

MISSION STATEMENT
Dedicated to providing opportunities to generate success for all.

BRIDGEPORT JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023-2024 Edition



Bridgeport Public Schools
800 Q Street
Bridgeport, NE 69336
Phone: 308.262.0346

Jason Blanco - Principal - jblanco@bpsbulldogs.org

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<https://wwwbpsbulldogs.org/>

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WELCOME

Dear Students and Parents:

On behalf of the faculty, administration, and board of education, we welcome you to another school year. We are looking forward to helping your children reach their learning potential and achieve their educational goals in the upcoming year.

Please read this handbook carefully. Students and their parents are responsible for knowing the rules, regulations, and procedures covered in this handbook. The student handbook is an extension of school policies and has the force and effect of board policy when approved by the board of education.

There are several forms at the end of this handbook which you must read, sign and return no later than Friday, August 26th.

This handbook contains information of value to every student and parent. It contains explanations of school regulations and procedures necessary for our school to run smoothly and efficiently. If you are ever in doubt about what is the right thing to do, ask a classroom teacher, or contact our office.

Sincerely,

Jason Blanco
7-12 Principal
Email: jblanco@bpsbulldogs.org

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Intent of Handbook

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules, procedures, and general information about this school district. Students and their parents must become familiar with the handbook, and parents should use it as a resource and assist their children in following the rules contained in it. The use of the word "parents" refers to any adult who has the responsibility for making education-related decisions about a child, including, but not limited to biological parents, adoptive parents, legal guardians, and adults acting in loco parentis.

Although the information in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, it is not intended to be all-encompassing or to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during a school day or school year. This handbook does not create a "contract" with parents, students or staff, and the administration may make decisions and rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to ensure the wellbeing of all students. The administration is responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. If a situation or circumstance arises that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based on applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

This school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age or in admission or access to, or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning this school district's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact Superintendent Schlothauer in writing at Bridgeport Public Schools, PO Box 430, Bridgeport, NE 69336 or by telephone at (308) 262-1470. For further assistance, you may also contact Office for Civil Rights (Kansas City Office), U.S. Department of Education, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, MO 64114-3302, Telephone: 816-268-0550, FAX: 816-823-1404; TDD: 877-521-2172, Email: OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov. Also see the "Discrimination and Harassment" section below.

SECTION ONE

BASIC SCHOOL RULES AND GENERAL PRACTICES

Attendance

Required Attendance

Every person residing in the school district who has legal or actual charge or control of any child who is of mandatory attendance age shall cause that child to attend a public or private school regularly unless the child has graduated from high school or has been allowed to disenroll pursuant to this policy.

Mandatory Attendance Age

All children who are or will turn six years old before January 1 of the current school year are of mandatory attendance age. Children who have not turned eighteen years of age are of mandatory attendance age.

Exceptions

This policy does not apply when temporary illness or severe weather conditions make attendance impossible or impracticable.

A child who will not reach age 7 before January 1 of the current school year may be excused from mandatory attendance if the child's parent or guardian completes an affidavit affirming that alternative educational arrangements have been made for the child. A copy of the required affidavit is attached to this policy.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 16 and 17 Year Old Students

Only children who are at least 16 years of age may be dis-enrolled from the district. The person seeking to discontinue the child's enrollment shall submit a signed, written request and submit it to the superintendent. The district will consider requests to disenroll.

Only children disenrolling to attend a non-accredited school may be exempt from this policy. The person with legal or actual charge or control of the child must provide the superintendent with a copy of the signed request

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submitted to the State Department of Education for attending non-accredited schools. The superintendent may confirm the validity of the submission with the State Department of Education.

Attendance Officer

Each building principal is designated as an attendance officer for the district. Each building principal, at his or her discretion, may delegate these responsibilities to any other qualified individual. The attendance officer is responsible for enforcing the provisions of state law relating to compulsory attendance. This responsibility includes but is not limited to filing a report with the county attorney of the county in which a student resides. Compensation for the duties of attendance officer is included in the salary for the superintendent or designee.

Excused Absences

The following absences will be considered excused if they are confirmed by communication to the school from the student's parent/guardian:

- **Illness of the student that requires the student to seek medical attention
- **Severe weather
- **Medical appointments for the student (Documentation Required)
- **Death or serious illness of the student's family member
- **Attending a funeral, wedding or graduation
- **Appearance at court or for other legal matters
- **Observance of religious holidays of the student's own faith
- **College planning visits

Students who have more than 9 unexcused absences in a semester may lose credit in those classes for the current semester.

Excessive Absenteeism

When a student receives 9 unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent in any semester, the Attendance Officer will follow the attached procedure for addressing barriers to the student's attendance.

When a student is absent more than 20 days per year or the hourly equivalent and any portion of the absences is unexcused, the Attendance Officer may/shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the student resides.

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Absences due to illness

The school district will contact parents if a student becomes ill at school. A student who is absent due to illness has two days for each day of absence to complete missed assignments.

Planned absences

Parents who know in advance that a student will be absent must call the school or send a written note at the earliest possible date. Students who will be absent for reasons that can be anticipated, such as routine medical appointments and school activities, must complete any work required by the teacher before the absence. Parents should make every attempt to schedule medical and other appointments after school hours when possible.

Students are obligated to:

- 1) complete all class work in advance for any absence that can be anticipated;
- 2) attend school a full day before attending practice or participating in a scheduled student activity except in cases of family emergencies or pre-arranged absences;
- 3) check out of school at the office if leaving school during the school day; and
- 4) make up any and all work that is assigned by teachers as make-up work for the instructional time that has been missed.

Parents are obligated to:

- 1) call the appropriate building office to inform the school of the reason for each absence; and
- 2) submit a doctor's statement, if requested, for each period of absence due to illness that exceeds five days.

Band

Students in grades 7-8 may participate in the middle school band; grades 9-12 may participate in the high school band. Instruments will be provided by students or the school as provided by school policy. Fees may be charged as allowed or provided in the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act and the school's student fee policy or other applicable policy.

Bills

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Students should pay bills for supplies, fines, shop materials, clothing orders, etc. in the school bookkeeper's office. Any check for these payments should be made out to Bridgeport Public Schools unless otherwise instructed. Pursuant to board policy, the district will assess an additional penalty of \$30 for any check returned from the bank for insufficient funds.

When students purchase items of significant value, such as class rings and letter jackets, they must make payment at the time of purchase or when the order is placed.

Books and Supplies

Students must take care of books and other supplies provided by the district. The school may assess fines for damage to books and school property.

Students must supply their own consumable items such as pens, pencils, tablets, notebooks, erasers, and crayons. Each classroom teacher will prepare a supply list for students at the beginning of the school year.

Bulletin Boards

Bulletin boards are maintained throughout the building to communicate general information, material, and school announcements. Students should check the bulletin boards carefully each school day.

Bulletin board or electronic publishing space may be provided for the use of students and student organizations for notices relating to matters of general interest to students. The following general limitations apply to all posting or publishing:

1. All postings must be approved by the appropriate building principal or designee. Students may not post any material containing any statement or expression that is libelous, obscene, or vulgar; that would violate board of education policies, including the student code of conduct; or that is otherwise inappropriate for the school environment.
2. All postings must identify the student or the student organization posting or publishing the notice.

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3. Material shall be removed after a reasonable time to assure full access to the bulletin boards or electronic publishing media.

Bullying

Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of bullying. "Bullying" means any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events. The disciplinary consequences for bullying will depend on the severity, frequency, duration, and effect of the behavior and may result in sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students who believe they are being bullied should immediately inform a teacher, school counselor or the building principal.

Cafeteria Rules

1. All food is to be eaten by the student or left on the tray when returned to the dishwasher. All straws, papers, milk cartons should be deposited in the trash cans. All leftover food should be scraped off the tray onto the correct container.
2. Forks and spoons should be placed in the pan with water, NOT THROWN AWAY!
3. Students are to use proper manners including eating quietly.
4. There will be no throwing of food or other items.
5. Second servings are available to those who have made an effort to clean their trays.
6. Jr high students should remain at their tables until they are dismissed. Students are expected to either eat lunch at school or go to their own homes. Parents must provide a written authorization for their student to eat lunch at home.
7. Students must treat lunch personnel with respect.
8. Students who violate the above rules will be disciplined.
9. 9-12 grades will have an open campus. 9-12 graders may drive off of campus for lunch but must return to school and report to class prior to the tardy bell ringing. Open campus is a privilege not a right. Open campus may be revoked for students who are late returning. This will be handled on a case by case basis.

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Candy and Gum

Students may not bring candy or gum to school unless they have prior permission from their classroom teacher or the administration.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

Students may not use cellular (cell) phones or other electronic devices (i.e. mobile devices) while at school, except as permitted in this handbook.

Students shall not use mobile devices in a manner that is a distraction to the educational process. Students should not be using their mobile devices without permission of their teacher. If a student is using their mobile device in a manner that is disruptive the following consequences may occur:

1. Verbal warning
2. Device confiscated — Student pick it up at the end of the school day;
3. Device confiscated — Parent pick it up at the end of school day;
4. Consequence TBD

Child Abuse and Neglect

School employees will report suspected abuse or neglect of a child as required by state law and school policy. Nebraska law defines abuse or neglect as knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child or an incompetent or disabled person to be (1) placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health; (2) cruelly confined or cruelly punished; (3) deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter or care; (4) left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such child is six years of age or younger; or (5) sexually abused.

Class Dismissal

Classes are in session from the ringing of the tardy bell until the teacher dismisses the class. The bell at the end of the period is not a dismissal bell, and students may not leave their classrooms until they have been excused by their classroom teacher.

Classroom Behavior

Student behavior and attitude in the classroom must be cooperative and serious. All students must:

- arrive to class on time;
- prepare for class with all necessary materials;
- be considerate of others;
- respond promptly to all directions of the teacher; and

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- take care of school property and the property of others.

Teachers will establish classroom conduct rules which students must obey.

Closed Campus

Junior high students will not be allowed to leave campus during the lunch period. They will be required to go to the cafeteria. They may eat hot lunch or bring a sack lunch. All federal regulations to the lunch program must be followed. Students may leave campus to go home for lunch if they have secured their parents' written permission and submitted it to the office.

Communicable Diseases

Any student who has contracted a contagious disease may be restricted from attendance at school until the student is no longer contagious. The school district uses the Title 173- Nebraska Health and Human Services/Control of Communicable Disease, Chapter 3 of the Nebraska Administrative Code as a "best practice" guideline for contagious and infectious diseases. If there are questions regarding the communicability of your child's health condition or if you know your child has contracted a contagious or communicable disease or condition, please call the school nurse.

Communicating with Parents

Parents shall be kept informed of student progress, grades, and attendance through PowerSchool, report cards, progress reports, and parent/teacher conferences. The school district will notify parents if their students are failing or close to failing. The school district will endeavor to notify parents of failing students prior to entry of the failing grade on the student's report card. Parents will also be notified of their student's possible failure to meet graduation requirements. Other pertinent information will be communicated to parents by email, mail or by personal contact. Official transcripts of student progress, grades, and attendance will be sent to other school systems upon the student's transfer when the district receives a written request signed by the student's parent or guardian or upon being notified that the student has enrolled in another school.

Computer Network Use by Students

**Students are required to acknowledge, sign, and abide by the Bridgeport Schools Acceptable Use Policy. See form attached in this handbook.

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Complaint Procedure

Good communication helps to resolve many misunderstandings and disagreements. This complaint procedure applies to board members, patrons, students and school staff, unless the staff member is subject to a different grievance procedure pursuant to policy or contract. Individuals who have a complaint should discuss their concerns with appropriate school personnel in an effort to resolve problems. When such efforts do not resolve matters satisfactorily, including matters involving discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age, a complainant should follow the procedures set forth below:

1. The first step is for the complainant to speak directly to the person(s) with whom the complainant has a concern. For example, a parent who is unhappy with a classroom teacher should initially discuss the matter with the teacher. However, the complainant should skip the first step if the complainant believes speaking directly to the person would subject the complainant to discrimination or harassment.
2. The second step is for the complainant to speak to the building principal, Title IX/504 coordinator, superintendent of schools, or president of the board of education, as set forth below.
 - a) Complaints about the operation, decisions, or personnel within a building should be submitted to the principal of the building.
 - b) Complaints about the operations of the school district or a building principal should be submitted in writing to the superintendent of schools.
 - c) Complaints about the superintendent of schools should be submitted in writing to the president of the board of education.
 - d) Complaints involving discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age may also be submitted, at any time during the complaint procedure to the School District's Title IX/504 coordinator. Complaints involving discrimination or harassment may also be submitted at any time to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: by email at OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov; by telephone at (816) 268-0550; or by fax at (816) 268-0599.

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3. When a complainant submits a complaint to an administrator or to the Title IX/504 coordinator, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
 - a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the staff member involved.
 - 1) If the complainant has not, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with that staff member, if appropriate.
 - 2) If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the staff member, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 - b) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 - c) Interview the complainant to determine:
 - 1) All relevant details of the complaint;
 - 2) All witnesses and documents which the complainant believes support the complaint;
 - 3) The action or solution which the complainant seeks.
 - d) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator received the complaint.
4. A complainant who is not satisfied with the administrator's or the Title IX/504 coordinator's decision regarding a complaint may appeal the decision to the superintendent.
 - a) This appeal must be in writing.

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- b) This appeal must be received by the superintendent no later than ten (10) business days from the date the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) The superintendent will investigate as he or she deems appropriate. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - d) Upon completion of this investigation, the superintendent will inform the complainant in writing of his or her decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the superintendent shall submit the decision within 180 days after the superintendent received the complainant's written appeal.
5. A complainant who is not satisfied with the superintendent's decision regarding a complaint may appeal the decision to the board.
- a) This appeal must be in writing.
 - b) This appeal must be received by the board president no later than ten (10) business days from the date the superintendent communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) This policy allows, but does not require the board to receive statements from interested parties and witnesses relevant to the complaint appeal. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - d) The board will notify the complainant in writing of its decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the board shall submit its decision within 180 days after it received complainant's written appeal.
 - e) There is no appeal from a decision of the board.
6. When a formal complaint about the superintendent of schools has been filed with the president of the board, the president shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:

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- a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the superintendent.
 - 1) If the complainant has not, the board president will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with the superintendent, if appropriate.
 - 2) If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the superintendent, the board president shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
- b) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
- c) Determine, in his or her sole discretion, whether to place the matter on the board agenda for consideration at a regular or special meeting.
- d) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the president received the complaint.

The school district prohibits retaliation against any person for filing a complaint or for participating in the complaint procedure in good faith.

Conferences

Students' academic success has been closely linked to parental involvement in school. The school district has formal parent-teacher conferences during the spring and the fall.

In addition to formal conferences, classroom teachers will communicate with parents as necessary. Parents are encouraged to communicate with their student's teacher or the building principal to discuss parental concerns, student needs or any other issue.

Contact Information

Parents must supply the school with their student's address and telephone number as well as information about how to reach a responsible adult during

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the school day. Parents must promptly inform the school if this contact information changes during the school year.

Damage to School Property

Students who damage school property either intentionally or unintentionally may be required to pay to replace or restore the property, at the discretion of the administration.

Dating Violence

Dating violence, as that term is defined by Nebraska law, will not be tolerated by the school district. Students who engage in dating violence on school grounds, in a school vehicle or at a school activity or that otherwise violates the Nebraska Student Discipline Act will receive consequences consistent with the Act and the district's student discipline policies.

The school district shall provide dating violence training to staff deemed appropriate by the administration and in accordance with Nebraska law.

Discrimination and Harassment

The school district prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon or related to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, marital status, disability, age or any other unlawful basis that (1) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment, (2) has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's school performance, or (3) otherwise adversely affects a student's school opportunities. Students who believe that they have been the subject of unlawful discrimination or harassment due to their disability should contact the following Section 504 Coordinator: Superintendent Schlothauer at (308) 262-1470, gschlothauer@bpsbulldogs.org or in person at school. Students who believe that they have been the subject of unlawful discrimination or harassment due to their sex should contact the following Title IX Coordinator: Superintendent Schlothauer at (308)262-1470, gschlothauer@bpsbulldogs.org or in person at school. Students who believe that they have been the subject of any other unlawful discrimination or harassment should contact the Superintendent at (308) 262-1470, gschlothauer@bpsbulldogs.org or in person at school. Students may report discrimination or harassment to any staff member who will then forward it onto the appropriate coordinator or administrator. The staff member will follow school district policies to respond to the report.

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Dress Code

Students must come to school dressed in clean, neat and appropriate clothing to conform with educational standards.

Students are prohibited from wearing the following attire:

1. Clothing displaying indecent, suggestive or profane writing, pictures or slogans
2. Clothing that advertises or displays alcohol, tobacco or any illegal substance
3. Caps, hats and bandanas during the school day or at school-sponsored events
4. Bare feet (some type of footwear must be worn)
5. Short-shorts, biker shorts, or cutoffs which do not sufficiently cover the student.
6. Any clothing that could cause damage to others or school property
7. Clothing that is torn, ripped, or cut
8. Bare "midriff" (belly button) styles, see-through and low cut blouses, halters, or tank tops or thin-strapped tops (spaghetti straps)
9. Pants and shorts worn below the waist so as to expose undergarments
10. Chains hanging or attached to pants or shorts
11. Coats during school hours unless the student has permission from a faculty member
12. Clothing with tears or holes that expose flesh or underclothes
13. Any item that causes a material and substantial disruption

Students who violate dress code guidelines will be required to correct the violation by changing into something appropriate at school or returning home to change. A detention or suspension may be given to make up the time away from school. Repeated dress code violations may result in more severe consequences.

Driving and Parking Personal Vehicles

Students who drive privately owned motor vehicles to school must obey the following rules:

1. Students may not move their vehicles during the school day without the permission of the building principal or superintendent. Students will not be allowed to sit in or be around their vehicles during the school day, without administrative permission.
2. Students must drive with care to ensure the safety of the pedestrians. Students may not drive carelessly or with excessive speed.

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3. By driving personal vehicles to school and parking on school grounds, students consent to having that vehicle searched by school officials when they have reasonable suspicion that such a search will reveal a violation of school rules.

Drug Free Schools

The board of education has adopted policies to comply with the Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. Students are prohibited from using, possessing or selling any drug, alcohol or tobacco while on school grounds, at a school activity or in a school vehicle. In addition, students who participate in the school's activities program should refer to the Activities Handbook which prohibits the use or possession of alcohol, controlled substances and tobacco at all times.

Any student who violates any school policy regarding drug, alcohol and tobacco use will be disciplined, up to and including short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion from school and/or referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution.

Use of Sniffer Dogs

The board of education finds that the possession of illegal drugs and other contraband on school grounds is unlawful, is disruptive of the educational process, is harmful to students and staff, and is contrary to the interests of the school district. Accordingly, to minimize the presence of these items on school grounds, the administration is authorized to use sniffer dogs according to the protocol set forth in this policy.

Protocol for Use of Sniffer Dogs

1. The superintendent, or the building principal with the superintendent's permission, may initiate the use of specially trained sniffer dogs to conduct an inspection.
2. The administration will contact the canine provider and/or the appropriate law enforcement agency to schedule the use of a sniffer dog or dogs. The administration shall require an assurance from the provider that any sniffer dogs to be used in the school have been properly trained, and may request evidence of the training and/or certification of the dogs. In no event will the school district authorize a sniffer dog to sniff any person.

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3. The superintendent or if designated by the superintendent, the building principal, and law enforcement representatives or canine provider will confer regarding the specific plan of areas to be inspected. The plan may involve any or all school building facilities, vehicles in the school parking lot, or other areas where student and staff vehicles are parked on school property during or after school hours.
4. If the inspection is scheduled for a day when school is in session, students and staff will be informed over the public address system, and will be directed to remain in their rooms until given further directions.
5. During the inspection, administrators may assign personnel to designated areas as deemed appropriate to assist in the smooth handling of the inspection.
6. After the inspection is finished, students and staff will be notified over the public address system, and will be thanked for their cooperation.
7. If the sniffer dog alerts, the alert will constitute reasonable cause for the administration to conduct a search of the property. If the sniffer dog alerts on a vehicle on school grounds, the owner will be required to unlock the vehicle doors and trunk for further inspection of the interior of the vehicle. If the owner refuses to unlock the vehicle, the matter will be turned over to law enforcement authorities. The owner will be subject to disciplinary action as specified in board policy and/or the student or staff handbook or as otherwise allowed by law. This may include discipline for the refusal to obey an administrative directive.
8. Any illegal drugs or contraband found on school grounds, whether in a desk, locker, vehicle, or any other place on school grounds, will be confiscated and turned over to law enforcement authorities. A student's parents will be contacted. The individual will be subject to disciplinary action as specified in board policy and/or the student or staff handbook or as otherwise allowed by law.
9. At the conclusion of the inspection, school officials will confer with the canine provider and/or any law enforcement authorities who were involved in the inspection to review the results of the inspection. The administration may authorize any follow-up inspections or other action deemed appropriate.

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NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND STAFF

Students and staff shall be informed of the District policy regarding the use of sniffer dogs as soon as practicable after the adoption of this policy.

Thereafter, students and staff shall be informed of the policy at the beginning of the school year. By this policy and/or via the provision in the student or staff handbook, students and staff are specifically notified that:

1. Lockers may be sniffed by sniffer dogs at any time.
2. Vehicles parked on school property may be sniffed by sniffer dogs at any time.
3. Classrooms and other common areas may be sniffed by sniffer dogs at any time students and staff are not present.
4. If contraband of any kind is found, the student or staff member shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Emergency Contact Information

Parents must complete an emergency information card for each child enrolled in the district. The card should list the family physician's name, where parents or a responsible adult can be located, and any necessary emergency instructions.

Evacuations

The school district will hold routine evacuation drills throughout the school year. Whenever the fire alarm sounds, all students and faculty must evacuate the building in a quiet and orderly fashion and remain outside until told to return to the building. Classroom teachers will provide students with detailed instructions on building evacuations.

Eye Exams

All students enrolling in kindergarten or transferring into the school district from out of state must undergo a visual examination by a physician, a physician assistant, an advanced practice registered nurse, or an optometrist, which consists of testing for amblyopia, strabismus, and internal and external eye health, with testing sufficient to determine visual acuity, except that no such physical examination or visual evaluation shall be required of any child whose parent or guardian objects in writing. They must provide evidence of the vision examination within six months prior to entrance. The cost of such physical examination and visual evaluation shall be borne by the parent or guardian of each child who is examined.

Food Service Program

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The school district provides a food service program that is designed to provide adequate nutrition and an educational experience for students.

Breakfast

The school will serve breakfast daily from 7:30 a.m. until 7:55 a.m. All students eat for free.

Lunch

The school will serve 7-12 lunch from 12:30 to 1:00 PM Daily. Campus is open for 9-12 only. Lunch is free for students.

Notice of Non-discrimination

In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20230-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Field Trips

Classes occasionally take field trips off school property for educational enrichment. A student's parent must authorize a student to participate in a field trip by signing a permission slip and providing it to the school before the field trip. Students who have not completed classroom work on time may not be allowed to attend field trips. Students must comply with the student code of conduct, any applicable extracurricular conduct codes, and all directives by trip chaperones.

First-Aid

First-aid items may only be used by school staff. Students who need first aid should ask for assistance from their classroom teacher or the nearest staff member.

Head Lice

Students found to have head lice, louse eggs, or nits will not be permitted at school and will be sent home. Upon discovering the presence of any indication of lice, louse eggs, or nits, the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified, and if appropriate will be asked to pick up the student from school immediately.

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Students will not be permitted to return to school until the district finds that no live lice, eggs, or nits can be detected. The parent(s) or guardian(s) will be required to treat the student and accompany the student to school to be examined.

The student cannot ride the school bus until the district has cleared the student to return to school.

Health Problems

Parents who do not want their children to play outdoors or participate in physical education for health reasons must send a written request to school. If a student persistently requests to be excused from these activities, the building principal or classroom teacher may require a doctor's verification.

Parents should notify the principal or superintendent if their student has any special health problems such as diabetes, asthma, and the like.

Homebound Instruction

The school district may provide a student with instruction in his or her home and under parental supervision if the student is physically or mentally ill or injured and unable to attend regular classes for an extended period of time. Homebound instruction shall be provided when the student's physical and mental condition are such that the student can benefit from instruction and no other provision will meet the student's educational needs. If you believe that homebound instruction is appropriate for your child, please contact the building principal to initiate the appropriate process to determine eligibility.

Homeless Children and Youth

Homeless students generally include children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, as further defined by applicable state and federal law.

It is the school's policy not to stigmatize or segregate homeless students on the basis of their status of being homeless. Transportation for homeless students who enroll in the district shall be furnished by the district under the same guidelines applying to other students or if such transportation is necessary for compliance with federal law.

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Each homeless child shall be provided services for which the child is eligible comparable to services provided to other students in the school selected regardless of residency. Homeless children shall be provided access to education and other services that such children need to ensure that they have an opportunity to meet the same student performance standards to which all students are held.

If a homeless child registered to attend school in the district is receiving family reconciliation services pursuant to state law, the district will work in cooperation with any county or department of social services in the district to jointly develop an educational program for the child. The district's homeless coordinator is Superintendent Schlothauer, who may be contacted at (308) 262 1470.

Illness or Injury at school

Students who feel ill or are hurt while at school should seek immediate assistance from their classroom teacher or the nearest staff member. The school will contact parents to pick students up from school whenever necessary. When school officials determine that a student needs immediate medical attention but the parents cannot be reached by phone, emergency services will be summoned or the student will be taken directly to the doctor and/or hospital. Parents must complete an emergency information card for each child enrolled in the district. The card should list the family physician's name, where parents or a responsible adult can be located, and any necessary emergency instructions.

Immunizations

All students must furnish one of the following to school officials:

- proof of adequate immunizations for mumps, measles, rubella; diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus; polio; and hepatitis B series; or
- a signed parental statement of refusal to provide the immunization history. Homeless students who are in need of immunizations will be referred to the homeless coordinator, who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations or medical records.

Provisional Enrollment.

Students who meet the statutory requirements for provisional enrollment shall be allowed to attend school for sixty days without the necessary immunizations.

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Students who are excepted from the immunization requirement may be excluded from school in the event of an outbreak of any contagious disease in the school population.

Initiations and Hazing

Initiations by classes, clubs, or athletic teams are prohibited except by permission of the administration. Hazing in connection with any school organization is absolutely prohibited. Hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any school organization. Hazing activities include, but are not limited to whipping, beating, branding, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act that endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person.

Lockers and Other School Property

The school district owns and exercises exclusive control over student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property. Students should not expect privacy regarding usage of or items placed in or on school property, because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Periodic, random searches of lockers, desks, computers and other such property may be conducted at the discretion of the administration. The assignment of a locker is on a temporary basis and may be revoked at any time. School officials may inspect student lockers without any particularized suspicion or reasonable cause.

Lost and Found

All lost and found articles are to be taken to elementary or secondary offices. Students may claim lost articles there. Unclaimed articles will be donated to a local charity or otherwise disposed of at the conclusion of each semester.

Medications

Whenever possible, parents should arrange medication schedules to eliminate the need for giving medication during school hours. When it is necessary for school personnel to administer medication to students, the school district will comply with the Nebraska Medication Aide Act, the requirements of Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 59,

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(promulgated by the Nebraska Department of Education and entitled *Methods of Competency Assessment of School Staff Who Administer Medication*), and all state and federal regulations. Parents and guardians who wish to have their child receive medication from school personnel must comply with the following procedures:

Prescription medication. (1) Parents/guardians must provide a physician's written authorization for the administration of the medication. (2) Parents/guardians must provide their own written permission for the administration of the medication. (3) The medication must be brought to school in the prescription container and must be properly labeled with the student's name, the physician's name, and directions for administering the medication.

Non-prescription medication. (1) Parents/guardians must provide written permission for the administration of the medication. (2) The medication must be brought to the school in the manufacturer's container. (3) The container must be labeled with the child's name and with directions for provision or administration of the medication

The district reserves the right to review and decline requests to administer or provide medications that are not consistent with standard pharmacological references, are prescribed in doses that exceed those recommended in standard pharmacological references, or that could be taken in a manner that would eliminate the need for giving them during school hours. The district may request parental authorization to consult with the student's physician regarding any medication prescribed by such physician.

Media Center

Students must check out materials from the librarian on duty. Each borrower is responsible for all books checked out in his/her name. Students with overdue materials will not be allowed to check out materials until their books are returned. If a book is lost and not found by the end of the semester, the student must pay for it. Students must also pay for any damage they cause to library books.

Memorials

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Memorials or plaques honoring the deceased students are generally not allowed in or on the school grounds. Dedications to students will not be allowed.

Scholarships in the deceased person's name will not be set up by the school. Scholarships set up by outside organizations or individuals will be allowed.

Parental Involvement

The school district recognizes the unique needs of students who are being served in its Title I program, and the importance of parent and family engagement in the Title I program. Parental Involvement in the Title I Program shall include:

1. An annual meeting to which all parents of participating children will be invited to inform parents of their schools participation under this part, to explain the requirements of this part and the right of the parents to be involved. Invitations may take the form of notes sent with students or announcements in the school newsletter. Additional meetings may be scheduled, based upon need and interest for such meetings.
2. Notification to the parent(s) or guardian of a student's eligibility to participate in the Title I program and assessment information under which the student has qualified.
3. Opportunities for participation in parent involvement activities such as training to help parents work with their children to improve academic achievement. A goal of parent activities is to provide parents with opportunities to participate in decisions relating to the education of their students where appropriate.
4. The district will, to the extent practicable, provide parents of limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents with limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, are of a racial or minority background, parents of migratory children with opportunities for involvement in the Title I program
Communication to parents about student progress and the district's other Title I Program communications will be provided in the language used in the home to the extent practicable. Responses to parent concerns will be provided in a timely manner.
5. Opportunities for parent-teacher conferences, in addition to those regularly scheduled by the school district, if requested by the parents or as deemed necessary by school district staff.

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6. The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other programs in the community. These may include cooperation with other community programs such as Head Start and preschools and other community programs such as the public library.
7. Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.

Parties/Classroom Celebrations

At various times, classes may have seasonal parties, or celebration activities during the year. Parents shall communicate with their student's classroom teacher for the teacher's rules regarding birthday and holiday parties.

Personal Items

The school provides the necessary equipment for classroom and school day activities. **The school is not responsible for ruined or lost personal equipment. Students should not bring items such as athletic equipment, electronic devices, toys, or other similar personal items to school unless they have the prior permission of their classroom teacher or a school administrator.**

Physical Education

The school district requires students to receive physical education to assist them in developing gross and fine motor skills. Students are not required to wear PE uniforms, but are encouraged to wear tennis shoes for P.E.

Physical Exam

Students entering kindergarten and the seventh grade, and those entering school from another state, are statutorily required to show evidence that they have had a physical examination within six months prior to the date of entering school.

Pictures

The school district arranges for a photographer to be present at school in the fall to take class pictures. Parents will be notified of the date. Included in the individual packet is a class composite. Parents who want pictures of

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their students or of their student's class composite may purchase them directly from the photographer.

Police Questioning and Apprehension

Police or other law enforcement officers may be called to the school at the request of school administration or may initiate contact with the school in connection with a criminal investigation. The school district shall inform parents when law enforcement officers seek access to their student prior to the student being questioned unless the officers are investigating charges that the student has been the victim of abuse or neglect. Members of the school district staff will comply with board policy regarding police questioning of students.

Protection of Student Rights

The Board of Education respects the rights of parents and their children and has adopted a Protection of Pupil Rights policy in consultation with parents to comply with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) and The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

Public Displays of Affection

Students may not engage in public displays of affection that is disruptive to the school environment or distracting to others. Prohibited conduct includes hugging, kissing, touching or any other display of affection that a staff member determines to be inappropriate.

Rights of Custodial and Non-Custodial Parents

The school district will honor the parental rights of natural and adoptive parents unless those rights have been altered by a court.

The term "custodial parent" refers to a biological or adoptive parent to whom a court has given primary physical and legal custody of a child, and a person such as a caseworker or foster parent to whom a court has given legal custody of a child.

The district will not restrict the access of custodial and non-custodial parents to their students and their students' records, unless the district has been provided a copy of a court order that limits those rights. If the district is provided such a court order, school officials will follow the directives set forth in the order.

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The district will provide the custodial parent with routine information about his or her child, including notification of conferences. The district will not provide the non-custodial parent with such information on a routine basis, but will provide it upon the non-custodial parent's request unless it has been denied by the courts.

A non-custodial parent who wishes to attend conferences regarding his or her child will be provided information about conference times so both parents may attend a single conference. The district is not required to schedule separate conferences if both parents have been previously informed of scheduled conference times.

If either or both parents' behavior is disruptive, staff members may terminate a conference and reschedule it with appropriate modifications or expectations.

Secret Organizations

Secret organizations are prohibited. School officials shall not allow any person or representative of any such organization to enter upon school grounds or school buildings for the purpose of rushing or soliciting students to participate in any secret fraternity, society or association.

School Day

The school day typically begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 3:25p.m. Students are to leave the school grounds after dismissal. School staff will provide supervision for students on school grounds 30 minutes before the school day begins and 30 minutes after the school day ends. **There will be no supervision provided by the school before or after these times.** Parents must make arrangements for their children to leave school promptly at the end of the day.

Self Management of Diabetes or Asthma/Anaphylaxis

The school district will work with the parent or guardian in consultation with a physician to develop a medical management plan for a student with diabetes, asthma, or anaphylaxis subject to school policy. Parents desiring to develop such a plan should contact the school nurse.

Smoking and Tobacco

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The use or possession of any tobacco product, including the use of vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or any other such look-alike product, is not permitted on school property at any time.

Staff Qualifications

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 gives parents the right to get information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. Upon request, the school district will give parents the following information about their child's classroom teacher:

1. Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional teaching certificate.
3. The teacher's baccalaureate degree and major. Parents may also get information about other graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

Upon request, the school district will inform parents whether their child is being provided services by a paraprofessional and, if so, the paraprofessional's qualifications. The request for such information should be made to the appropriate building administrator.

The school district will provide timely notice to parents if their child has been assigned to, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Standardized Testing

NWEA Summative Tests are administered to students in the 7th and 8th grades. The tests will be administered in April. Results will be mailed home during the 1st quarter of the following school year. Juniors take the ACT in accordance with state requirements.

Student Assistance

If your child has any learning, behavior, or emotional needs that you believe are not being addressed by the school district under existing circumstances, please contact your child's teacher. If appropriate, the teacher may convene the Student Assistance Team (SAT). The SAT can explore possibilities and strategies that will best meet the educational needs of your child.

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Student Fee Policy

The school district shall provide free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska State Constitution and the Nebraska statutes. The district also provides activities, programs, and services that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the district is permitted to charge students fees for these activities or to require students to provide specialized equipment and attire for certain purposes. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or board regulations. Students are encouraged to contact their building administration, their teachers or their coaches, and sponsors for further specifics.

Definitions.

1. "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.

2. "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.

3. "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

Listing of Fees Charged by this District.

1. Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities. Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.

2. Safety Equipment and Attire. The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students

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use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.

- 3. Personal or Consumable Items.** The district does not provide students with personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks. Students who wish to supply their own personal or consumable items may do so, as long as those items comply with the requirements of the district. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment, materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.
- 4. Materials Required for Course Projects.** The school district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all curricular projects. In courses where students produce a project that requires more than minimal cost for materials, the finished product will remain the property of the district unless the students either furnish or pay for the reasonable cost of materials required for the course project.
- 5. Extracurricular Activities.** The school district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. The coach or sponsor may provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.
- 6. Post-Secondary Education Costs.** Some students enroll in post-secondary courses while still enrolled in high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall offer the course

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without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who chose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution.

- 7. Transportation Costs.** The district can charge students reasonable fees for district-provided transportation services to the extent permitted by federal and state statutes and regulations.

- 8. Participation in Before-School, After-School or Pre-Kindergarten Services.** The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in before-school, after-school or pre-kindergarten services offered by the district pursuant to statute.

- 9. Participation in Summer School or Night School.** The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in summer school or night school and may charge reasonable fees for correspondence courses.

- 10. Charges for Food Consumed by Students.** The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for the breakfast and lunch programs is as follows:

- Adult Breakfast- \$2.00
- Adult Lunch- \$4.00

- 11. Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.** Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided, at no charge, the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. For musical extracurricular activities, the school district will require students to provide the following equipment and/or attire:
 - Band students must provide their own instruments.

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- Swing choir students must purchase outfits and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group.

12. Contributions for Class Extracurricular Activities. Students are eligible to participate in a number of extracurricular activities during their years in Junior/ Senior High School, including prom, various senior recognitions, and graduation. In order to fund these extracurricular activities, the school district will ask each student to make a contribution to their class's fund beginning in seventh grade. This contribution is completely voluntary. Students who chose not to contribute to the class fund are still eligible to participate in the extra activities.

Waiver Policy.

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Students are not required to participate in the free or reduced-price lunch program to qualify for the waivers provided in this section. The district is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their building principal. Application forms are available in each school building office.

Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.

When appropriate, the district will request donations of money, materials, equipment or attire from parents, guardians and other members of the community to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. These requests are not requirements, and staff members of the district are directed to communicate that fact clearly to students, parents and patrons.

Student Illness

Students who suffer from a significant illness which has an actual or expected duration of six months or more may be eligible for accommodations and support under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act. The school will provide accommodations to students who are returning to school after a prolonged absence due to illness, including pediatric cancer, through a 504

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plan or an IEP, as appropriate. The student's plan will include informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum and monitoring by medical or academic staff as determined by the student's IEP team or 504 committee. Parents and staff will engage in ongoing communication about the needs of a student who is facing these circumstances.

Students who become ill at school will be sent to the building office where the school nurse or other school employee will determine the appropriate response. When a child is too ill to remain at school, a school employee will contact the child's parent(s) and make arrangements for the child to be picked up or sent home. If an illness or injury requires immediate medical attention, school officials shall attempt to contact the child's parent(s) regarding treatment for the child. If the parents cannot be contacted, school officials may have the child treated by an available physician. Students who show symptoms of a contagious disease may be sent home, and the district may require a physician's statement before allowing such students to return to school.

Student Government

Students are encouraged to formulate and participate in elective and representative student government activities. The organization, operation and scope of the student government shall be administered by the superintendent or designee.

Student Records

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") provides parents certain rights with respect to their student's education records. These rights include the right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the date the school receives a request for access; and the right to request the amendment of the student's education records that you believe to be inaccurate.

If parents believe one of their student's records is inaccurate, they should write to the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why they believe it is inaccurate. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested, it will notify the parents of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment.

Directory Information. FERPA and the Nebraska Public Records Law authorize school districts to make "directory information" available for review

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at the request of non-school individuals. These laws also give parents and guardians a voice in the decision-making process regarding the disclosure of directory information regarding their children. The school district has designated the following as directory information:

name and grade, address, telephone number, including the student's cell phone number, e-mail address, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, the image or likeness of students in pictures, videotape, film or other medium, major field of study, participation in activities and sports, degrees and awards received, weight and height of members of athletic teams, most recent previous school attended, certain class work which may be published onto the Internet, classroom assignment and/or home room teacher, student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by the student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems (but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor known or possessed only the authorized user). Directory information does not include a student's social security number.

Directory information about students may also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that market or manufacture class rings, sell student photographs or publish student yearbooks.

Federal law requires school districts to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses and telephone listings of high school students unless parents have notified the school district that they do not want this information disclosed without prior written parental consent.

Parents who **OBJECT** to the disclosure of any directory information about their student should write a letter to the principal. This letter should specify the particular categories of directory information that the parents do not wish to have released about their child or the particular types of outside organizations to which they do not wish directory information to be released. This letter must be received by the school district no later than September 1 of the current school year.

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Non-Directory Information

All of the other personally identifiable information about students that is contained in this school district's education records will generally not be disclosed to anyone outside the school system except under one of two circumstances: (1) in accordance with the provisions of the FERPA statutes and related administrative regulations, or (2) in accordance with the parent's written instructions.

Transfer of Records Upon Student Enrollment

Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. The school is not obligated to inform parents when it makes a disclosure under this provision.

Complaints

Individuals who wish to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA may contact the Office that administers FERPA:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

Student Schedule Changes

Schedule changes, including dropping/adding classes will be limited to the first two days of each semester by contacting the school counselor and having the approval of the teachers for the classes affected by the change. Schedule changes outside of that window will be handled on a case by case basis and must be approved by the principal.

After the first week of the semester, students who insist on dropping a class, except for instances of an extended illness, may receive a "0" on their permanent records, and that grade may be averaged into the student's cumulative grade point average.

Tardiness

A student who does not have a valid excuse for being tardy to any class may be required to serve detention. Repeated tardies to school or class may

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require the student and parents to meet with the principal to discuss the situation.

Telephone Calls

The school's telephone may be used only with permission of staff. Students are permitted to use cellular telephones during school hours or on school property ONLY if they have obtained the express permission of a member of the staff.

Threat Assessment and Response

The board of education is committed to providing a safe environment for members of the school community. Students, staff and patrons are urged to immediately report any statements or behavior that makes the observer fearful or uncomfortable about the safety of the school environment.

1. Obligation to Report threatening Statements or Behaviors.

All staff and students must report any threatening statements or behavior to a member of the administration. Staff and students must make such report regardless of the nature of the relationship between the individual who initiated the threat or threatening behavior and the person(s) who were threatened or who were the focus of the threatening behavior. Staff and students must also make such reports regardless of where or when the threat was made or the threatening behavior occurred.

THREATS OR ASSAULTS WHICH REQUIRE IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE AT 911.

2. Threat Assessment Investigation and Response

All reports of violent, threatening, stalking or other behavior or statements which could be interpreted as posing a threat to school safety will immediately be forwarded to the superintendent. Upon receipt of an initial report of any threat, the superintendent will take steps to verify the information, make an initial assessment, and document any decision involving further action. This investigation may include interviews with the person who made the statement(s) or engaged in the behavior of concern, interviews with teachers and other staff members who may have information about the individual of concern, interviews with the target(s) of the threatening statements or behavior, interviews of family members, physical searches of the individual of concern's person, possessions, and home (as

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allowed by law and in cooperation with law enforcement), and any other investigatory methods that the superintendent determines to be reasonable and useful.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the superintendent will determine what, if any, response to the threat is appropriate. The superintendent is authorized to disclose the results of his/her investigation to law enforcement and to the target(s) of any threatened acts. The superintendent may refer the individual of concern to the appropriate school administrator for consequences under the school's student discipline policy or, if appropriate, report the results of his/her investigation to the student's individualized education plan team.

3. Communication with the Public about Reported Threats

To the extent possible, the team will keep members of the school community informed about possible threats and about the team's response to those threats. This communication may include oral announcements, written communication sent home with students, and communication through print or broadcast media. However, the team will not reveal the identity of the individual of concern or of any target(s) of threatened violence if that individual is a minor.

Transportation Services

The district operates school buses as a convenience for students and parents. They represent a substantial investment, and students are expected to care for and respect them.

Transportation to School

Students who ride the bus to school will arrive in time for them to eat breakfast at school. Parents must contact their bus driver if a student will not ride the bus on a given day. Bus drivers endeavor to adhere to their schedule, and will wait for riders only a short period of time so as not to jeopardize the time remaining for the rest of their schedule.

Non-resident or option enrollment students may ride the buses, but they will be charged a fee to be established by the board of education. The Superintendent will schedule bus routes, and questions concerning them should be directed to that office.

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Bus Regulations

Riding school vehicles is a privilege, not a right. The bus drivers have the same authority as teachers while transporting students. Students must comply with the following rules and all school conduct rules and directives while riding in school vehicles. In addition, students must also comply with the student code of conduct while riding in school vehicles. If misconduct is recurring, the student will not be allowed to ride the bus.

a) Rules of Conduct on School Vehicles:

- 1) Students must obey the driver promptly.
- 2) Students must wait in a safe place for the bus to arrive, clear of traffic and away from where the vehicle stops.
- 3) Students are prohibited from fighting, engaging in bullying, harassment or horseplay.
- 4) Students must enter the bus without crowding or disturbing others and go directly to their assigned seats.
- 5) Students must remain seated and keep aisles and exits clear while the vehicle is moving.
- 6) Students are prohibited from throwing or passing objects on, from, or into vehicles.
- 7) Students may not use profane language, obscene gestures, tobacco, alcohol, drugs or any other controlled substance on the vehicles.
- 8) Students may not carry weapons, look-a-like weapons, hazardous materials, nuisance items or animals onto the vehicle.
- 9) Students may carry on conversations in ordinary tones, but may not be loud or boisterous and should avoid talking to the driver while the vehicle is in motion. Students must be absolutely quiet when the vehicle approaches a railroad crossing and any time the driver calls for quiet.
- 10) Students may not open windows without permission from the driver. Students may not dangle any item (e.g. legs, arms, backpacks) out of the windows.
- 11) Student must secure any item or items that could break or produce injury if tossed about the inside of the vehicle if the vehicle were involved in an accident
- 12) Students must respect the rights and safety of others at all times.

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- 13) Students must help keep the vehicle clean, sanitary and orderly. Students must remove all personal items and trash upon exiting.
- 14) Students may not leave or board the vehicle at locations other than the assigned stops at home or school unless approved prior to departure by the superintendent or designee.
- 15) Video cameras may be placed on buses, at random, to monitor student behavior on the bus.

b) Consequences

Drivers must promptly report all student misconduct to the administration. These reports may be oral or written. Students who violate the Rules for Conduct will be referred to their building principal for discipline. Disciplinary consequences may include;

A note home to parents, suspension of bus riding privileges, exclusion from extracurricular activities, in-school suspension, short term or long term suspension from school, and/or expulsion.

These consequences are not progressive, and school officials have discretion to impose any listed punishment they deem appropriate, in accordance with state and federal law and board policy.

c) Records

Records of vehicle misconduct will be forwarded to the appropriate building principal and will be maintained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of serious misconduct may be forwarded to law enforcement.

Requests to be dropped off at a point **not** on the regular route will not be accommodated, unless extenuating circumstances arise and the request is approved by the transportation director or administration.

Students who are not regular route riders may not ride the bus home with a friend, unless the parent of the non-route student presents written permission to the bus driver ahead of time. The written permission should include the date, the non-route rider's name, the signature of the non-rider's parent, and the place approved for drop off. Such

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requests may not be granted if they cause overcrowding of the vans or buses (Vans-10 riders only, plus driver).

Transportation to Activities

The school district provides transportation to students who are participating in school-sponsored events and they must ride to those events in a school vehicle. Students who wish to take private transportation home from a school event must submit a release form to the sponsor which has been signed by that student's parent and have the permission of the sponsor or school administration.

Video Surveillance and Photographs

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on school district property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations deemed appropriate by the Superintendent. If a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state, or federal laws, it may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

The school district generally prohibits students from taking photographs or making video recordings on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or at a school event except as provided in this policy or as otherwise required by law. Students may take photographs and make video recordings only after receiving permission from a staff member. An exception will be made to this policy if photographs or video recordings are necessary to accommodate a student's disability or are required by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. In no event shall photographs or video recordings be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

Weather-Related School Closing

The Superintendent will occasionally announce an emergency early school dismissal, late start, or cancellation of school due to extreme heat, snow or ice. School closings will be announced on radio stations KNEB 960 AM, KSID 98.7 FM, KSTF-TV and KDUH-TV. The school district will also communicate via the ParentSquare automated message system. Parents should assume that school is open and a regular schedule is being followed if there is no

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announcement concerning the school district. Please do not call the school or individual staff members to find out whether school is being canceled. Parents who do not believe it is safe to transport their students to school may keep their students home after contacting the district office.

If schools are closed due to severe weather conditions, all after-school activities will be canceled.

Withdrawal From School

Students who are moving from the district must notify the school office.

Work Permits

The building principal or other authorized school official shall be responsible for the issuance of work permits for children in accordance with state law.

SECTION TWO

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Class Rank

Student class rank shall be determined by using a numeric grade point average derived from all classes graded on a numeric basis. To be included in the class ranking, a student must have received a numeric grade for the class in which he/she was enrolled.

Students who transfer into the school district will be eligible to be included in class ranking after two semesters of attendance.

Students who transfer into the school district in the middle of their senior year will be eligible to be included in class ranking, although a mid-year transfer will not displace the ranking of a student who has not transferred mid-year. In those circumstances there will be two students holding the relevant class ranking. Mid-year transfer students will not be eligible to receive senior awards such as valedictorian unless the student has been enrolled in the district's high school for the last two semesters.

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Eligibility

7-12 School Activity Eligibility (Week by week)

In order to participate in school sponsored activities, students must make and maintain adequate academic progress/performance. As such, students will be held to the following eligibility policy with respect to current grades:

- An eligibility list will be compiled weekly. The third week of each quarter, a grade report will be run on all students. The report will identify any student who has a failing grade for the current nine weeks grading period. If a student is failing in two courses for two weeks in a row, he/she will be ineligible to compete, perform or participate for the next seven calendar days beginning with the Monday following the day on which the eligibility list was compiled. This includes all extracurricular activities, king/queen royalty selections, school dances/prom, trips, and musical performances.

Grades

Students will receive letter grades for their academic core classes.

SUGGESTED GRADING SCALE FOR JR/SR HIGH SCHOOLS

94-100 - A 86-93 - B 78-85 - C 70-77 - D 69 or Below F

P = Passing, S=Satisfactory

Graduation Awards/Honors

The valedictorian of the graduating class shall be the students with the highest cumulative grade point averages respectively in course work completed in grades nine through twelve.

Graduation Requirements

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS—Board Policies 6000's

In order to receive a diploma, students must meet all graduation requirements as set forth in BPS school board policy. Please refer to board policy for all requirements. Special attention to board policy 6006:

The district shall conduct a commencement ceremony for members of the senior class at the end of the school year. Participation in the ceremony is a privilege, not a right, and the superintendent or his/her designee may prohibit students who have violated conduct

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rules from participating in the ceremony as a consequence for the misconduct. Only those students who have completed all graduation requirements (i.e., completed the required coursework or achieved the goals set in the student's individual education plan) will be allowed to participate in commencement exercises.

A. DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for a diploma from the Bridgeport Public Schools, a student must have completed eight semesters of full-time high school attendance. Students must earn at least 240 total credits in grades 9-12, including the following:

- 40 credits of English
- 30 credits of Mathematics
- 30 credits of Science
- 30 credits of Social Science
- 30 credits of approved CTE courses
- 10 credits of Fine Arts
- 10 credits of Physical Education
- 60 credits or more of additional elective/core credit

Transfer students must meet the minimum hour requirement for graduation both in terms of total number and specific subject areas. Substitutions may be made for deficiencies in required courses, provided that it was not possible to include the courses on the student's schedule while enrolled at this school district.

Students who receive special education services are mainstreamed into the regular education curriculum when appropriate. The curriculum content of regular education classes may be modified to accommodate the individual needs and abilities of verified special education students. Each curriculum modification will be included on the student's Individual Education Plan by the Multi-Disciplinary Team and/or school staffing teams composed of special and regular education staff. Hours in special education will be counted toward a high school diploma.

Parents of students who may not qualify for their high school diploma because of academic deficiencies will be notified of this possibility by the beginning of the second semester of the student's senior year.

GRADE LEVEL PROMOTION

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A student's classification is determined by the number of credits earned. **Grade level classification is as follows:**

CLASSIFICATION SEMESTER	BEGINNING OF 1 ST SEMESTER	BEGINNING OF 2 ND
Sophomores (10 th)	60 Credits	90 Credits
Junior (11 th)	120 Credits	150 Credits
Senior (12 th)	180 Credits	205 Credits

NOTE: Ten Credits are earned by successfully completing a 36-week course, or five credits for an 18-week course, meeting one period each day, five days a week.

Honor Roll

Junior high and senior high honor roll will be figured on all classes. GPA and class rank will be figured on a 4.0 scale using the conversion of A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0

Honors: 3.00 — 3.44

High Honors: 3.45 — 3.99

All A's - 4.0

Academic Banquet - Students that have a 3.45 or higher for first semester and third quarter will be invited along with 2 guests to the Academic Banquet.

Report Cards

Report cards are sent home the week following the end of the nine-week reporting period. Mid-quarter reports are also sent to parents of students who are having difficulty in an academic subject.

**SECTION THREE
STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

General Discipline Philosophy

The school district has the authority to discipline students who behave inappropriately on the way to school, at school, during lunch, on the way

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home, and at all school activities (home and away or any time while on school or district property).

The school district's discipline is guided by the following principles:

1. The school district's discipline policy is intended to ensure that students take responsibility for their behavior.
2. Behavior expectations and the consequences for failing to meet those expectations will be clearly communicated to all students and their parents.
3. The severity of consequences for violating behavior expectations will generally be progressive in nature. That is, sanctions will increase with each instance of misconduct; however, each instance will be assessed on its own facts, and sanctions will be imposed based on the severity of the misconduct.
4. Parents play a vital role in supporting and reinforcing the school district's expectations of their students.
5. Behavior expectations apply to all students; consequences are enforced consistently without regard to a student's academic record or achievement.

Extracurricular activities including athletics, cheerleading, band, chorus, and club activities, are governed by the Student Activity Handbook. Students who are involved in extracurricular activities may face consequences related to the activity in addition to the consequences discussed in this handbook.

The school district reserves the right to refer to the appropriate non-school agency any act or conduct of its students which may constitute a crime under federal, state, county, or local law. The administration will cooperate with these agencies in their investigations.

Forms of School Discipline

Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but need not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. The actions may

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also include in-school suspensions during the day or mandatory attendance at Saturday school. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, Saturday School or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures; and a failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school. District administrators may develop building-specific protocols for the imposition of student discipline.

In this section, references to "Principal" shall include building principals, the principal's designee, or other appropriate school district administrators.

Any statement, notice, recommendation, determination, or similar action specified in this section shall be effectively given at the time written evidence thereof is delivered personally to or upon receipt of certified or registered mail or upon actual knowledge by a student or his or her parent or guardian.

Any student who is suspended or expelled from school pursuant to this section may not participate in any school activity during the duration of that exclusion including adjacent school holidays and weekends. The student activity eligibility of a student who is mandatorily reassigned shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the principal of the building to which the student is reassigned.

After School Sessions and Detentions

Teachers and administrators may require students to stay after school or to serve detention when the student violates any of the rules contained in this handbook or violates classroom-specific conduct rules set by individual teachers.

Students who ride the bus home from school will be given a 24-hour notice of after-school time for detention so that the parents may make plans to pick up the student the following day.

- After-school sessions will not exceed 30 minutes from the time of dismissal and are to be served in the teacher's room. A student who fails to attend an after school session may be given a detention by

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the teacher or may face additional disciplinary consequences up to and including long-term suspension and/or expulsion. A student who has a conflict with an after-school session is responsible for working it out with the teacher.

- Detentions are 30 minutes, served in the central office or the detention room designated by the building principal unless the offended teacher requires the student to serve it in their room.

In-School Suspension

The building administrator may require a student to serve in-school suspension. Students may be required to attend up to six hours per day of school-sponsored suspension a day at a designated location where they will study. There will be zero tolerance for behavior problems from students placed in in-school suspension. Students not completing their In-School Suspension will face further disciplinary action.

Emergency Exclusion

Students may be emergency excluded from school pursuant to the board's separate policy on emergency exclusion or state law.

Short-Term Suspension

The Principal or the Principal's designee may exclude a student from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth; or
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the board of education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

1. The Principal shall make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. Short-term suspension shall be imposed only after a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to

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further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.

2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what he/she is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and an opportunity to explain his/her version of the facts.
3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian, describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal shall determine who, in addition to the parent or guardian, is to attend the conference.
4. Students who are short-term suspended will be given the opportunity to complete classwork.

Weapons and/or Firearms

Students may be disciplined for the possession of weapons and/or firearms pursuant to the board's separate policy on weapons and firearms or state law.

Long-Term Suspension

Students may be excluded by the Principal from school or any school function for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days (long-term suspension) for any conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth. The process for long-term suspension is set forth below.

Expulsion

1. **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall

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remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.

2. **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year. The review will be conducted by the hearing officer who conducted the initial expulsion hearing, or a hearing officer appointed by the Superintendent in the event no hearing was previously held or the initial hearing officer is no longer available or willing to serve, after the hearing officer has given notice of the review to the student and the student's parent or guardian. This review shall be limited to newly discovered evidence or evidence of changes in the student's circumstances occurring since the original hearing. This review may lead to a recommendation by the hearing officer that the student be readmitted for the upcoming school year. If the school board or board of education or a committee of such board took the final action to expel the student, the student may be readmitted only by action of the board. Otherwise the student may be readmitted by action of the Superintendent.
3. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion:** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., "stayed") for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect, and as a condition of such suspended action, the student may be assigned to a school, class, or program/plan and to such other consequences which the school district deems appropriate.
4. **Alternative School or Pre-expulsion Procedures.** The school shall either provide an alternative school, class or educational program for expelled students or shall follow the pre-expulsion procedures outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. 79-266.

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Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment:

The following conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, subject to the procedural provisions of the Student Discipline Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-254 through 79-296, when such activity occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event:

1. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes;
2. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property;
3. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, or to any student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;
4. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student;
5. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon (*see also board policy on weapons and firearms*);
6. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in section 28-401, a substance represented to be a controlled substance, or alcoholic liquor as defined in section 53-103.02 or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor (*note: the term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant*);
7. Public indecency as defined in section 28-806, except that this prohibition shall apply only to students at least twelve years of age but less than nineteen years of age;
8. Engaging in bullying as defined in section 79-2,137 and in these policies;

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9. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person, including sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults which occur off school grounds not at a school function, activity, or event. For purposes of this subdivision, sexual assault means sexual assault in the first degree as defined in section 28-319, sexual assault in the second degree as defined in section 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree as defined in section 28-320.01, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree as defined in section 28-319.01, as such sections now provide or may hereafter from time to time be amended;
10. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the laws of the State of Nebraska which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes; or
11. A repeated violation of any of the following rules if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes:
 - a. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, sex, national origin, or religion;
 - b. Dressing or grooming in a manner which violates the school district's dress code and/or is dangerous to the student's health and safety, a danger to the health and safety of others, or which is disruptive, distracting or indecent to the extent that it interferes with the learning and educational process;
 - c. Violating school bus rules as set by the school district or district staff;
 - d. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing tobacco, drug paraphernalia, or a tobacco imitation substance or packaging, regardless of form, including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and any other form of tobacco or imitation, such as electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, etc.;
 - e. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing any drug paraphernalia or imitation of a controlled substance regardless of whether the actual substance possessed is a controlled substance by Nebraska law;
 - f. Possession of pornography;

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- g. Sexting or the possession of sexting images (a combination of sex and texting - the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically);
- h. Engaging in hazing, defined as any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Hazing activities are generally considered to be: physically abusive, hazardous, and/or sexually violating and include but are not limited to the following: personal servitude; sleep deprivation and restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; branding; physical beatings; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual stimulation and sexual assault;
- i. Bullying which shall include cyber-bullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post or text message images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to send e-mail to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums, and posting false statements as fact intended to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending threatening and harassing text, instant messages or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target;
- j. Violation of the district's computer acceptable computer use policy are subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion; and
- k. Any other violation of a rule or regulation established by a school district staff member pursuant to authority delegated by the board.

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The length of any suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment shall be as provided or allowed by law.

Due Process Afforded to Students Facing Long-term Suspension or Expulsion

The following procedures shall be followed with regard to any long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

1. On the date of the decision to discipline, the Principal shall file with the Superintendent a written charge and a summary of the evidence supporting such charge.
2. The Principal shall serve the student and the student's parents or guardian with a written notice by registered or certified mail or personal service within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long-term suspension or expulsion. The notice shall include the following:
 - a. The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student;
 - b. The penalty, if any, which the principal has recommended in the charge and any other penalty to which the student may be subject;
 - c. A statement that, before long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment for disciplinary purposes can be invoked, the student has a right to a hearing, upon request, on the specified charges;
 - d. A description of the hearing procedures provided by the act, along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing;
 - e. A statement that the principal, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's parent, or the student's representative or guardian has the right (i) to examine the student's academic and

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disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct and (ii) to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony; and

- f. A form on which the student, the student's parent, or the student's guardian may request a hearing, to be signed by such parties and delivered to the principal or superintendent in person or by registered or certified mail.
3. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the superintendent, if the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.
 4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, student's parents, guardian or representative from discussing and settling the matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing stage.
 5. If a hearing is requested within five days after receipt of the notice, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below.
 6. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after receipt, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing officer who shall follow the "hearing procedures" outlined below, except that the time constraints set forth may differ as provided by law and this policy. The student shall be entitled to a hearing but the consequence imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.

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7. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.

In the event a hearing is requested, the hearing, hearing procedures, the student's rights and any appeals or judicial review permitted by law shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Nebraska Student Discipline Act (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-254 to 79-294). The school district will provide parents with copies of the relevant statutes upon request.

SECTION FOUR

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy

Educational Service Unit No. 13 (ESU #13) recognizes the value of computer and other electronic resources to improve student learning and enhance the administration and operation of its schools. To this end, ESU #13 encourages the responsible use of computers, computer networks (including the Internet), and other electronic resources in support of the mission and goals of ESU #13 and its schools.

It is the policy of ESU #13 to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of,

inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

It is the policy of ESU #13 to maintain an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all online network activities by staff and students. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee, student, or other individual to engage in any activity that does not conform to the established purpose and general rules and policies of the network. Within this general policy, ESU #13 recognizes its legal and ethical obligation to protect the well-being of students in its charge.

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The following uses of school-provided electronic resources, including Internet and e-mail, are not permitted: to access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material; to transmit obscene, abusive, sexually explicit, or threatening language; to violate any local, state, or federal statute; to vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another individual or organization; to access another individual's materials, information, or files without permission; and, to violate copyright or otherwise use the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission; to distribute or forward "chain letters" via email.

Any violation of District policy and rules may result in loss of District-provided access to the Internet. Additional disciplinary action may be determined in keeping with existing procedures and practices regarding inappropriate language or behavior. When and where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

Students may...

Design and post web pages and other material from school resources.

Use direct communications such as e-mail, online chat, or instant messaging with a teacher's permission.

Use the resources for any educational purpose.

Consequences for Violation. Violations of these rules may result in disciplinary action, including the loss of a student's privileges to use the school's information technology resources.

Supervision and Monitoring. School and network administrators and their authorized employees monitor the use of information technology resources to help ensure that uses are secure and in conformity with this policy. Administrators reserve the right to examine, use, and disclose any data found on the school's information networks in order to further the health, safety, discipline, or security of any student or other person, or to protect property. They may also use this information in disciplinary actions and will furnish evidence of crime to law enforcement.

Enforcement of policy

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

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required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, 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 for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

An ESU #13 staff member may override the technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access for a student to access a site with legitimate educational value that is wrongly blocked by the technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access.

ESU #13 staff will monitor students' use of the Internet by either direct supervision or by monitoring Internet use history to ensure enforcement of policy.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of ESU #13 online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of ESU #13 staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act. Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Director of Technology or designated representatives. The Director of Alternative Education or designated representatives will provide age appropriate training for students who use ESU #13 Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote ESU #13's commitment to:

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- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the ESU #13 Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy;
- b. Student safety with regard to
 - i. safety on the Internet;
 - ii. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - iii. cyberbullying awareness and response.
- c. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the ESU #13 Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. Curriculum materials and a Scope and Sequence can be found at Common Sense Media. www.commonsensemedia.org

Disclaimers

ESU #13 and its individual schools, administrators, faculty, and staff thereof, make no warranties of any kind for the service provided and will not be held responsible for any damage suffered by users. This includes the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, and intrusion by computer virus or service interruption. Use of any information obtained via network access is at the risk of the user, and ESU #13 specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained. ESU #13 cannot guarantee complete protection from inappropriate material. Furthermore, it is impossible for the district or content filter to reflect each individual or family's opinions of what constitutes "inappropriate material." If a student mistakenly accesses inappropriate information, he/she should immediately notify a district staff member. ESU #13 is not liable for an individual's inappropriate use of the district's electronic communications systems, for violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, and for other costs incurred by users through use of ESU #13's electronic communication systems. The district will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the district's electronic communication systems.

***CIPA definition of terms**

MINOR. The term "minor" means any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years.

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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; or
3. Harmful to minors.

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.

SECTION FIVE

ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

A great athletic tradition is not made overnight—it takes hard work, dedication of many individuals and many years. As a member of an interscholastic team, an athlete has certain responsibilities to uphold.

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Our tradition has been to compete so that honor comes to our community, our school, and our athletes. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned: the followers, coaching staff, athletes, and student body. We will maintain respect for our school, our community, and most of all, our opponents.

WARNING

The purpose of this WARNING is to bring to your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic participation. Participation in any athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains, and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck, and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis, or death. Even with the best coaching, the use of the best protective equipment and strict observance of rules, injuries are still a possibility.

Responsibilities to yourself

We like to think of an athlete as being someone special, in that certain responsibilities are imposed on him/her. An athlete is one who accepts these responsibilities and broadens himself/herself and develops strength of character. Athletes owe it to themselves to get the greatest possible good from their school experiences: their studies, participation in the other co-curricular activities, as well as from athletics.

Responsibilities to the school

By being an athlete, you have the responsibility to your school to do your best and to follow the guidelines set forth. As an athlete you are representing your school and your community. You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic team. The student body, community, and other communities judge our school based on your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field.

Responsibility of the coaching staff

Coaches feel they have the responsibility to give the community the best possible team with the available talent each year. Those who want to be team members will have to accept the responsibilities, which are set for every member of all teams on interscholastic athletes. These guidelines are drawn from the beliefs of the coaching staff, athletic director, administration, and NSAA.

ATHLETIC GUIDELINES

1. Participation on other teams

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Any person who is a member of any Bridgeport Junior or Senior High interscholastic team cannot take part in any organized sport, in school or out of school during the period he/she is a member of a BHS interscholastic team (example—church league basketball).

2. Team Travel

A. Transportation

Students who ride to a school sponsored activity, by school provided transportation must return on the school provided vehicle unless they are leaving at the conclusion of the event with their parents. The parent must sign the student athlete out with the head coach.

B. Dress

Dress of team members should be clean, neat, and in good taste. Game days are dress-up.

C. Meals

When an athletic team is required or will be away from home all day for a contest, or if the return trip is exceptionally long, arrangements may be made to feed the athletes.

3. Participation and Attendance

Athletes are expected to be at all practices scheduled by the coach. Should an athlete not be able to attend they must contact the coach in advance. A student must be in attendance the entire day in order to be eligible to practice or participate in an activity. The only exceptions are medical and family emergencies. The Athletic Director or Principal must approve any exception.

4. Pre-practice Requirements

All athletes must meet the following requirements before they start practices:

A. Return a medical physical to the coach who will get the physical to the proper personnel.

B. Return these other sheets which are included in this booklet.

1. Parental/Guardian permission to participate in the sport

2. Parental/Guardian agreement to the Athletic Guidelines

3. Athlete's agreement to the Athletic Guidelines

4. Parental/Guardian signature regarding insurance

5. Eligibility

Any student representing the Bridgeport Public School District in competitive activities must meet the coaches' or sponsors' participation requirements in addition to academic requirements set by the Board of Education. Regardless of a student's ability in an activity, that student must meet or exceed the following academic requirements to be eligible to participate in any competitive activity (i.e.

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all athletic activities, cheerleading, debate/forensics, music and drama contests, etc.):

Eligibility will be based on NSAA Rules and Board Policy. See Appendix A.

6. Activities on Church Nights and Sundays

According to NSAA, no athletic event may be scheduled on Sunday. In addition to this, the school will try to work cooperatively with the churches of the community by not having any practices after 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. In the event of a Monday conference, district or regional contest, the team may hold a Sunday practice.

7. Starting, Dismissal, and Length of Practice

Each coach on an individual team basis will establish starting times of practices. All athletes are expected to be on time at the field or court. A student who must stay after school for classroom purposes shall notify the head coach as to his/her academic commitment. In all cases, academics will come first. A student who must stay after school for disciplinary reasons should notify the head coach.

8. Equipment

The athletic department tries to furnish the athlete with as much of the equipment needed as is feasible. We are confident that we have good equipment and in the case of contact sports our athletes are well protected.

All equipment will be checked out to individuals at the beginning of the season by the head coach. The athlete will be responsible for this equipment and should be prepared to pay for the cost of replacement if it is not checked in at the close of the season in reasonable condition. All collections for lost equipment will be handled in the Athletic Director's office.

At no time shall any athlete wear equipment checked out to him/her except for practices and contests.

9. Lettering Requirements

Each time an individual letters in the Senior High, they will be awarded a certificate by the coach of the sport at the conclusion to the school year, at the Athletic Banquet. The first time, and the first time only, that an individual letters in any sport on the Senior High level, he/she will be awarded by the coach of that sport, a standard chenille letter.

Football

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Twelve quarters of varsity competition are needed. The athlete must finish the season in good standing (not under disciplinary suspension, etc.). The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

Volleyball

Participation in at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of all varsity sets for the season is required. The athlete must finish the season in good standing. The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

Boys' and Girls' Cross Country

The athlete must participate as a varsity team member in at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of all varsity competitions. The athlete must finish the season in good standing. The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

Boys' and Girls' Golf

Must participate as a varsity team member in at least 3 meets. The athlete must finish the season in good standing. The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

Wrestling

Athlete must participate in $\frac{1}{3}$ of all varsity competitions. The athlete must finish the season in good standing. The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

Boys' and Girls' Basketball

Participation in at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of all varsity quarters for the season is required. The athlete must finish the season in good standing. The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

Boys' and Girls' Track

The athlete must score 4 points total in the season. The points must be scored in major meets (more than 6 teams). The athlete must finish the season in good standing. The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

Band and Chorus

The student must be in the 9th grade or above. The student must participate in all performances of the organization throughout the school year (excused absences must be approved by the directors). The student must finish the year in good standing. The final decision for lettering is up to the director's discretion.

Cheerleading

Cheerleaders must score 30 pts to letter during the cheerleading season. The final decision on lettering is up to the coach's discretion.

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IN ALL INSTANCES, THE COACH OR DIRECTOR SHALL HAVE THE PREROGATIVE OF LETTERING A STUDENT WHO HE/SHE FEELS IS DESERVING BECAUSE OF EFFORT, INJURY, OR OTHER FACTORS, BUT WHO HAS NOT MET THE CRITERIA. THE COACH OR DIRECTOR SHALL NOT HAVE THE PREROGATIVE OF NOT LETTERING A STUDENT WHO HAS MET THE CRITERIA.

10. Dressing Room Policies

All athletes will be under the direct supervision of the coach in charge while dressing. The coach in charge will handle all cases of misconduct. Athletes and coaches are expected to keep the dressing rooms clean.

11. Traveling to Practice Fields/Courts or Course

If athletes have to travel, they will walk/jog or ride transportation that is provided by school to the practice site unless other arrangements are established through the administration.

12. Parent Complaints

Coaches and activity sponsors are not expected to deal with parent complaints in the time period immediately following a game or performance. Coaches/sponsors should not be expected to defend coaching/activity philosophies or to discuss students other than with the son/daughter of the complaining person. They are further not expected to deal with parent complaints over the telephone other than to set up an appointment in an attempt to resolve a complaint. If a parent has a complaint they should contact the coach/sponsor involved between 8:00 — 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A problem or complaint will be addressed by contacting the appropriate school personnel in the following order:

- Coach-Athlete Conference
- Coach-Athlete & Parent Conference
- Coach-Athlete & Parent - AD/Principal Conference
- Coach-Athlete & Parent - AD/Principal - Superintendent Conference

MANDATORY DRUG TESTING POLICY FOR STUDENTS INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES — Senior High School

The Board of Education for Bridgeport Public Schools values students' participation in extracurricular activities. Such students, as role models for other students, are a key to our goal to provide the best possible educational program for our students. To achieve our goal and to maximize the skills and talents of our students, it is important that each student understands the dangers of drug and alcohol use. This policy statement should qualify our position on student drug and alcohol use. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege which can be taken away for failure to comply with this policy. The purpose of this policy is as follows:

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- 1) To provide for the health and safety of all students;
- 2) To undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing legitimate reason for students to refuse use of illegal drugs and/or alcohol;
- 3) To identify students who use illegal drugs and/or alcohol; and
- 4) To encourage students who use illegal drugs and/or alcohol to participate in appropriate treatment programs.

DEFINITIONS

DPA: A national certified Drug Program Administrator, which shall use a certified laboratory in testing of samples.

Drugs: Any substance considered illegal by Nebraska Statute, i.e., Uniform Controlled Substances Act, section 28-401 et seq., or which is controlled by the Food and Drug Administration unless prescribed to the student by any licensed medical practitioner authorized to prescribe controlled substances. For purposes of this policy, drugs shall include the illegal use of alcohol.

Drug Program Coordinator: The Drug Program Coordinator shall be the Bridgeport High School Principal or the designee.

MRO: Medical Review Officer.

School Year: From the first day classes commence in the fall, unless the activity begins prior to the first day of classes, in which event it shall include from the first day of practice through and including the last day of classes in the following spring.

Activity Programs: Any activity that meets the guidelines of an extracurricular activity at Bridgeport Public Schools, which shall include but is not limited to the following:

Basketball	B Club	All School Play
Cheerleading	Jazz Band	FCCLA
Cross Country	Musicals	Spanish Club
Science Club	One Act Plays	Track
Drill Team	Show Choir	Volleyball
Flag Team	Speech/Debate	Wrestling
Football	Student Council	FFA
Golf	Art Club	Student Council
E Sport		

Participant: Any student who participates in any extracurricular activity as herein before set forth shall be a participant and his/her name shall be included in the participant pool. A participant shall enter the participant pool upon signing the attached consent form EXHIBIT A and returning said signed consent form to the High School Principal. A participant shall remain in the selection pool for an entire year (365 days) from the date the consent form is returned to the High School

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Principal. A participant may be subject to testing at any time during said 365 day period except during summer weeks when activities are not in session. A student will be removed from the testing pool if he/she has quit or been cut from an activity. Quitting the activity must occur prior to being selected for testing to be removed from the testing pool of students.

Sample Collection: Samples will be collected as directed by the Drug Program Administrator on the same day the student is selected for testing, or if the student is absent on that day, on the day of the student's return to school. If a urine sample is required, all students providing samples will do so alone in an individual bathroom or stall with the door closed.

Drug Program Administrator: The Board will choose a nationally certified Drug Program Administrator (DPA) for the purpose of determining through random selection the student(s)/ participant(s) to be tested. This will be accomplished by the use of a "Student List" identifying the student by number only. The DPA, by use of a certified laboratory, shall also process sample results and maintain privacy with respect to test results and related matters.

Medical Review Officer "IVIRO": Bridgeport High School will utilize an MRO to review all laboratory-reported positive tests. The role of the MRO is critical to protecting the interest of the students. The MRO serves a critical role in determining whether the use of a substance identified by the sample analysis is from illicit use or a legitimate medical use. The MRO will demonstrate his/her knowledge by being certified by an MRO Accreditation body. The parent or the guardian will be contacted by the MRO or his/her assistant. The MRO will report results of verified positives and/or warrant health and safety issues to the student and to the designated school representative through the DPA.

Scope of Tests: The drug screen tests for one or more illegal drugs and/or alcohol. The Drug Program Coordinator shall determine which illegal drugs shall be screened, but in no event shall that determination be made after selection of students for testing. Student samples will not be screened for the presence of any substances other than an illegal drug or for the existence of any physical condition other than drug use.

Non-Punitive Nature of Policy: No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs or alcohol. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the district shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified as soon as possible by the district.

DRUG SCREENING PROCEDURES

General Policy: Practical experience and research have proven that even small quantities of narcotics, abused prescription drugs or alcohol can affect judgment and reflexes which can create unsafe conditions for students, especially those involved in sports or any activity covered in this policy. Even when not readily apparent, the effect can have serious results for students engaged

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in activities. Drug-using students participating in extracurricular activities are a threat to co-participants, other students, and themselves, and may make injurious errors. For these reasons, the Board has adopted a policy that all students participating in extracurricular activities must remain substance-free.

Prohibitions: All students participating in extracurricular activities are prohibited from using, possessing, distributing, manufacturing, or having controlled substances, improperly used medications, or any mind/mood altering or intoxicating substances present in their system.

Code of Conduct

Alcohol Use / Possession: All students participating in extracurricular activities are prohibited from possessing or use of alcohol.

After School Hours Conduct: After-school-hours use of drugs, alcohol, or any other prohibited substances is illegal. All students participating in extracurricular activities should realize that these regulations prohibit all illicit drug use during and away from school activities.

Consequences for the: - The use, purchase, or possession of: alcohol, steroids, mood altering chemicals, build-altering chemicals, drug paraphernalia and/or tobacco products. - Being cited for the use, purchase, or possession of: alcohol, mood altering chemicals, build- altering chemicals, drug paraphernalia and/or tobacco products(including the use of vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or any other such look-alike product). The following consequences also apply to failure of mandatory drug testing for extracurricular activities.

CONSEQUENCE FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE The student will be suspended from extracurricular activity performances for 14 calendar days. *If the student self-reports the violation to the principal or A/D by the end of the next day that classes are held he or she may have the activity suspension decreased to 7 calendar days. The student may be allowed to practice. The student will be required to complete a drug/alcohol counseling program approved by the school district.

CONSEQUENCE FOR THE SECOND OFFENSE The student will be suspended from participation in the activity program for 28 calendar days. *If the student self-reports the violation to the principal or A/D by the end of the next day that classes are held he or she may have the activity suspension decreased to 14 calendar days. The student may be allowed to practice. The student will be required to complete a drug/alcohol counseling program approved by the school district.

CONSEQUENCE FOR THE THIRD OFFENSE The student will be suspended from participation and practice in the activity programs for the remainder of the school year, from the date of the violation. Before being allowed to participate the following school year, the student will be required to complete a drug/alcohol counseling program (at their own expense.) Must provide written proof from counseling program director that the course was successfully completed.

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TESTING Procedure:

1. All Current Students Participating in Extracurricular Activities

A. Random Testing

The Board authorizes random unannounced screening of all students participating in extracurricular activities. The list of students participating in extracurricular activities contained in the random pool will be updated upon receipt of a signed consent form. Students participating in extracurricular activities who have been selected will be required to report to the designated collection site for testing.

B. Consent

Each student wishing to participate in any extracurricular activity and the student's custodial parent or legal guardian shall consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the district's drug testing program. Written consent shall be in the form attached to this policy as EXHIBIT A. No student shall be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity absent such consent.

C. Removal From the Random Testing List

Students who quit or are cut from an activity, prior to being selected for random testing, may request their name be dropped from the testing list. A request form must be signed by the student and his/her parents to be dropped. However, students may volunteer to remain in the pool even though he/she are not part of the activity.

D. There is no Junior High Testing.

2. Testing Procedures

A. General Guidelines

The Board and the DPA shall rely, when practical, on the guidance of the Federal Department of Transportation, Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug Testing Programs, 49 C.F.R. Parts 40.1 through 40.39, and on the further guidance of the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act provided in 49 C.F.R. Parts 382, 391, 392 and 395.

B. Substances

Substances that students participating in extracurricular activities may be randomly tested for: alcohol, amphetamines, cannabinoids, cocaine, opiates, synthetic opiates and PCP, and other substances, such as but not limited to steroids, barbiturates, and benzodiazepines without advance notice as part of tests authorized by the Board for safety purposes. Such tests will be coordinated with the Drug Program Coordinator.

C. Testing Procedure

The Board reserves the right to utilize breath, saliva or urinalysis testing procedures. Urine, and oral fluid samples which screen positive will be confirmed by GC/MS. Positive saliva or breath alcohol tests will be confirmed by EBT (Evidential Breath Tester).

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Collection Sites

The Drug Program Coordinator will designate a collection site(s) at Bridgeport High School where individuals may provide specimens.

Collection Procedures.

The Board and the DPA have developed and will maintain a documented procedure for collecting, shipping and accessing all specimens. The Board and the DPA will utilize a standard Custody and Control Form for all students participating in extracurricular activities testing. A tamper-proof sealing system, identifying numbers, labels, and sealed shipping containers will be used for specimen transportation. Collection sites will maintain instructions and training emphasizing the responsibility of the collection site personnel to protect the integrity of the specimen and maintain as proper a collection procedure that is reasonable. All alcohol testing will be performed by a certified Breath Alcohol Technician (BAT). Where the Board has an employee collect the specimen, the Board will provide instruction and training to that employee.

5. Return of Results

The DPA will transmit by a secure method the results of all tests to the DPA's MRO. The MRO will be responsible for reviewing test results of students. Prior to making a final decision, the MRO shall give the individual an opportunity to discuss the result either face-to-face or over the telephone. The DPA shall then promptly tell the principal of the high school which student(s) tested positive.

Request for Retest

A split specimen will be collected for all testing methods, with the exception of alcohol testing. A positive alcohol test will be confirmed with an EBT device. Students involved in the program may, upon a non-negative test result, request that the split sample be tested (within 72 hours of being notified of the final testing result) at a second nationally certified laboratory from a list provided by the MRO. The request for the test must be submitted in writing to the MRO. Students participating in extracurricular activities are required to pay the associated costs for an additional test in advance. However, the costs will be reimbursed if the result of the split sample test is negative.

Positive Results: Whenever a student's test results indicate the presence of an illegal drug (positive test), the following will occur: If the sample tests positive, the custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the Bridgeport High School Principal (Drug Program Coordinator), the student, and the custodial parent or legal guardian.

Refusal to Submit to Drug Use Test: A participating student who refuses to submit to a drug test authorized under this policy, or fails or refuses to comply with any other provision of this policy, shall not be eligible to participate in any activities covered under this policy including all meetings, practices, performances and competitions for the remainder of the school year.

Appeal: A student participating in extracurricular activities who has been determined by the principal or Drug Program Coordinator to be in violation of this policy shall have the right to

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appeal the decision to the Superintendent or his/her designee(s). Such request for a review must be submitted to the Superintendent in writing within five (5) calendar days of notice of the positive test. A student requesting a review will remain eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities until the review is completed. The Superintendent or his/her designee(s) shall then determine whether the original finding was justified. No further review of the Superintendent's decision will be provided, and his/her decision shall be conclusive in all respects. Any necessary interpretation or application of this policy shall be in the sole and exclusive judgment and discretion of the Superintendent which shall be final and non-appealable.

Record Keeping and Confidentiality: All records pertaining to participants shall be kept separate from the student records. The record keeping and results of all testing will be held in the strictest confidence. These records will be accessible only to the Drug Program Coordinator or his designee.

SEVERABILITY

Should any sentence, clause, provision, or paragraph of this entire policy be deemed unlawful or unconstitutional, it is intended that, insofar as may be practicable, the remaining portions of this policy shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION SIX
STAFF DIRECTORY**

Members of the Board of Education:

Justin Corman	Ryan Amateis	Kay Anderson
Jeff Pohl	Linda Norman	Jim Lapaseotes

Administrative Staff:

George Schlothauer, Superintendent – gschlothauer@bpsbulldogs.org
Jason Blanco, Secondary Principal -- jblanco@bpsbulldogs.org
James Simmons, Elementary Principal - jsimmons@bpsbulldogs.org
Erin Reynolds, Principal of Instruction-- ereynolds@bpsbulldogs.org

Teaching Staff:

Administration Support Staff:	
Vonnie Brown, Business Manager	Gail Beyer, Superintendent’s office
Kathy Sides, Elementary office	Megan Scheidegger, Secondary office

School Nurse:
Brittany Norman

Secondary Teachers:		
Brad Noonan, History	Claudia Loomis, English	Jackie Rahmig, Math
Amanda Reilly, Jr. High Science	Larry Jones, Physical Science	Joey Dohse, English
Todd Janicek, Industrial Arts	Christy Schuler, Ag	Janelle Galvan, Eng

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Craig Johnson, History
Tricia Schmunk, Math
Tony McGrath, Government
Jeremy Reimers - Science
Kylee Sterkel, Business

Pat Golti, SPED
Sean Sterkel, PE
Janelle Kesterson, English
Doug Babic, Band
Kathy Baxter, Counselor

Dave Baxter, Spanish
Kimi Kramer, SPED
Amy Retchless, SPED
Michaela Babic, Choir
Debbie Millette, Art

Activities Director:
Dave Kuhlen (308) 262-1470

Coaching Staff:

Cross Country

HS Head Coach: Craig Johnson
Assisted by: Claudia Loomis
JH Head Coach: Craig Johnson
Assisted by: Claudia Loomis

Football

HS Head Coach: Jeremy Reimers
Assisted by: Brad Noonan
JH Head Coach: Jerod Dean
Assisted by: Tony McGrath

Volleyball

HS Head Coach: Stephane Schmidt
Assisted by: Hayley Noonan
JH Head Coach:
Assisted by: Hayley Noonan

Boys Basketball

HS Head Coach: Sean Sterkel
Assisted by: Aaron Ogden and Collin Harvey
JH Head Coach: Sean Sterkel
Assisted by: Jerod Dean

Girls Basketball

HS Head Coach: Dave Kuhlen
Assisted by: Amber Dean
JH Head Coach: Dave Kuhlen
Assisted by: Jackie Rahmig

Boys Golf

Head Coach: Todd Janicek

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Girls Golf

Head Coach: Todd Janicek

Track

HS Coordinator: Jackie Rahmig

Assisted by: Craig Johnson, Tony McGrath, Jase Dean & Dave Baxter

JH Head Coach: TBD

Assisted by: Jerod Dean & Jackie Rahmig

Wrestling

HS Head Coach: Craig Johnson, Tony McGrath(G)

Assisted by: Tony McGrath, Brandon Nichols

JH Head Coach: Tony McGrath

Assisted by: Craig Johnson

HS/JH Band/Pep Band – Doug Babic

Cheerleading – Michaela Ryan

Speech – Janelle Galvan

FFA – Christy Schuler

Annual – Janelle Kesterson

TeamMates – Gail Beyer

One Act- Spring Play – Kristen Kraupie & Brandi Linders

HS Quiz Bowl – Brad Noonan

JH Quiz Bowl – Brad Noonan and Tony McGrath

B Club –

National Honor Society – Joey Dohse

Art Club – Debbie Millette

Student Council –

Senior Class Sponsors: Larry Jones and Jason Blanco

Junior Class Sponsors: Beth Freeze, Marlana Soto

Sophomore Class Sponsor:

Freshman Class Sponsor:

Paraprofessionals:

Rayma Armer

Sara Lang

Jennifer Erickson

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**Beth Freeze
Mari Torres
Steve Lissner
Regina Gonzalez
Lori Carrier
Rachael Blue
Liz Dillon
Belle Gregory
Heather Weyenberg
Kim Stuart Lindsey Ellis
Alicia Lopez
Darlene Richards**

**Technology:
Brian Moss, Technology Director
Joshua MacDonald, Assistant Technology**

Marie Brown, Transportation/Maintenance (308) 279-1286

**Bus Drivers:
Kevin Myers
Troy Hedin
Lorri Carrier
Robert Edwards
Vonnie Brown
Leigh Burr
Liz Dillon
Peggy Backer
Lexie Sterkel
Gail Beyer
Leo Gusman
Cal Renander
Glenn Kraay - sub
Tony McGrath - sub**

Bridgeport Public Schools Lunch Program (308) 262-1470

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Cafeteria Staff:

Lauren Faessler, Director

Elba Sandoval

Lucy Van Buren

Mattie Bauer

Olga Cantu

Teresa Ramirez

Blanca Lamas

Custodial staff:

Head Custodian: Willis Beyer

Susan Simons

Susana Cantu

Jesus Cantu

Maria Casarez

Jose Perez

Patti Trujillo

MISSION STATEMENT
Dedicated to providing opportunities to generate success for all.
SCHOOL CALENDAR

Bridgeport Public Schools
2023-2024 School Calendar

Aug. 2023							Aug. 2023				Jan. 2024				Jan. 2024										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S							3	Teacher In-Service	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				
							9	New Staff Only	3	No School	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	Board Meeting	4	School Resumes	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14-18	Teacher Workdays										28	29	30	31				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	First Day - 3:25 Dis																	
27	28	29	30	31																					
							TD	15	SD	9	TD	21	SD	20											

Sept. 2023							Sept. 2023				Feb. 2024				Feb. 2024										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S							5/6	Pt Con. 4 to 7:00	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				
						1	2	4	Labor Day	9	No School	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	4	No School	12	Board Meeting	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	11	Board Meeting	19	Teacher In-Service	25	26	27	28	29			18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23			29	No School	25	26	27	28	29			25	26	27	28	29			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			29	Spring Break															
							TD	20	SD	20	TD	20	SD	18											

Oct. 2023							Oct. 2023				Mar. 2024				Mar. 2024											
S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	Spring Break	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					
							3	Pt Con. 4 to 7:00	7,8	Spring Break	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	4	PT con 3:00 to 6:00	8	End of 3rd Qt.	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	4	2:15 Dismissal	11	Board Meeting	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	9	No School	29	No School	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	9	Board Meeting	31	Easter	31							24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
29	30	31					13	End of 1st Quarter										31								
							18	12:30 Dis/PD	TD	17	SD	17														
							TD	22	SD	20.5																

Nov. 2023							Nov. 2023				Apr. 2024				Apr. 2024										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
							13	Board Meeting	1	No School	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	22-25	No School	8	Board Meeting	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	22	Teacher In-Serv			28	29	30					28	29	30					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	23	Thanksgiving																	
26	27	28	29	30																					
							TD	20	SD	19	TD	21	SD	21											

Dec. 2023							Dec. 2023				May 2024				May 2024										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						
						1	2	11	Board Meeting	11	Graduation	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	21	End of 1st Sem	13	Board Meeting	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	22	Teacher In-Serv	15	Last Day 12:30/dis	26	27	28	29	30	31		26	27	28	29	30	31		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22-31	No School	16	Teacher Workday															
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																			
31																									
							TD	16	SD	15	TD	12	SD	10.5											

Total Teachers Day (TD) 184
Total Student Days (SD) 170

HS Day - 415 Minutes 1176 hours
El. Days - 405 Minutes 1148 hours

MISSION STATEMENT

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SECTION SEVEN

FORMS

This section contains forms which students and their parents must complete and return to the school office **NO LATER THAN** the end of the first week of school.

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RECEIPT

This Student Handbook is distributed in accordance with Nebraska State Law, Section 79-262, paragraph three which states in part: "Rules and Standards which form the basis for discipline shall be distributed to students and parents at the beginning of each school year or at the time of enrollment..."

Parents (or guardians) and students are required to sign & return the receipt form below before August 27th, 2023

PARENT/STUDENT AGREEMENT

I have received and read the Student Handbook that describes the Bridgeport School District's discipline policies, regulations, rules, and expectations to be followed by students enrolled in the Bridgeport Public Schools, including the Drug Free School Policy, and Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). My child and I have discussed these policies and understand that we must comply with them.

Student's Signature Date

CUSTODIAL Parent Signature Date

Home Phone Number

Parent Cell Phone Number

Parent's Email Address (Optional)

Parent's Email Address (Optional)

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EMERGENCY INFORMATION:

Student's Name _____

Student's Cell #(For Parent Squares) - _____

Home Phone _____ Mailing Address _____

Mother's Name _____

Mother's Employer _____ Mother's Cell Phone _____

Father's Name _____

Father's Employer _____ Father's Cell Phone _____

Other Person to contact in case of emergency:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Primary Doctor: _____

Known Allergies: _____

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**PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FORM
ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS TO STUDENTS**

The undersigned are the parent(s), guardian(s), or person(s) in charge of

(name of the student)

It is necessary that the student receive (name of drug) _____, a physician-prescribed drug, during school intervals beginning on (date) _____ and continuing through _____ (date)

I hereby request that the School District, or its authorized representative, administer the drug named above to my child named above, in accordance with the prescribing physician's instructions, and agree to:

1. Submit this request to the teacher.
2. Make certain the Physician's Request for the Administration of Prescription Medication by School Personnel is submitted to the teacher.
3. Make sure personally that the drug is received by the teacher and/or county nursing service administering it, in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescribing physician or licensed pharmacist.
4. Make sure personally that the container in which the drug is dispensed is marked with the drug name, dosage, interval dosage, and date after which no administration should be given.
5. Submit a REVISED STATEMENT signed by the physician prescribing the drug to the teacher IF ANY OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE PHYSICIAN CHANGES.
6. Release the School District and the Board of Education of the School District and all employees, agents, and the representatives of the School District from any liability concerning the giving or non-giving of the drug to the student.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Parent/Guardian

MISSION STATEMENT

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**ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO STUDENTS
PHYSICIAN'S REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTION
MEDICATIONS BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

DATE _____

CHILD'S FULL NAME _____ is under my care and must take medication which I have prescribed during the school day.

Name of medication (as it appears on container in which the drug is stored)

Dosage _____ and time _____

Date _____ administration of drug is to begin

Possible adverse reactions to be reported to physician _____

Special instructions for the administration and storage of the drug _____

I or my designee(s) have trained school personnel or approved alternative training as adequate to administer the medication, have evaluated the situation, the general administration plan and if applicable, the self administration plan or emergency care plan, and deemed each to be safe and appropriate, and if applicable authorize the use of hypodermic syringes and needles or similar medical terms.

Name of Physician and Designee

Print or Type

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

Signature of Physician

MISSION STATEMENT
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RECORD OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF
SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Parent's Phone _____
Student Name _____ Grade _____
Date to Begin _____ Date to End _____
Name of Medication _____
Dosage of Medication _____ Time _____
Doctor _____ Phone #1 _____
Phone # _____
Possible Adverse Reaction: _____

_____ gives permission for _____ our son/daughter to self-administer specific medications at school. This medication cannot be taken at any other non-school time.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Students who are able to self administer specific medication may do so provided:

1. The physician provides written authorization allowing self-administration of said medication.
2. The parent provides written authorization allowing self-administration of said medication.
3. Such medication is transported to the school and maintained under the student's control in the original, properly labeled package and (a) is not opened except when self-administering the medication, (b) is not self-administered during instructional time or in the presence of other students unless medically necessary, and (c) is not shown or exhibited to other students.
4. The student's physician or physicians' designee has (1) evaluated the situation and deemed it to be safe and appropriate; (2) documented this on the physician's authorization for the student's cumulative health record, and (3) approved the general administration plan.
5. The student and the student's physician or physician's designee have developed a plan for reporting and supervising self-administration.
6. The principal and appropriate teacher are informed that the student is self-administering prescribed medication.

Doctor's Signature

MISSION STATEMENT

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Consent for Counseling Services:

Bridgeport Public Schools has access to a Licensed Mental Health Therapist for the 2023-2024 school year. The therapist is available to Bridgeport Public School District students at no cost to the parents. Parent permission is requested for students to see the counselor. Counseling is confidential. Information shared with the counselor will not be disclosed to anyone without written consent unless there is a duty to warn.

Signature: I understand and agree to the above statements.

Student Name:

Parent Name Printed:

Parent Name Signed:

Date: _____