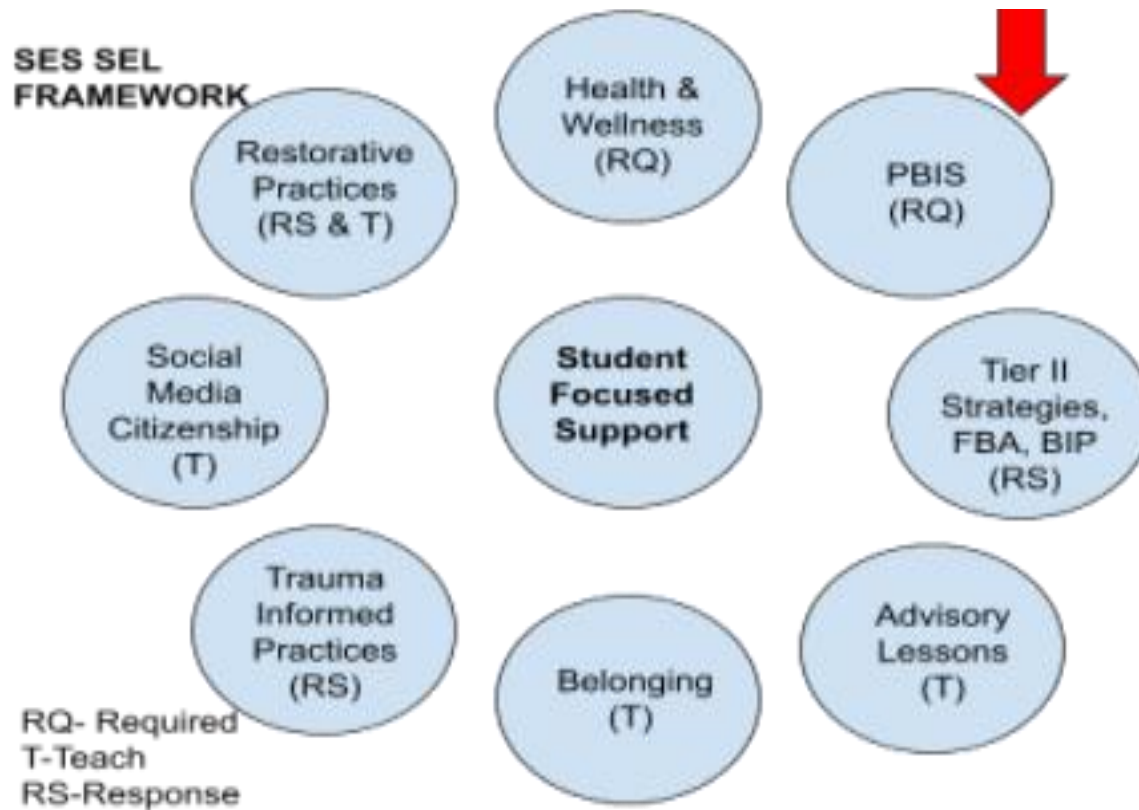
Students in 6th – 12th grade who choose the JCEP Virtual assignment will be required to complete a minimum of 3 hours per day for the time assigned. If the student fails to meet these requirements, he/she will not be

allowed to exit the program at the scheduled time.

F. STUDENT FOCUSED SUPPORT

The district has developed a Discipline Reform Framework that increases support for students. The Discipline Reform Framework supports the ongoing review of discipline data, and review of board and district procedures and policies for alignment with School Board and Superintendent expectations. The framework also expanded disciplinary and climate professional development opportunities for all staff that interact with students, added a Student Focused Support framework, and weekly monitoring of disciplinary incidents. Both frameworks are listed below.





Expanding Student Support

All students in SMPSD will attend schools and classrooms that are supportive environments and have strategies, programs, curricula, and time in the instructional week to meet the social emotional learning needs of all students. Expanded student focused support is necessary for students as the District emerges from a pandemic and the associated trauma students and staff may have experienced. Additionally, students will receive instruction intended to help them become effective social media citizens, an area school staff have identified as leading to increased conflict between students.

Students achieve the most academically when they are supported and educated in safe and supportive school environments. Every St. Martin Parish school will implement social emotional learning opportunities for students that includes three tiers of behavior support. Tier I support must include PBIS practices, advisory lessons, and health and wellness activities for all students to ensure students are being supported. Tier II support includes specialized support for students experiencing behavioral and emotional issues that may or may not impact their academic success. Tier III support may include all Tier I and II support plus referral to community based resources.

Each student that receives a referral or suspension must be considered for additional supports identified as Tier II or Tier III strategies. All students with two or more suspensions must be referred to the school's Student Support Team to ensure they receive the support needed to change their behavior.

The three tiers of behavior support are incorporated in the levels of behavior listed in the behavior matrix. The behavior matrix is a representation of the types of support students should receive at all

Tiers of support.

Expectations for In School Suspensions

The School Board prioritizes interventions and responses that keep students in their regular classes. When ISS is deemed an appropriate response, the district has four implementation strategies for ISS in every school:

1. Parents/caregivers/guardians will be notified that their child has violated a school rule and been assigned to ISS.
2. Students will be assigned to a location within the school and supervised by a staff member.
3. Classwork will be provided to students from their regular teachers in advance of student assignment to ISS.
4. Students will participate in conflict resolution strategies to process their behavior and prevent future misbehavior.

Improved documentation of Referrals and Suspensions

St. Martin School District is revising their process for documenting referrals. School staff will be trained to document behavior and their actions, so a log is made. Only in the event that a behavior has exceeded the type of infraction that should be handled in levels 1-2 by teachers or paraprofessionals, will an office referral to administration be made and required to be addressed by administrators.

New Conflict Diversion Program

SMPSD will implement a process for anonymous reporting of potential conflict between students. The goal of implementation will be to prevent fights and conflict when school administration is notified that a problem exists. The anonymous reporting will provide school administrators with an opportunity to address these potential conflicts before a fight occurs.

This process will align with social media citizenship because some conflict and fights begin on social media and in the community and are then brought to school. Students will also receive yearly social media citizenship training that includes the process for anonymous reporting of social media conflict, bullying, or other issues that may impact safety of the school or its students.

Conflict Resolution Strategies

The district will continue to use restorative practices with all students such as morning meeting, advisory, and class meetings. Students involved in school related fights and conflict will meet with school staff as one part of the consequences for the violation of school infractions. Part of the meeting will be to determine the underlying reason for the behavior and how SMPSD can work with students and parents to prevent this type of situation from re-occurring. Parents may contact the District's Child Welfare and Attendance office at (337) 332-2105 Ext. 2819 for more information about conflict resolution strategies and school-level contacts.

Definitions of Interventions

- **Verbal correction** - Brief verbal discussion about student behavior that should be changed.
- **Written reflection/apology** - Student written statement that denotes concern about their behavior and offers an apology.
- **Reminders/redirection** - Teacher led direction to re-engage in a lesson or activity.
- **Daily progress reports**- Daily written report about an individual student each day.
- **Teacher/Student conference** - Brief conversation about student behavior between teacher and student.
- **Loss of Privileges** - Prevention of participation in activities.
- **Remedial academic work assignment** - Makeup work assignment so students can catch up on missed assignments.
- **Parent/Guardian conferences** - Brief conversation about student behavior between teacher and parent.
- **Classroom-based restorative practices** - Practices that require students to reflect and discuss their actions, feelings, and impact on others, where appropriate.
- **Conflict resolution** - Strategy used by teachers to help students solve minor disagreements.
- **Teacher verbal or written reprimand** - Teacher correction of student based on the student's failure to follow classroom or school rules.
- **Recess detention w/ parental notice** - Loss of privilege to participate in some part of recess based on minor student misbehavior.
- **Detention** – A consequence that requires activities, assignments, or work held before the normal school day, after the normal school day, or on weekends.
- **Social skill development** - Implementation of social emotional learning lessons.
- **Parent conferences** - Telephone or in person meeting with parent/guardian to discuss student academic and behavioral concerns or progress.
- **Counselor or Social Worker referral (to utilize strategies such as: conflict resolution, social responsibility, family responsibility, and stress management)** - Documented request for social emotional support.
- **Behavioral Responses Requiring Administrative Approval** - Higher level consequences for student behavior to include In-School Suspension or Out-of-School Suspension.
- **Request for Functional Behavioral Assessment/Behavior Intervention Plan** - Request to develop a plan of support for students that need increased behavioral support. Requests are usually received by the School Building Level Committee.
- **Restitution**- Parents/students paying for the cost to repair or replace items damaged or destroyed beyond normal wear and tear and, occurring when students are in violation of the student code of conduct.
- **Referral to School Building Level Committee (SBLC) for evaluation** - School based team that receives referrals for various evaluations and requests for increased behavioral support.
- **Suspension from Bus (to be utilized only for safety infractions on bus, when appropriate)** - Loss of privilege to ride the school bus due to violation of the student code of conduct that occurred on the bus.

- **Intervention sessions** - Time during the school day when students may receive behavioral support by school staff based on a FBA or BIP.
- **Targeted incentives** - Activities, trinkets, or other inducements typically used in a token economy such as PBIS.
- **Parent communication plan** - Plan that details when and how school staff are to communicate with a parent about their student.
- **Point system** - Part of structure that rewards students by providing points for displaying appropriate school behavior.
- **Behavioral contract** - Detailed agreement between school and a student that the students will follow the student code of conduct, improve their attendance, and specifically prevent the behavior that led to initial disciplinary action occurring.
- **Check in check out (CICO)** - Process where a student must meet with a trusted adult each morning and afternoon to gauge how the students' day progressed.
- **Daily behavior form, etc.** - Information sheet about the students day that is completed by teachers, carried by students, and taken home at the end of the day to parents. Similar to a point sheet.
- **Alternative to Suspension Center (Positive Behavior Center assignment for less than 5 days)** - Assignment to a centralized District-based alternative to out of school suspension.
- **Out-of-School Suspension Short Term Suspension 1-5 days with or without alternative** - Removal from school for up to 5 days based on student behavior and their violation of the student code of conduct.
- **Administrator/Parent Conference** - Telephone or in person meeting to discuss student behavior, consequences, and next steps.
- **Short Term Out-of-School Suspension 6-9 days with or without alternative placement** - Removal from school for up to 6-9 days based on student behavior and their violation of the student code of conduct.
- **Long-Term Suspension 11 days or more w/alternative placement**- Removal from school and placement at alternative school or on virtual learning.
- **Expulsion with alternative education including virtual learning** - Removal from school for one semester or more based on severity of incident and placement at JCEP.
- **Court Referral** - Referral to court for involvement and adjudication.
- **Law Enforcement referral** - Referral to school based or local law enforcement based on the severity of the incident.

G. Behavior Matrix and Possible Consequences

Level 1 Teacher Implemented Consequences (Must be Documented in J-Campus)

These responses are designed to teach appropriate behavior so that students are respectful and can learn and contribute to a safe environment. Teachers are encouraged to implement a variety of teaching and classroom management strategies. When appropriate, teachers may engage the student's support system to ensure successful learning and consistency of response, and change the conditions that contribute to the student's inappropriate or disruptive behavior.

These responses should be used in a graduated fashion, which means starting with the least severe behavioral response that is appropriate to address behavior. Upon further or for more severe violations, the behavioral responses may increase in severity as appropriate and in accordance with Louisiana law.

Required Procedures:

- **Teacher MUST document all interventions and consequences in the J-Campus Minor Behavior Log.**
- **Teacher MUST write a referral if student is assigned detention or PBIS Tier 1 interventions**

Behavioral Responses (from less to more intensity):

- Classroom-based PBIS Tier 1 Interventions (including the following)
 - verbal correction
 - written reflection/apology
 - reminders/redirection
 - daily progress reports
- Teacher/Student conference
- Loss of Privileges
- Remedial academic work assignment
- Parent/Guardian Conferences
- Classroom-based restorative practices
- Conflict resolution
- Teacher verbal or written reprimand
- Recess detention w/ parental notice
- Detention

Level 2 Teacher Implemented or Teacher referred to Administrator
(If referred to Administrator, a referral must be entered into J-Campus; otherwise, MUST be documented within J-Campus)

These responses are designed to teach appropriate behavior so that students are respectful and can learn and contribute to a safe environment. Many of these responses engage the student's support system and are designed to alter conditions that contribute to the student's inappropriate or disruptive behavior. These responses aim to correct behavior by stressing its severity and acknowledging potential implications for future harm, while still keeping the student in school. A teacher referral for administrative support is required for any serious incident or other incident that may impact or implicate the health or well-being of students.

These responses should be used in a graduated fashion, which means starting with the least severe behavioral response that is appropriate to address behavior. Upon further or for more severe violations, the behavioral responses may increase in severity as appropriate and in accordance with Louisiana law.

Required Procedures:

- **Complete Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) Form A and file**
- **Refer to Principal or Designee**

Level II Behavioral Responses (from less to more intensity):

- Classroom-based PBIS Tier 1 Interventions (including the following)
 - verbal correction
 - written reflection/apology
 - reminders/redirection
 - daily progress reports
- Teacher/Student conference
- Teacher verbal or written reprimand
- Loss of Privileges
- Remedial academic work assignment
- Recess detention w/ parental notice
- Parent/Guardian Conferences
- PBIS Tier 2/3 Interventions (including the following)
 - social skill development
 - parent conferences
 - intervention sessions
 - targeted incentives
 - parent communication plan
 - point system
 - behavioral contract
 - check in check out (CICO)
 - daily behavior form, etc.

- Classroom-based restorative practices
- Conflict resolution
- Detention
- Counselor or Social Worker referral (to utilize strategies such as: conflict resolution, social responsibility, family responsibility, and stress management)

Behavioral Responses Requiring Administrative Approval

- Request for Functional Behavioral Assessment/Behavior Intervention Plan
- Restitution
- Referral to School Building Level Committee (SBLC) for evaluation
- Suspension from Bus (to be utilized *only* for safety infractions on bus, when appropriate)

Level 3 Administrator Implemented Consequences Max 1-5 Days OSS

These responses engage the student's support system to encourage successful learning and to alter conditions that contribute to the student's inappropriate or disruptive behavior. These responses aim to correct behavior by stressing its severity and acknowledging potential implications for future harm, while still keeping the student in school, as appropriate. These responses may involve in-school and out-of-school suspensions or in-school interventions. Such a removals should be limited as much as practicable without undermining its ability to adequately address the behavior and maintain school safety and order.

These responses should be used in a graduated fashion (with administrative support), which means starting with the least severe behavioral response that is appropriate to address behavior. Upon further or for more severe violations, the behavioral responses may increase in severity as appropriate and in accordance with Louisiana law.

Required Procedures:

- **Complete LDE Form A and file**
- **Discipline reports entered in J-Campus**

Level III Behavioral Responses (from less to more intensity):

- No action taken by administrator
- Classroom-based PBIS Tier 1 Interventions (including the following)
 - verbal correction
 - written reflection/apology
 - reminders/redirection
 - daily progress reports
- Teacher/Student conference
- Teacher verbal or written reprimand
- Loss of Privileges
- Remedial academic work assignment
- Recess detention w/ parental notice
- Parent/Guardian Conferences
- PBIS Tier 2/3 Interventions (including the following)
 - social skill development
 - parent conferences
 - intervention sessions
 - targeted incentives
 - parent communication plan
 - point system
 - behavioral contract
 - check in check out (CICO)
 - daily behavior form, etc.
- Classroom-based restorative practices
- Conflict resolution
- Detention
 - In school detention
 - After School detention
 - Saturday detention

- Counselor or Social Worker referral (to utilize strategies such as: conflict resolution, social responsibility, family responsibility, and stress management)
- Therapeutic Removal (Based on Threat/Behavior Assessment)

Behavioral Responses Requiring Administrative Approval

- Request for Functional Behavioral Assessment/Behavior Intervention Plan
- Restitution
- Referral to School Building Level Committee (SBLC) for evaluation
- Suspension from Bus (to be utilized *only* for safety infractions on bus, when appropriate)
- Referral to Administrator
- Administrator Conference

In-School Suspension (Intervention Room)

- In School Suspension 1-3 Days

Alternative to Suspension

- Alternative to Suspension Center (Positive Behavior Center assignment for less than 5 days)

Out-of-School Suspension

- Short Term Suspension 1-5 days with or without alternative placement

Level 4 Administrator implemented consequences, 6-9 day suspension, 10+ Day suspension, expulsion and assignment to JCEP

These responses address serious behavior while keeping the student in a school. When necessary, due to the nature of the behavior or potential implications for future harm, a student may be removed from the school environment. These responses promote safety of the school community by addressing self-destructive and dangerous behavior.

These responses should be used in a graduated fashion (with administrative support), which means starting with the least severe behavioral response that is appropriate to address behavior. Upon further or for more severe violations, the behavioral responses may increase in severity as appropriate and in accordance with Louisiana law.

Required Procedures:

- **Complete LDE Form A and file**
- **Discipline reports entered in J-Campus**

Behavioral Responses (from less to more intensity):

- **All Level 3 consequences**
- **School must implement or review existing Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and/or Behavioral Intervention Plan**
- **PBIS Tier 2/3 Interventions (including the following)**
 - social skill development
 - parent conferences
 - intervention sessions
 - targeted incentives
 - parent communication plan
 - point system
 - behavioral contract
 - check in check out (CICO)
 - daily behavior form
- Restorative Practices/Conflict Resolution
- Administrator/Parent Conference
- Short Term Out-of-School Suspension 6-9 days with or without alternative placement
- Long-Term Suspension 11 days or more w/ alternative placement
- In School Expulsion and Assignment to JCEP

Level 5 Administrator implemented consequences of expulsion

This level removes a student from the school environment for an extended period of time because of the severity of the behavior and potential implications for future harm. Infractions in this level involve the placement of the student in a safe environment that provides additional structure and services. This response promotes the safety of the school community by addressing self-destructive, criminal, and/or dangerous behavior.

Required Procedures:

- Complete LDE Form B and file immediate referral to principal
- Discipline reports entered in J-Campus

Behavioral Response:

- All Level 4 consequences
- Expulsion with alternative education including virtual learning
- Court Referral
- Law Enforcement referral

Behavior Matrix

Level 1 Teacher Implemented Consequences and

Level 2 Teacher Directed or Teacher Referred Consequences

Staff shall use lowest consequence first, as long as it is appropriate to address the behavior.

For additional behaviors in the same school year, and as appropriate, the school should endeavor to address student behavior with a focus on evidence-based interventions and support and to prioritize classroom- and school-based interventions in lieu of out-of-school disciplinary removals. This does not prohibit the ability of school staff to issue higher appropriate consequences when required by Louisiana law, or with prior approval of the Child Welfare and Attendance office.

Behavior	Definitions/Example	Level 1	Level 2			
Academic Dishonesty	Cheating on homework, classwork, in-class or take-home test or plagiarism, fabrication, deception in the creation or presentation of any assignment or project	X	X			

Behavior	Definitions/Example	Level 1	Level 2			
Dress/ appearance code violation	Violation of the dress or appearance code that cannot be immediately corrected, such as failing to wear the proper attire	X	X			
Habitually tardy and/or absent/	reporting to school or class after the school day begins without permission; being absent, without proper excuse; Consequence imposed after 3rd tardy to school and/or upon accumulation of more than 3 tardies/absences. ⁹	X	X			
Violation of classroom rules	breaking any in-class rule set by the teacher	X	X			
Willful disobedience	deliberate choice to break a rule or disobey a directive by a person in authority, such as refusing to stop talking when being told by a teacher to do so	X	X			

⁹ Please see the Attendance, Absences, Truancy & Withdrawal section of Student/Parent Handbook for more information about required parent notices and rules concerning excused and unexcused absences.

Level 1 Teacher Implemented Consequences and
Level 2 Teacher Directed or Teacher Referred Consequences
Level 3 Administrator Implemented Consequences ISS or 1-9 Days OSS

Staff shall use lowest consequence first, as long as it is appropriate to address the behavior.

For additional behaviors in the same school year, and as appropriate, the school should endeavor to address student behavior with a focus on evidence-based interventions and support and to prioritize classroom- and school-based interventions in lieu of out-of-school disciplinary removals. This does not prohibit the ability of school staff to issue higher appropriate consequences when required by Louisiana law, or with prior approval of the Child Welfare and Attendance office.

Behavior	Definitions/Example	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
Bullying/ harassment (Principal Notified of all incidents so an investigation can take place)	making unwanted and repeated written, verbal, physical behaviors toward another person, such as threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing words or gestures;	X	X	X		
Conduct or habits injurious to others	act that is intentional but not meant to but does harm another, such as throwing an object that, even though it was not meant to, hits another person, and injures him	X	X	X		
Disrespect to authority	act that shows disregard for or interferes with a person in authority, such as talking back ,mocking, making rude gestures toward a teacher, walking away from authority when being spoken to	X	X	X		

Level 2 Teacher Directed or Teacher Referred Consequence
Level 3 Administrator Implemented Consequences ISS or 1-9 Days OSS
Level 4 Administrator implemented consequences up to 10+ Days expulsion and assignment to JCEP

Staff shall use lowest consequence first, as long as it is appropriate to address the behavior.

For additional behaviors in the same school year, and as appropriate, the school should endeavor to address student behavior with a focus on evidence-based interventions and support and to prioritize classroom- and school-based interventions in lieu of out-of-school disciplinary removals. This does not prohibit the ability of school staff to issue higher appropriate consequences when required by Louisiana law, or with prior approval of the Child Welfare and Attendance office.

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Academic Dishonesty (Notify administrator)	Cheating on standardized testing or breaching security of standardized testing.		X	X	X	
Any other offense	Any serious, harmful incident or act that disrupts the educational process that is not covered by any other behavior or rule or is not specifically identified in the behavior charts		X	X	X	
Arson	intentionally causing damage by any explosive substance or setting fire to any property without consent of the owner		X	X	X	

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Assault and/or battery	any aggressive act toward another person, may involve threats and/or other acts that put another person in fear of actual harm and/or actual unwanted physical contact, such as pushing, shoving, hitting with hand, body or object		X	X	X	
Cuts, defaces, injures any public school building; vandalism	causing damage, destruction or other harm to property belonging to the school or to another person		X	X	X	
Failing to complete assigned consequence	intentional failure to complete consequence assigned by an authority, such as refusing to complete work or to serve all of consequence (detention, suspension, etc.) assigned by an authority because of misconduct		X	X		
False report against authority	making a false report, either in writing or orally, against a school staff member or other person with supervisory authority when it was known to be untrue at the time		X	X		

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
False report against another student	making a false report, either in writing or orally, against another student when it was known to be untrue at the time		X	X		
Forgery of parent/guardian signature	signing of parent/guardian's name on excuses, daily papers, test, reports, or other documents for which parental signature is required (except TYPE A)		X	X		
Gambling	playing a game of chance with or without wager of money or property, such as card games or dice or any activity involving betting		X	X		
Immoral or vicious practices	isolated act that is unwelcome, comment that is hurtful, degrading, humiliating or offensive with a sexual, physical, or racial component; act that is dangerous, aggressive, or disturbing and not conforming to acceptable standards		X	X		

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Misuse of internet/violation of electronic-technology policy	using school computer or accessing unauthorized website without permission, such as pornography site, using electronic devices, such as cell phones, iPad, iPod/MP-3 players, etc.;		X	X	X	
Obscene behaviors/possession of obscene material	engaging in behavior of a sexual nature, including consensual sexual activity; possession or creation of sexual images in any form, such as images downloaded and/or printed from computer, book, magazine, phone, drawing, etc.		X	X	X	
Profane and/or obscene language	speaking words or writing obscene use of written or spoken words and/or drawings that are offensive, indecent, swearing, cursing, or vulgar and/or name-calling or using gestures that suggest the same,- use of the "f" word or any variation or other such extreme obscenities		X	X	X	

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Instigates or participates in fight	starts or joins in a physical altercation with 1 or more others,- starting or participating in a fight and/or fights involving 3 or more persons may result in more severe consequences ¹⁰		X	X	X	
Possession or use of medication other than as prescribed or authorized	possession (including storing in belongings, locker, etc.), use, intent to distribute or distribution of any over-the-counter or prescribed medication or look-alike medication, without permission of parent/guardian and/or authorization from school official		X	X	X	
Possession of a blade less than 2½"	possession of any blade less than 2½ ", including pocket knife, box cutter or any other blade ¹¹			X	X	

¹⁰ District staff will continue to use conflict resolution and/or restorative practices, as appropriate, with all students such as morning meeting, advisory, and class meetings. Students involved in school related fights and conflict will meet with school staff as one part of the consequences for the violation of this infraction. Part of the meeting will be to determine the underlying reason for the behavior and how SMPSD can work with students and parents to prevent this type of situation from re-occurring.

¹¹ At a minimum, a student with a knife of any length must be placed in in-school suspension. This does not apply to a student carrying or possessing a knife for purposes of involvement in a school class or course or school-approved cocurricular or extracurricular activity or any other activity approved by the appropriate school officials. See, "Weapons Policy" below.

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Public indecency	exposing private body parts in view of another person (Title IX coordinator must be notified)		X	X	X	
Stealing	taking and/or possessing another person 's property without their permission		X	X	X	
Sexual harassment	intimidation, bullying, forcing of an action of a sexual nature that is unwelcomed (no consent) (Title IX coordinator must be notified)			X	X	

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Throws items liable to injure others	throws toward a person any object that is either heavy, sharp or otherwise perceived to be harmful or throws with such velocity and force that the object would cause physical harm if it hits another person or cause a fight or disturbance; considered an "other weapon" offense; if the act actually causes injury to another person, the consequence may be more severe			X	X	
Trespassing	coming on any school property during the school day without permission, includes while on suspension or expulsion		X	X	X	
Use or possession of tobacco or lighter	any use, possession, purchase, concealment, intent to distribute, distribution or sale of any type of tobacco product (cigarette, chewing tobacco, vapes, wax pens etc.) or lighter;		X	X	X	

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Violates traffic/safety regulations	breaks any law or school rules pertaining to the obstruction or flow of traffic and/or safety;		X	X		
Burglary	unauthorized entry into any school property (building, vehicle, etc.) with intent to commit a felony or any theft from the property			X	X	
Forgery ¹²	forging another person's signature on official documents, including school checks, purchase orders, reports, etc.			X	X	

¹² Expulsion is not allowed for this infraction unless the behavior jeopardized the safety of students and staff.

Level 3 Teacher Implemented Consequences

Level 4 Administrator implemented consequences up to 10+ Days expulsion and assignment to JCEP

Level 5 Administrators implemented consequences expulsion

Staff shall use lowest consequence first, as long as it is appropriate to address the behavior.

For additional behaviors in the same school year, and as appropriate, the school should endeavor to address student behavior with a focus on evidence-based interventions and support and to prioritize classroom- and school-based interventions in lieu of out-of-school disciplinary removals. This does not prohibit the ability of school staff to issue higher appropriate consequences when required by Louisiana law, or with prior approval of the Child Welfare and Attendance office.

Behavior	Definitions/Example			Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Criminal damages to property	intentionally causing damage by any means (except fire or explosion) to any property that requires a report to law enforcement			X	X	X
Making a false alarm	initiating a warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause,- misuse of 911; making or assisting in the making of a bomb threat,- discharging a fire extinguisher without cause			X	X	X
Taking property with violence (Robbery) from another person	taking something of any value from another person using force, intimidation (such as threats or bullying) or weapons of any kind			X	X	X

Level 4 Administrator implemented consequences up to 10+ Days expulsion and assignment to JCEP

Level 5 Administrator implemented consequences expulsion

Staff shall use lowest consequence first, as long as it is appropriate to address the behavior.

For additional behaviors in the same school year, and as appropriate, the school should endeavor to address student behavior with a focus on evidence-based interventions and support and to prioritize classroom- and school-based interventions in lieu of out-of-school disciplinary removals. This does not prohibit the ability of school staff to issue higher appropriate consequences when required by Louisiana law, or with prior approval of the Child Welfare and Attendance office.

Behavior	Definitions/Example				Level 4	Level 5
Causes serious bodily injury*	taking any action that causes an injury to another person and involves a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, obvious disfigurement or loss or impairment of any part of a person's body or faculty (such as sight, hearing)				X	X
Discharge or use of a weapon prohibited by federal law*	discharging/shooting or otherwise using a weapon, as defined by federal law (see possession above);					X
Kidnapping*	intentional forced taking of another person from 1 place to another without consent				X	X
Killing of another person*	any killing of another human being, regardless of the legal degree					X

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Possession of body armor*	possession (including storing in belongings, locker, etc.) or wearing any type gear that protects from attack by another person (Note about Kevlar backpack)				X	X
Possession of firearm, knife, other implement that may be used as a weapon	possession of a firearm (other than those prohibited by federal law), knife, any blade 2.5" or more includes any look-alike object that can place a person in reasonable fear of serious harm; may be carried on a student's person or held in belongings, locker or other storage space; ¹³				X	X
Possession of firearm, as defined by state and federal law	possession or concealment of any weapon designed to expel a projectile by action of an explosive, as defined by federal law; ¹⁴					X

¹³ **Knives** - The principal shall immediately suspend a student who is found carrying a knife with a blade exceeding two and one-half inches in length. Principal must also recommend the student's expulsion. However, in the case of a student less than eleven years of age in pre-kindergarten through grade five who is found carrying or possessing a knife which exceeds two and one-half inches in length, the principal or designee may but shall not be required to recommend the student's expulsion. This does not apply to a student carrying or possessing a knife for purposes of involvement in a school class or course or school-approved cocurricular or extracurricular activity or any other activity approved by the appropriate school officials.

Refer to "Weapons Policy" for additional disciplinary requirements concerning knives and firearms.

¹⁴ Firearms – Louisiana law defines a "firearm" as any pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, machine gun, submachine gun, black powder weapon, or assault rifle that is designed to fire or is capable of firing fixed cartridge ammunition or(a) from which a shot or projectile is discharged by an explosive. Under federal law, a "firearm" is generally defined as

Behavior	Definitions/Example		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
Rape or sexual assault and/or battery*	any forced attempt to have sexual contact with another person or any actual sexual act with another person by force and/or without					X
Use or possession of controlled dangerous substances	any use, possession, purchase, concealment, intent to distribute, distribution or sale of any drug, narcotic, controlled substance or paraphernalia linked to such items. This includes the altering of a vape, Juul/Wax Pen or any similar items. ¹⁵				X	X
Use or possession of alcohol	any use, possession, purchase, concealment, intent to distribute, distribution or sale of any type of alcoholic product (beer, liquor, anything containing or purporting to contain alcoholic content, etc.);				X	X

any weapon that will be, or is designed to or may readily be, converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant. The full federal definition is listed at 18 U.S.C., Section 921(a). See, "Weapons Policy" below.

¹⁵ Students found in possession of possession of or knowledge of and intentional distribution of or possession with intent to distribute any illegal narcotic, drug, or other controlled substance on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event:

- *Students in kindergarten through grade five*, shall be referred to the School Board with a recommendation by the Superintendent.

- *Any student who is under 16 years of age and in grades six through twelve*, will be expelled from school for a minimum period of two complete school semesters.

- *Any student 16 years of age or older*, will be expelled from school for a minimum of a period of four complete school semesters.

**Level 1-5
Cyberbullying**

School Administration must be notified of each incident of cyberbullying

Staff shall use lowest consequence first, as long as it is appropriate to address the behavior.

For additional behaviors in the same school year, and as appropriate, the school should endeavor to address student behavior with a focus on evidence-based interventions and support and to prioritize classroom- and school-based interventions in lieu of out-of-school disciplinary removals. This does not prohibit the ability of school staff to issue higher appropriate consequences when required by Louisiana law, or with prior approval of the Child Welfare and Attendance office.

Behavior	Definitions/Example	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Cyber-bullying/harassment (Principal Notified of all incidents so an investigation can take place)	Making unwanted and repeated communications which are threatening, insulting or dehumanizing by any form of technology, such as social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), texting, or emails. School intervention may occur if school equipment is used to commit cyberbullying, disruption to the school community occurs, on a bus stop, or district vehicle, or cyberbullying happens at school sponsored events.	X	X	X	X	X

H. TRANSPORTATION: RULES FOR CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUS

In accordance with La. R.S. 17:158, the St. Martin Parish School Board shall provide free transportation for any student who attends a school of suitable grade approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education if the student resides more than one mile from such school, and the school is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the parish or city school board.

For the purpose of administration, the distance shall be determined as extending from the student's driveway or entrance to the nearest public road, to the walking entrance of the school building. (The distance shall be measured by the most direct route and may be along roads and walkways.)

No person other than assigned students and authorized persons approved by the local Transportation Supervisor or other authorized school official are allowed to board the bus.

RULES FOR SCHOOL BUS RIDERS

A school bus with undisciplined passengers is a hazardous bus. The misbehavior of the students can lead to accidents. The driver must concentrate on the driving task at hand and cannot be expected to constantly discipline the students while the bus is in motion. Therefore, for the safe operation of the school bus, students should be aware that the school bus is an extension of the school. The same rules, rewards, and consequences apply in both settings.

VIDEO CAMERAS ARE UTILIZED ON SCHOOL BUSES TO MONITOR

I. LOSS OF ACTIVITY PRIVILEGES

Pupils may be suspended from participation in or being present at school extracurricular activities. Only the principal or person designated by the principal may suspend a pupil from participation in extracurricular activities. When under out-of-school suspension from school, a pupil shall not participate in or be present at any school activities sponsored by the school.

Nothing in this policy is intended to limit a teacher's authority to require a pupil to leave a particular extracurricular activity when the teacher has evidence that the pupil's behavior has been in violation of Board policies or school rules regarding pupil conduct. A report of misconduct and the action taken by the teacher shall be given to the appropriate school administrator at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably not later than the beginning of the next school day. If notification is made to law enforcement authorities, the parents shall be advised by the principal.

J. SUSPENSION OF STUDENT DRIVER'S LICENSE

Students, between the ages of 15 years and 18 years of age, expelled or assigned to the alternative school for 10 or more consecutive school days in accordance with the Board policy for infractions involving the sale or possession of drugs, alcohol, or any other illegal substance, the possession of a

firearm, or an infraction involving assault or battery on a member of the school faculty or staff shall be referred for revocation of the student's driver's license. Written notice of the school's disciplinary action shall be forwarded from the school principal to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

K. LONG TERM LOSS OF PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

No students in grades 7-12 inclusively, shall be allowed to participate in any school sponsored extracurricular activity in the event such student is arrested for:

- i. A violation of any provision of the Louisiana Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act;**
- ii. Any grade of theft or burglary; or**
- iii. Criminal mischief or criminal damage to property wherein destruction or injury to property is in excess of \$100.00.**

Furthermore, no student assigned to any alternative disciplinary setting, such as JCEP, shall be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities that are school sponsored. The prohibition against participation in extracurricular activities set forth herein shall be for the duration of the student's time at JCEP, commencing with notification by the student's principal, the superintendent, or his/her designee. Students who are assigned to an alternative setting twice in the same school year shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities upon their return from JCEP - through the end of the school year.

Students who violate any of the four major conduct violations: Drugs infractions, Weapons infractions, Causes Serious Bodily Injury, or school threats¹⁶ will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities for a minimum of nine months. If the student's time at JCEP is longer than nine months, the student would not be able to participate until they return to their home campus.

For the purpose of this policy, the term "extracurricular activities" shall include, but not be limited to, athletics, band, speech, quiz bowl, cheerleading, boosters, 4-H, prom, and related programs, and any other event that may require off-campus activities. This ban does not include participation in graduation ceremonies for seniors who successfully complete their assignment in the alternative setting.

Nothing herein shall prohibit a sponsor or coach of an extracurricular activity from imposing additional rules, regulations, or restrictions as prerequisites for participation in the event or activity which he or she coaches or sponsor.

¹⁶ School Threats include the infraction of "Making a False Alarm" and other threats of violence or threats of terrorism defined by La. RS 17:409.2-409.3. "Threat of terrorism" means communication, whether oral, visual, or written, including but not limited to electronic mail, letters, notes, social media posts, text messages, blogs, or posts on any social networking website, of any crime of violence that would reasonably cause any student, teacher, principal, or school employee to be in sustained fear for his safety, cause the evacuation of a building, or cause other serious disruption to the operation of a school. "Threat of violence" means communication, whether oral, visual, or written, including but not limited to electronic mail, letters, notes, social media posts, text messages, blogs, or posts on any social networking website, of any intent to kill, maim, or cause great bodily harm to a student, teacher, principal, or school employee on school property or at any school function.

L. SEARCH AND SEIZURE POLICIES

State law allows any teacher, principal, school resource officer, and administrator in any parish or city school system of the state to search any building, desk, locker, area or grounds for evidence that the law, a school rule, or parish or city school board policy has been violated. The teacher, principal, school resource officer, or administrator may search the person of a student or his personal effects when, based on the attendant circumstances at the time of the search, there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated the law, a school rule, or a school board policy. Such a search shall be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to the purpose of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age or sex of the student and the nature of the suspected offense.

Random searches with a metal detector of students or their personal effects may be conducted at any time, provided they are conducted without deliberate touching of the student. No teacher, principal, school resource officer, or administrator shall be held personally liable for any action authorized and performed in accordance with state law and the school board policy regarding searches and seizures.

Upon the seizure by any public school teacher, principal, school resource officer, or administrator of any firearm, bomb, knife, or other implement which can be used as a weapon and the careless use of which might inflict harm or injury or any controlled dangerous substance as defined in La. R.S. § 40:961(7), the principal or his/her designated administrator shall report the confiscation of such implement or material to the appropriate law enforcement officials. The principal or his/her designated administrator may report the confiscation of any other implement or material.

Any implement or material mentioned herein that has to be reported to law enforcement officials shall be retained and secured by the school principal in such a manner as to prevent the destruction, alteration, or disappearance of it until such time as the law enforcement authority either takes custody of the implement or material or provides notice to the school principal that it need no longer be retained. In the case that it need not be retained, the school principal shall comply with the School Board policy regarding disposal of the item.

The failure of any principal or designated administrator to report the confiscation of such implement or material or the failure to retain and secure such implement or material shall be reported by the law enforcement authority to the employing School Board which shall take disciplinary action pursuant to Board policy.

M. REGULATIONS FOR VIOLENT BEHAVIOR

When a physical confrontation occurs on campus, during extracurricular activities, on a school bus, on the way to and from school (La R.S. 17:416), or at a bus stop, a thorough investigation of the incident will occur. If it is determined **THAT A PHYSICAL FIGHT OCCURRED**, the administrator will take the following action:

1. **High School (9-12):**
 - a. The law enforcement officials shall be contacted if deemed necessary. (If an arrest is made, an attempt will be made to contact a parent.)
 - b. The student shall be suspended and may be recommended for expulsion.

- c. The student shall be required to return to school with a parent before being readmitted to class.
2. **Junior High (Grades 6-8):**
 - a. The student shall be suspended and may be recommended for expulsion.
 - b. The law enforcement officials may be called at the discretion of the administrator.
 - c. The student shall be required to return to school with a parent before being readmitted to class.
3. **Elementary School (Grades PK-5):** The penalty will be at the discretion of the administrator, remaining in compliance with the ST. MARTIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD Discipline Policy Handbook. Law enforcement officials may be called at the discretion of the administration.
4. **For all Grades:** Staff will utilize, as appropriate, conflict resolution and restorative justice strategies, such as morning meeting, advisory, and class meetings as one part of the consequences for violation of these infractions.

N. ACTIONS THAT RESULT IN NOTIFICATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES

1. Any student found guilty of being in possession of a firearm, bomb, explosive device, or other implement which can be used as a weapon and the careless use of which might inflict harm or injury or any controlled dangerous substance as defined by La. R.S. 40:961(7), on school property, on a bus or at a school sponsored activity.
2. Any administrator, teacher, counselor, bus operator, or other District employee who learns of a threat of violence or threat of terrorism, whether through oral communication, written communication, or electronic communication must immediately report the threat to local law enforcement. La. RS § 17:409.2-409.3.
3. Any student involved with a bomb or explosive device threat or facsimile.
4. Any case involving any student engaging in any actions that may result in the assault of a school employee or student.
4. Any student leaving campus without permission.
5. Theft (at the discretion of the principal).
6. Any other situation where, in the judgment of the principal, a potentially dangerous situation exists which requires the assistance of law enforcement authorities.

O. PHYSICAL CONTROL OF STUDENTS

When a school employee reasonably perceives a student is escalating to the point at which physical confrontation is imminent, the employee is expected to orally diffuse the situation, if at all possible. When verbal diffusing is not successful, the employee is authorized to utilize reasonable and necessary force in the following non-exclusive situations:

1. When the student is at a point of no return psychologically and the outcome is unpredictable.
2. When the student presents a state of mind that leads the employee to conclude that a severe disruption can reasonably be foreseen.
3. When the student appears to the employee to pose a risk of injury to himself

or others or to flee from the scene to an unprotected area in an emotional outburst with an unpredictable outcome. The SRO has the discretion to utilize mechanical restraint. (ex. Handcuffs).

P. STUDENT DISCIPLINARY RECORDS

Student records are defined to be all official records, files, and data directly related to that student, specifically including but not necessarily limited to identifying data, academic work completed, level of achievement (grades, standardized test scores), attendance data, scores on standardized intelligence, aptitude, and psychological tests, interest inventory results, health data, family background information, teacher or counselor ratings and observations, and verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns.

Maintenance of Discipline Records

1. Pupil discipline records will be maintained on the parish computer system. This includes both minor and major disciplinary infractions.
2. Serious infractions, which include in-school and out-of-school suspensions as well as recommendations for expulsions, are maintained in hard copy by the school with copies to the Superintendent and Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance.
3. Disciplinary records are not to be filed in the student's cumulative folder. Such records are maintained by the principal, Supervisor of Child Welfare and Superintendent.

4. **POLICE INVOLVEMENT**

In any circumstance in which the person authorizing the inspection has reason to believe that any of the following conditions are present, a police officer's presence and assistance during the inspection may be sought or the search authority may be delegated directly to the police:

- a. The person authorized to perform the inspection might be in any type of physical danger while so performing it;
- b. The nature of the item sought is such (as in the case of drugs, weapons, bombs) that the police officer would be more readily able to make and identification of the item;
- c. There is a facially valid search warrant for such a search;
- d. The police officer's presence will enhance the safety of the student body; or
- e. Due to personnel allocations, the presence of the police officer is at the convenience of the school.

If information which gives rise to the inspection is provided by the police department and the school has a valid interest in performing an inspection in order to maintain the normal order and discipline of the school, the police officer may be invited to participate, but such invitation to participate shall not be required of the authorizing official. It is to be clearly understood by all who act pursuant to this rule that no officer shall, as a matter of right, have the authority to demand to make a search absent a facially valid search warrant or exigent circumstances recognized as allowing a warrantless search.

5. **OTHER EMERGENCY**

Regardless of any provision in this rule, nothing in this rule shall prevent any person from taking such action as may be reasonably deemed necessary or desirable in the face of a threat to life or property, and any item discovered during the course of such action shall be actionable as though it had been discovered during the course of an authorized inspection.

Q. SUBSTANCE ABUSE/TOBACCO/VAPING POLICY

Philosophy

The St. Martin Parish School System recognizes that the use of alcohol and other drugs and the problems associated with their use are becoming increasingly commonplace in our society and among youth. Therefore, not only because state law mandates but also because it is in the best interest of the community; the St. Martin Parish School Board directs that steps be taken to promote, enhance, and maintain an alcohol/drug free school system and student body. Along with parents and other segments of the community, the School Board has a role to play in helping students remain alcohol/drug free.

As a result of La. R.S. § 17:404(B)(1), relative to alcohol, drug, and substance abuse programs for students, the St. Martin Parish School System will implement the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education programs such that every student in grades kindergarten through nine is involved for a minimum of sixteen contact hour every school year and in grades 10-12 a minimum of eight contact hours every school year. The required minimum contact hours will be incorporated into a comprehensive school health program.

If appropriate, the school may exercise the authority granted by La. R.S. 40:1098.1 et seq. relative to alcoholism and addiction counseling and treatment for alcohol and drug abuse for minor children.

According to La. R.S. § 14:403.1, all school employees are required by law to report students who are in possession of, under the influence of, manufacturing, distributing, or possession with intent to distribute alcoholic beverages, over-the-counter medication, controlled dangerous substances, or any mood-altering chemicals. Any person who makes a report in good faith pursuant to substance abuse will have immunity from civil liability that otherwise might be incurred. La. R.S. § 17:416.3 (A), (C),(D), and (E) as explained in the **Search and Seizure Policy** also mandates the school system report such confiscation of such material to the appropriate law enforcement officials.

Policy and Procedures

Through the efforts of the school-based Student Assistance Teams (SAT) and the parish-wide Safe & Drug Free Schools & Communities Program, the St. Martin Parish Public School System intends to cooperate with all segments of the community in making the means of assistance available to all those individuals who develop alcohol or other drug-related problems. It is mandatory that school personnel report students suspected of substance abuse in our schools in accordance with the following policy and procedures: The possession, use, delivery, transfer or sale of alcoholic beverages, over-the-counter medication, controlled dangerous substances, prescription drugs, or any mood-altering chemicals by students while on school premises, school buses, or under school

supervision, is expressly forbidden.

1. When the principal or designee has reasonable cause to believe that a student has possessed, actually or constructively, manufactured, distributed, possessed with intent to distribute, used, delivered, transferred, sold, or is under the influence of alcoholic beverages, controlled dangerous substances, prescription drugs, or any mood-altering chemicals on school grounds, a school bus, or at a school sponsored activity in which the student is engaged either as a participant or a spectator, the student will immediately be suspended indefinitely pending a hearing for expulsion. Said expulsion hearing will be conducted within a reasonable time following said infraction. Constructive possession shall be defined as possession whereby a student has dominion and control over the contraband; i.e., possession in locker, vehicle or other area to which student has access.

The following procedures shall be followed:

- a. The student will be accorded due process rights as set forth in this policy.
- b. The parish safe and drug free school coordinator shall be immediately notified of the facts.
- c. The student's parent or guardian will be contacted as soon as reasonably possible under the circumstances and informed of the facts.
- d. The appropriate law enforcement officials will be notified. Therefore, this reporting requirement shall be in addition to the mandatory reports to law enforcement officials required by Louisiana law, including but not limited to La. R.S. 14:403.1.

If evidence presented by the principal or designee is sufficient, the student will be expelled. The student will be eligible to attend an alternative program, if one is available, with the exception of distribution or the intent to distribute controlled dangerous substances. Before a student is admitted into an alternative program the student and parent/legal guardian must agree to the following:

- a. The student must undergo a no-cost assessment/evaluation by a St. Martin Parish School Board approved assessment evaluation agency.
- b. The student must participate in a four-hour drug/refusal education program and the parent/legal guardian must participate in a two-hour drug/refusal education program presented by the School Board Safe and Drug Free Education Prevention Program. Substance abuse counseling/education by a certified counselor may be substituted for classes if proof is shown.

2. When a principal or designee, following a search initiated because a reasonable belief existed that the student was in possession of or distributed over-the-counter medication on school grounds, a school bus, or at a school sponsored activity in which the student is engaged as a participant or a spectator, and the search, as conducted under these conditions and in conformity with School Board policy in fact revealed that the student was indeed in possession of said over-the-counter medication, the parish safe and drug free education coordinator shall be

immediately notified of the facts and the following shall apply:

- a. The student will be suspended for a minimum of one to three days to a maximum of nine days with a recommendation for expulsion.
- b. The student must participate in a four-hour drug/refusal education activity and the parent/guardian must participate in a two-hour drug/refusal education activity presented by the School Board Safe and Drug Free Education Prevention Program.

3. When a principal or designee, following a search initiated because a reasonable belief existed that the student was in possession of drug paraphernalia, i.e., rolling paper, roach clips, stones, bongs, etc., on school grounds, a school bus, or at a school sponsored activity in which the student is engaged as a participant or a spectator, and the search, as conducted under these conditions and in conformity with School Board policy in fact revealed that the student was indeed in possession of said paraphernalia, the parish safe and drug free education coordinator shall be immediately notified of the facts and the following shall apply:

- a. The student will be suspended for a maximum of three days.
- b. The student must participate in a four-hour drug/refusal education activity and the parent/guardian must participate in a two-hour drug/refusal education activity presented by the School Board Safe and Drug Free Education Prevention Program.

4. When a principal or designee has reasonable cause to believe, and after verifying same, discovers that a student is in possession of or distributing any facsimile of alcohol, over-the-counter medication, controlled dangerous substance, or any mood-altering chemicals on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school sponsored activity in which the student is engaged as participant or a spectator, the parish safe and drug free education coordinator will be immediately notified of the facts and the following shall apply:

- a. Nine day suspension with recommendation for expulsion.
- b. Attend a four-hour drug/refusal education program. The parent/guardian must attend a two-hour drug/refusal education activity presented by the School Board Safe and Drug Free Education Prevention Program.

5. When a principal or designee has reasonable cause to believe, and after verifying same, discovers that a student is in possession of or using tobacco/vaping products while on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school sponsored activity in which the student is engaged as a participant or a spectator, the following will apply:

- a. First Offense – the student may be suspended for a maximum of 3 days and will be mandated to attend a two-hour anti-tobacco clinic sponsored by the school board safe and drug free education program.
- b. Second Offense - The student will be suspended for 5 days and will be mandated to attend a two-hour anti-tobacco clinic sponsored by the school board safe and drug free education program.

- c. Third Offense - The student shall be suspended for 9 days with a recommendation for expulsion.

R. CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES, VIDEOS/SOCIAL MEDIA POSTING

Electronic devices used to notify an individual of a phone call or message, are not allowed in a student's possession, in backpacks or lockers. Cell phones and similar electronic devices are prohibited for all students in grades pre-Kindergarten through grade 12. Meta glasses, are also prohibited. By definition meta glasses utilize a combination of hardware and software to provide features like hands-free calling and messaging, media capture, and integration with Meta AI. Students are prohibited from recording or posting any footage while on campus, a school bus or school sponsored activity.

When a principal or designee has reasonable cause to believe, and after verifying the same, discovers that a student is using or operating any electronic telecommunications device while on school grounds or on a school bus in violation of school board policy, that student shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The following consequences may be issued:

6. First Offense - Remove the device, call parent and device may be released to parent or held with parent permission (1 day Saturday Detention)
7. Second Offense - Remove the device, call parent (mandatory parent meeting) and device may be released to parent or held with parent permission (1 day Positive Behavior Center)
8. Third Offense - Remove the device, call parent and device may be released to parent (1 day Out of School Suspension)

Depending on the nature of the incident, a student can be recommended for expulsion on the first offense, if the safety of students and staff has been put in jeopardy.

S. WEAPONS POLICY

The possession or use of a weapon or look-alike weapon of any kind is prohibited. The possession or use of such shall include, but not be limited to any rifle or gun (loaded or unloaded, spring or air propelled, operable or inoperable), switchblade knife, hunting knife, star knife, pocket knife, razor, nun-chuck, brass knuckles, spiked glove, spiked wristband, pepper spray or similar agents, etc.

Any student who is found carrying or possessing a knife with a blade of any length may be suspended, and at a minimum will receive in-school suspension. Any student who is found carrying or possessing a knife with a blade which equals or exceeds 2 and one half inches in length shall be immediately suspended. For a knife exceeding 2 and a one half inches, a student shall be recommended for expulsion except in the case of a student less than 11 years of age AND in pre-kindergarten through grade 5. The principal may, but is not required to, recommend the student's expulsion in this case. The required discipline described in this section will not apply to a student carrying or possessing a knife for purposes of involvement in a school class or course or school-approved cocurricular or extracurricular activity or any other activity approved by the appropriate school officials.

Any student in kindergarten through grade five and who is found guilty pursuant to a hearing of being in possession of a firearm on school property, on a school bus, or in actual possession at a school-sponsored event will be expelled for a minimum period of two complete school semesters and shall be referred to the district attorney for appropriate action.

Any student who is under the age sixteen years and in grades six through twelve and who is found guilty pursuant to a hearing of being in possession of a firearm on school property, on a school bus, or in actual possession at a school-sponsored event will be expelled from school for a minimum period of four complete school semesters and will be referred to the district attorney for appropriate action.

Any student who is sixteen years of age or older and who is found guilty pursuant to a hearing of being in possession of a firearm on school property, on a school bus, or in actual possession at a school sponsored event will be expelled from school for a minimum period of four complete school semesters and will be referred to the district attorney for appropriate action.

T. PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Public displays of affection including but not limited to kissing, hands in pockets, sitting on laps, and intimate embracing is considered inappropriate behavior on school property and during school sponsored activities.

U. GENERAL/RANDOM METAL DETECTOR SEARCH POLICY

1. RATIONALE

The La. R.S. 14:95 and La. R.S. 17:416 prohibits the possession or carrying of weapons (firearms, knives or other implements or instruments which can be used as weapons) on school board property or at a school-sponsored activity. The unauthorized possession of electronic telecommunication devices or facsimile system on school board property or school-sponsored events is also prohibited by La. R.S. 17:239.

In light of such incidences nationwide and in furtherance of the law, and in order to provide a safer environment for students and employees, the St. Martin Parish School Board authorizes random and/or general searches with a hand-held or stationary metal detector of school board property, of students and non-students and any bags, parcels, purses, containers, and so forth, that they bring on to school board property or to school-sponsored activities. Such searches shall also be permitted when there is reasonable suspicion by school personnel that such person has any weapon, illegal drugs, alcohol, stolen goods or other materials or objects; the possession of which is in violation of school policy.

2. IMPLEMENTATION

a. NOTIFICATION

1) Annual Written Notification: At the start of each school year, parents and students shall receive written notification of the school district's policy to conduct unannounced searches of students and non-students on school board property and at school-sponsored events throughout the remainder of the school year. Once said notices have been disseminated,

these unannounced search procedures shall be implemented on a system-wide basis.

2) Posted Notices: Signs shall be posted outside entrances to school board facilities, on school buses, and at entrances to school-sponsored events to serve as notice to students and non-students that they are subject to a search with a metal detector or by other means, as a condition of entry, and that by the fact of their entry, they shall be deemed to have freely and voluntarily consented to such search of their persons and/or possessions for weapons, prohibited telecommunication devices or facsimile system, or other contraband.

b. REFUSAL TO COOPERATE WITH THE SEARCH

1) Refusal by non-students: Refusal by non-students to cooperate fully with a search shall result in their removal from school board property or school-sponsored activities.

2) Refusal by students: Students on school board property or at school-sponsored activity who refuse to cooperate fully with a search shall be suspended for "willful disobedience" as provided for in the school district's discipline policy handbook.

c. SUPERVISION: Student and non-student searches utilizing a metal detector shall be conducted only by the principal, assistant principal, parish-wide safe and drug free schools coordinator and/or appointed law enforcement personnel.

d. GENERAL SEARCHES: General searches shall be defined as the use of metal detectors to search all students who are present at school on the day of the search.

e. RANDOM SEARCHES: Random searches shall involve a search done with an identifiable group of students. Prior to the conduct of any random search, authorized school personnel shall determine the method of selecting subjects to be used for the search, e.g. every student in every third classroom, every fifth student/non-employee entering a building, a bus load of students, an entire class of students, students who eat lunch during a given lunch period, etc. Once determined, the selection procedure will be consistently applied throughout the conduct of that particular search. The parish-wide safe and drug free schools coordinator will be notified prior to the initiation of any random search. The principal will keep a record of all random searches.

f. PROCEDURES

1) Metal Detectors: When metal detectors are used, selected subjects shall be asked to remove all metal objects from their pockets and place the items on a designated tray or surface, along with any bags, parcels, or other containers being carried. The metal detector shall be passed over the subject's side, front and back and over his/her purse/book bag. If the detector activates on a subject, the authorized school official conducting the search shall request that any remaining metal objects be removed. The subject shall be searched with the metal detector once again. If the detector no longer activates, the search shall be concluded.

2) Personal Searches: Should the metal detector continue to activate, the subject shall be searched in the school office by authorized school

personnel (of the same sex whenever possible), in the presence of at least one other school board employee. The object causing the metal detector to activate shall be removed and the individual searched with the metal detector again. The search shall continue until the metal detector ceases to activate. Nothing shall be construed to afford a student an expectation of privacy, which would not otherwise exist. Personal searches shall not be malicious or willfully and deliberately intended to harass, embarrass, or intimidate the individual.

3) Media/Photographs: The media shall not be present during scanning activities nor shall pictures be taken of students who are being scanned.

g. DISPOSITION OF SUBJECT'S PROPERTY

1) Return of Property: All property removed from the subject that is not prohibited by board policy, local, state and federal law, or school rules, shall be returned to the subject upon completion of the search.

2) Discovery of Contraband: Should a subject be found in the possession of contraband (such as weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol, telecommunication devices, or other prohibited objects), the person conducting the search shall notify the principal/designee, who shall in turn immediately notify police, the child welfare and attendance officer and/or the safe and drug free schools coordinator and the subject's parent(s) if the subject is a student. Whenever feasible, the image of the contraband (guns should not be handled) shall be duplicated on a copier, the contraband should then be placed in a sealed container in a secure location. The law enforcement agent shall take custody of all weapons, other prohibited objects, and illegal drugs, and a receipt shall be obtained, and illegal drugs, and a receipt shall be obtained. Written documentation will be made of the incident, and the student given due process procedures.

h. CALIBRATION: Each detector shall be maintained and calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's directions. If the device is adjustable to differing levels of sensitivity the choice of adjustment shall be within the discretion of the operator.

i. NO OBLIGATION TO USE: Nothing in this policy requires that use of a metal detector, even if readily available, in preference to any other type of search.

V. CANINE SEARCH POLICY

RATIONALE: In furtherance of the law, and in order to provide a drug-free environment for students and employees, the St. Martin Parish School Board shall authorize searches of school board property and automobiles parked on school property using the services of canines whose reliability and accuracy for sniffing out contraband has been established.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Annual Written Notification: At the start of each school year, parents and students shall receive written notification of the school district's policy via student handbook to conduct unannounced canine searches of school board property during the school year. Once said notices have been disseminated, these unannounced search procedures shall be implemented on a system-wide basis.

2. Procedures: The school principal, assistant principal, parish safe and drug free schools and communities coordinator and/or the child welfare and attendance office shall request the services of a trained canine and handler from the appropriate law enforcement agency. The handler and the trained canine may also make unannounced periodic visits to the school but must obtain permission from the principal and/or assistant principal before activating a search. At the designated time, an announcement will be made over the intercom that all students must remain inside the classroom until further notice. The office must be notified in the case of an emergency and an escort will be provided for students with health/restroom emergencies, etc. Any student leaving the classroom is to be reported to the office immediately. The canine will be allowed to proceed throughout the property in the company of a qualified and authorized handler, an administrator, and a custodian/plant manager with lock cutters (where needed). The administrator will also have a list of assigned lockers. In the event the dog alerts at a locker, the student will be contacted and escorted to the locker. He/she will be directed to open the locker. In the event that a locker is unassigned, the lock will be cut. Canines shall not be used to search students.
3. Refusal to Cooperate with the Search: A student who refuses to cooperate fully with a search shall be suspended for "willful disobedience" as provided for in the school district's discipline policy.

W. AUTOMOBILE/VEHICLE SEARCH POLICY

Any student choosing to use the school parking facility to park their automobile/vehicle, whether or not those vehicles are student owned, may be searched by school administrators and law enforcement personnel working with such school administrators. Such search may be conducted without warrant for any reasonable purpose. Search of the automobile/vehicle includes all compartments and components thereof. Once a search begins, the person in control of the automobile/vehicle will not be permitted to remove it from the premises during the reasonable duration of the year.

The following sign shall be posted at the entrances to the parking lots.

**W A R N I N G
VEHICLES SUBJECT TO SEARCH**

Any vehicle entering this area is
subject to search by school authorities
and law enforcement personnel working
with them. Such search may be conducted
without a warrant for any reasonable purpose.

Search of the vehicle includes all

compartments and components thereof.
Once search begins, the person in control
of the vehicle will not be permitted to
remove it from the premises during the
reasonable duration of the search.

X. SEIZED CONTRABAND POLICY

Any items confiscated by school administrators shall be held by the administrator until disposed of in the appropriate manner.

1. Any illegal weapons, drugs, medication or drug paraphernalia shall be turned over to the Supervisor of Child Welfare and Attendance or law enforcement officials and shall be considered forfeit.
2. Confiscated cell phones, beepers and telecommunication devices shall be turned over to the parent/guardian.
3. All other belongings confiscated, unless involved in a crime, may be retrieved from the school administrator by a parent or guardian.

Y. OFF CAMPUS CONTROL POLICY

All disciplinary action normally available with regard to a student for violation of school rules or other clear misconduct on-campus shall be available for any activity away from campus, whether or not school is in session when such activity occurs, if such off-campus activity may be reasonably interpreted to threaten the ability of the school system to maintain a safe, orderly and disciplined educational atmosphere. This policy is not limited to school sponsored and school related events.

When it is brought to the attention of the school system that a student has engaged in such conduct off-campus, the superintendent of the parish and/or principal of the school which the student attends shall conduct such investigation as the superintendent and/or principal feels is necessary and proper under circumstances and may initiate disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion, in the same fashion as if the action had occurred on campus. In conducting such an investigation, the superintendent and/or principal or his/her representative may cooperate with law enforcement authorities.

By way of illustration, but not by way of limitation, the following actions shall be the subject of disciplinary and action under this section:

1. Any use or threat of use of a firearm or other dangerous implement against another person by a student.
2. Any fighting off campus as an extension of an on-campus situation or relationship.
3. Any threat against an employee of the school system purposely calculated to cause fear or which the person issuing the threat should know will result in fear.
4. Intimidation of or threat of violence against any student, teacher, or other person by a student known to the school or known to local law enforcement agencies to be a member of a gang whose activities are not permitted on campus.
5. Any illegal sale or distribution of controlled dangerous substances or facsimile thereof off campus to any person. The term "controlled substances" shall be defined by the Louisiana Criminal Code.
6. The commission of any act, which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a

felony under state or federal law. School action with regard to such matter shall be independent and arrest, indictment, trial, conviction or acquittal in the criminal or juvenile courts shall not be determination of the action necessary for the school to maintain a safe, orderly and disciplined educational environment.

Z. FEES AND FINES DUES FOR LOST OR DESTROYED TEXTBOOKS AND ANY OTHER SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are required to pay full price for textbooks and library books, which are lost or damaged beyond use. The School Board also requires students to pay for any other school property damaged as a result of student misconduct.

AA. SUICIDE/HOMICIDE THREAT POLICY

When a principal, assistant principal, school counselor and/or social worker has reasonable cause to believe that a student is suicidal and/or homicidal the following procedures shall be followed:

7. The Health Center Social Worker/Counselor shall be contacted immediately. *(If not available and/or time does not permit, the principal or his/her designee shall proceed with the following steps.)*
8. The parent/legal guardian shall be contacted immediately.
9. The student shall be put on "suicide" or "homicide watch" immediately (Student is to be under observation at all times).
10. A parent conference or contact shall take place.
11. The student shall be released directly to the parent, guardian or the parent's designee. *The student should not be allowed to ride the bus or walk home.*
12. An assessment will be required before the student is allowed to return back to school stating, "The child has been assessed and is able to return to school." If the assessment is not done within five (5) school days, the Office of Community Services must be notified by the principal or his/her designee.

BB. DISCIPLINE COMPLAINT PROCESS

In addition to the due process procedures described in this policy, parents may also submit complaints to the District regarding the administration of student discipline. These complaints will be handled according to the Student Complaints and Grievances policy of the Board, which is contained in the Appendix. Questions about this process may be submitted to the Child Welfare and Attendance Supervisor at (337) 332-2105 Ext. 2819 or kevin_bonhomme@saintmartinschools.org.

APPENDIX

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

The St. Martin Parish School Board, recognizing that problems may arise in schools, shall require student concerns, complaints or grievances to be registered with the school principal or designee. If concerns of students cannot be resolved informally, a written complaint shall be initiated, dated and signed by the complainant, and submitted to the principal.

For the discussion and consideration of the grievance, any student or group of students should request in writing a meeting time and place of the school principal. One faculty member or other designated representative may be present at such meeting. Such time and place will be designated immediately upon receipt of the written request.

If a grievance is not satisfactorily resolved after meeting with the principal, a student or group of students shall follow the procedures outlined in policy [GAE, Non-Title IX Complaints and Grievances](#), for further consideration of their grievance.

St. Martin Parish School Board