

5000 Series

Policies Regarding Students

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Early Graduation

5001

Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism

"School success is 90 percent showing up; the other half is mental." Yogi Berra

Research on policies and practices that effectively encourage regular student attendance share some key components:

1. Education of parents regarding school attendance requirements.
2. Effective policies and practices to monitor attendance.
3. Clear definition of excessive absenteeism and a two-stage response to excessive absences.

The board has considered this educational research and used it to create the following policy on Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism.

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.

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 – 5 Year Old Students

The person seeking to discontinue the enrollment of a student who will not reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the current school year shall submit a signed, written request and to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The school district may request written verification or documentation that the person signing the form has legal or actual charge or control of the student. The school district shall discontinue the enrollment of any student who satisfies these requirements. Any student whose enrollment is

discontinued under this subsection shall not be eligible to reenroll in this school district until the beginning of the following school year unless otherwise required by law.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 16 and 17 Year Old Students

Only children who are at least 16 years of age may be disenrolled from the district. The person seeking to discontinue the child's enrollment shall submit a signed, written request and submit it to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The district will follow the procedures outlined on the attached form in considering 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 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.

Expectations for Regular Attendance:

1. Students are expected to attend every class, every day.
2. The only "excused" absences shall be:
 - a.) absences when a licensed health care provider has confirmed in writing that, in his/her professional medical opinion and within his/her scope of practice, the student is so physically or mentally ill that attendance impracticable or impossible;
 - b.) absences when the Nebraska State Patrol confirms in writing that weather conditions have made the roads impassable so that the student's attendance impracticable or impossible;

Comment [KAH1]: One of the biggest complaints we hear from school administrators about student attendance is that parents call students in "sick" when the student is not really too ill to attend. This definition of "excused" absence will not include the minor illnesses that students routinely contract (stomach flu, colds and other viruses). That means the student will be counted "absent" on those days that the parent calls him/her in ill. Parents may elect to take a child to see a physician for these minor illnesses to secure the "excused" absence if the student is approaching a benchmark level of absences.

- c.) student attendance at a school-sponsored activity;
- d.) student has been suspended or expelled from school by the school district; and
- e.) absences required by law enforcement, child protective services or a court of competent jurisdiction, confirmed in writing to the school district.

3. All other absences, including absences for minor illnesses, family events, routine medical appointments are simply "absences."

4. Upon return from every absence or partial-day absence, students must remain after school for 30 minutes to meet with teachers, work on missed assignments or simply to study. The location and supervision of the student will be determined by the building principal in consultation with the student's classroom teacher(s).

5. Students must not be absent from any course more than seven days in any given quarter in order to earn academic credit for that course for that quarter. Students who lose credit in any given course due to absences may appeal that loss of credit to his/her building principal.

Attendance Incentives:

Building principals will establish attendance incentives for their students. Those may include:

- Special Recognition of students who have 95% or greater attendance each quarter
- Excusal from certain classroom assignments (final exam, written report) for students with 95% or greater attendance each semester
- Special rewards (movie day, field day, extra recess) for students who have 95% or greater attendance

At the conclusion of each quarter building principals report to the board what incentives were implemented and the effectiveness of the incentive in improving student attendance and engagement.

When students are absent from school, district staff will respond as follows:

First Stage Response to Absences

1. A member of district staff will contact parent via telephone for every absence if the parent has not contacted the school in advance.
2. After a student's third absence in any given quarter, the school's attendance officer will schedule a meeting with the student's parents or guardians. That meeting will be documented on the attached form.

Comment [KAH2]: With the elimination of the emotionally-loaded term "truant" schools will be free to treat all absences the same – hopefully creating a culture where the expectation is that the student is in school.

Comment [KAH3]: Education research has shown that student attendance dramatically increases when the school imposes a small consequence for every absence that inconveniences the student. The consequence must be small enough that staff will ALWAYS impose it and that students and families accept it as an expected event.

Comment [KAH4]: There are some cases in which courts have held that schools may not revoke academic credit once a student has received it. The educational research is overwhelming in indicating that a system of grade reduction as a result of absences is ineffective in improving student attendance. However, a consistently enforced system of total loss of credit, when paired with the other policy elements in this sample, has been shown to be effective.

Comment [KAH5]: The education research shows that small social and student-oriented incentives are highly effective in improving student attendance. The benchmark for achieving the incentive must be attainable – thus "perfect attendance awards" are actually less effective than a lower benchmark. The rewards must be something which students value, so they should vary by students' developmental levels.

Comment [KAH6]: Personal contact by staff has been shown to be highly effective in improving student attendance. Automated calling systems are less effective, the research shows.

- a. This meeting must be attended by attendance officer, parents, social worker or principal, and the student (if appropriate)
 - b. The meeting shall be documented
 - c. The meeting shall develop a collaborative plan to assist the student in improving his/her attendance
3. Building principals must meet with teachers who have 10% of their students miss seven or more days of class in any given quarter to review strategies to increase student engagement. A consistent pattern of student absences from a teacher's classes may result in a formal remediation plan.
4. The superintendent must meet with the building principal if more than 10% of students miss seven or more days of class in any quarter to review strategies to improve the school building's climate. A consistent pattern of building-wide absenteeism may result in a formal remediation plan.

Comment [KAH7]: A consistent pattern in the research on improving student attendance is that students miss a lot of classes which are not engaging. A pattern of student absenteeism could be a signal that a classroom teacher is not using effective methods of student engagement. This also signals that the board of education expects staff to care about improving student attendance.

Comment [KAH8]: Another fairly surprising element of the research on student absenteeism is that student attendance is directly linked to a school's building climate. A building with chronic attendance issues may be a symptom of poor school climate. This provision also will create incentives for building principals to be engaged and creative in addressing student patterns of absenteeism.

Comment [KAH9]: The board can substitute "shall" for "may" if it wishes to require reporting upon the 20 day trigger.

Second Stage Response to Absences

Students who accrue more than 20 absences in a school year may be referred to the county attorney for action under NEB. REV. STAT. § 43-247(3)(a) and (b).

Adopted on: _____
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____

Acknowledgment of Receipt

I understand that consistent school attendance is required by state law. I also understand that student achievement is directly linked to excellent attendance. I have received the board of education's new policy on student attendance and have reviewed it.

Student
Name _____

Student
Signature _____

Date _____

Parent/Guardian
Name _____

Parent/Guardian
Signature _____

Date _____

Comment [KAH10]: This is not required, but the educational research shows a strong link between improved student attendance and clear communication of expectations to parents. At least in the first year of a new approach like this, it is probably a good idea to have a separate sign-off for the policy.

5001
Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism

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 – 5 Year Old Students

The person seeking to discontinue the enrollment of a student who will not reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the current school year shall submit a signed, written request and to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The school district may request written verification or documentation that the person signing the form has legal or actual charge or control of the student. The school district shall discontinue the enrollment of any student who satisfies these requirements. Any student whose enrollment is discontinued under this subsection shall not be eligible to reenroll in this school district until the beginning of the following school year unless otherwise required by law.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 16 and 17 Year Old Students

Only children who are at least 16 years of age may be disenrolled from the district. The person seeking to discontinue the child's enrollment shall submit a signed, written request and submit it to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The district will follow the procedures outlined on the attached form in considering 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 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:

1. Physical or mental illness of the student (a physician's verification is required after four (4) consecutive days of absence for illness)
2. Severe weather
3. Medical appointments for the student
4. Death or serious illness of the student's family member
5. Attending a funeral, wedding or graduation
6. Appearance at court or for other legal matters

7. Observance of religious holidays of the student's own faith
8. College planning visits

Excessive Absenteeism

When a student receives 8 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 twenty days per year or the hourly equivalent and any portion of the absences is unexcused, the Attendance Officer may/must file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the student resides. For example, if the student accumulates 23 days of excused absences due to documented illness and is tardy one time, the Attendance Officer may/must file a report with the appropriate county attorney.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5002

Admission of Students

Students shall be admitted to the school district who are:

- legal residents of the school district or otherwise entitled by Nebraska law to attend the schools of the district tuition-free;
- approved for option enrollment pursuant to policy;
- approved as a foreign exchange students pursuant to policy; or
- legal residents of a district that has contracted with this district for their educational services.
- statutorily entitled to attend the schools of the district on a part-time basis pursuant to policy 5002.1.
- out-of-state students who have been enrolled pursuant to policy 5002.2.

Students who have been placed in a foster home within the school district are not residents of the district and will not be permitted to enroll unless the district has received a written determination from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services that it is in the best interest of the student not to attend his or her district of residence.

Students who seek to enroll in the district must comply with each board policy, state statute and regulation that applies to their situation. Grade level placement will be determined in accordance with district policy.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5002.1

Admission of Part Time Students

A student may be permitted to enroll on a part-time basis pursuant to this policy and applicable regulations when enrollment is appropriate for reasons that include but are not limited to the following: the student attends another education institution on a part-time basis; is enrolled for a limited number of credit hours needed to graduate; has a modified schedule because of a disability or as part of an individualized education plan; or is a student who resides in the school district but attends a private, denominational, or parochial school or a school that elects not to meet accreditation or approval requirements (referred to herein as an exempt school student or an exempt school, respectively).

Application for Enrollment. The parent or guardian of an exempt school student who is of appropriate age to attend school, resides in the school district, has not graduated from high school, and has not received a graduate equivalency diploma must meet all of the district's admission requirements and file an application for enrollment on forms provided by the school district by August 1st, of the year of enrollment. For second semester high school courses, the application must be filed by December 1st of the that current school year. For students who move into the district mid-semester, the application must be filed within 20 days of moving into the district. The administration shall review the application, determine whether to approve or deny it, notify the parent or guardian, and schedule enrollment at an educationally appropriate time in the building or attendance center of the administration's choice. Enrollment does not carry over from one year to the next, and the parent or guardian of an exempt school student must apply for enrollment each school year.

Capacity. The enrollment of exempt school students is subject to the capacity limitations established by the district for grades, classes, courses, and programs. Full-time students shall be given priority for enrollment in grades, classes, courses, and programs.

Placement of Students. Exempt school students shall be placed in courses for which they have adequate preparation and which are determined to be educationally appropriate based on criteria that include, but are not limited to the student's age, achievement test scores, academic record, evaluation by school personnel and any other standards used by the district for the placement of students.

Grades and Academic Honors. Exempt school students shall receive grades, report cards, and transcripts, but shall not be eligible to graduate, receive a diploma or qualify for class ranking unless they meet all district requirements for

such including earning a sufficient number of credit hours and semesters of attendance.

Applicability of School Rules. Exempt school students are subject to all rules and regulations of the board of education and administration as set forth in policy, handbooks or other communications, as well as the rules and directives of the building administration and teaching personnel. They must remain on the school campus during scheduled classes but must leave the school campus when not engaged in a course or course-related activity unless the course or course-activity requires their presence or the building principal approves their presence. Students who violate school policies, rules, or directives shall be subject to disciplinary procedures up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Extracurricular Sports and Activities. Exempt school students may not participate in extracurricular sports and activities; provided, they may participate in activities that are part of the school district curriculum (e.g. band performance). Exempt school students who become full-time students and satisfy the eligibility requirements of the district and the Nebraska School Activities Association, where applicable, may participate in extracurricular sports and activities.

Transportation. Exempt school students are not entitled to transportation or reimbursement for transportation.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5002.2

Admission of Students Who Reside Out of the State of Nebraska

Students who reside in a state other than Nebraska must submit an application to enroll in the district at least three weeks prior to the beginning of the semester in which they wish to begin attending the district. Out of state students may not enroll mid-semester.

The administration will review each application and will admit out-of-state students whose academic history, disciplinary records and prior school community involvement indicate that they will be successful in this school district. Those who have verified disabilities pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act will not be excluded from admission based solely on their disability. However, those who need specialized programming or whose enrollment would require the hiring of additional staff or specific training of existing staff will not be admitted. The administration's approval or disapproval of an out-of-state student's application is final.

Out-of-state students who are admitted pursuant to this policy must meet the requirements of board policy 5002 and must comply with each board policy, state statute and regulation that applies to their situation. Once admitted, they will be subject to the same disciplinary rules and procedures as resident students. Students must reapply for admission prior to each semester. Re-admission may be denied for students who are not academically and/or behaviorally successful. Once admitted, out-of-state students' grade level placement will be determined in accordance with district policy.

Out-of-state students are not entitled to transportation or reimbursement for transportation.

Out-of-state students will be charged tuition TBD per semester by the district. Payment in full is due to the central office of the district on or before the first day of classes each semester. The tuition fee may be changed by the board of education prior to any semester with or without notice to the out-of-state student's family or resident school district.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5003
Post-Graduate

Except in adult education classes or when otherwise approved by the board of education, no person who is of 21 years of age or older, or who has earned a high school diploma or its equivalent will be allowed to attend school in the district.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5004 Option Enrollment

The board of education supports the concept embodied in the Enrollment Option Program that parents and legal guardians have the primary responsibility for insuring that their children receive the best education possible. Accordingly, the school district will participate in the option enrollment program and receive option students as provided herein.

1. Definitions

- a. **Option Student Defined.** Option student shall mean a nonresident student who has chosen to attend the school district under the provisions of the option enrollment program.
- b. **Resident School District Defined.** Resident school district shall mean the school district in which a student resides or in which the student is deemed to reside by operation of state law.
- c. **Option School District Defined.** Option school district shall mean the school district that a student chooses to attend other than his or her resident school district.

2. Persons Entitled to Apply for Option Enrollment of Students.

Only parents and legal guardians may apply for option enrollment of students. Applications filed by foster parents and adults acting *in loco parentis* are not authorized and will be automatically denied.

3. Duties, Entitlements and Rights of Option Students.

Except as otherwise provided herein, option students shall be treated as resident students of the school district.

4. Standards for Acceptance or Rejection of Option Students.

- a. In determining whether to accept or reject applications for students to option into the district, the board of education may consider the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building. Capacity shall be determined by setting a maximum number of option students that this school district will accept in any program, class, grade level, or school building, based upon factors such as, but not limited to, available staff, facilities, projected enrollment of resident students, projected number of students with which the

option district will contract based on existing contractual arrangements, and the availability of appropriate education programs. The board may, by resolution, declare a program, a class, or a school unavailable to option students due to lack of capacity.

- b. The school district shall not accept any option student into any program, class, grade level or school building when acceptance of the student would cause overcrowding in that program, class, grade level or school building as determined by the school administration, or would significantly increase the operating costs of the school district, such as by requiring the hiring of new staff.
- c. The school district shall accept an option student with a disability only to the extent that the school district's then current staff and facilities are sufficient to accommodate the student's needs without significantly increasing the operating costs of the school district, such as by requiring the hiring of new staff.
- d. The school district shall not base the decision to accept or reject an option student on the student's previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, disabling condition(s), proficiency in the English language, or previous disciplinary proceedings.
- e. If there are more option student applicants for any program, class, grade level or school building than can be accepted into such program, class, grade level or school building, applicants shall be accepted in the following order:
 - i. students with brothers or sisters attending the school district, either as resident students or as option students, shall be granted first priority;
 - ii. thereafter, option students shall be accepted into such program, class, grade level or school building in the order in which written applications were received by the school district.

5. **False or Misleading Option Applications.** If, prior to the student's attendance as an option student, the school district discovers that a previously accepted option application contained false or substantively misleading information, the option application will be rejected.

6. **Certain Programs Unavailable to Option Students.** The board reserves the right by resolution to declare a program, a class, or a school building unavailable to option students due to lack of capacity.
7. **Academic Credits and Graduation.** The school district shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by another school district, and shall award a diploma to an option student if the student meets the graduation requirements of the school district.
8. **Information Regarding Schools, Programs, Policies and Procedures.** The school district, its officers and employees, shall make information about the school district and its schools, programs, policies and procedures available to all interested people.
9. **Procedure for Students Optioning Into or Out of the School District.**
 - a. The parent or legal guardian of any student desiring to option into or out of the school district shall submit a proper and timely application to the Superintendent and the other affected school district for enrollment during the following and subsequent school years. Any application requiring the approval of the school district shall be deemed submitted when the application is actually received in the school district's business office.
 - b. On or before May 1st, the school district shall notify the parent or legal guardian of any student who has submitted an application to option into the school district and the resident school district, in writing, whether the application is accepted or rejected. If an application is rejected, the reason for such rejection shall be stated in the notification. This written notice shall be sent via certified mail to the address listed on the option application.
10. **Late Applications**
 - a. The Superintendent shall make a case by case decision for the school district when the option application is submitted after May 1st.

11. Students Who Do Not Need a Release from the Resident District

- a. A student does not need to be released from his/her resident district under the following circumstances:
 - i. When the student has relocated to a different resident school district after February 1
 - ii. When a student's option school district merges with another district effective after February 1
- b. The Superintendent shall accept or reject an application from a student under this paragraph using the criteria set forth in this policy and will take action on the application within forty-five days.

12. Cancellation of Option.

Students who option either into or out of the school district shall:

- a. Attend the option school district until graduation or relocation/re-option in a different resident school district unless the student chooses to return to the resident school district, in which case the student's parent or legal guardian shall timely submit a cancellation form to the school board or board of education of the option school district and the resident school district for approval for the following year.
- b. Attend an option school district for not less than one school year unless the student relocates to a different resident school district, completes requirements for graduation prior to the end the school year, transfers to a parochial or private school, or upon mutual agreement of the resident and option school districts cancels the enrollment option and returns to the resident school district.

13. Authority of Superintendent.

The board of education authorizes the superintendent of schools to make decisions on its behalf pursuant to and to apply the criteria articulated by this policy in determining whether to grant or deny option enrollment applications.

Adopted on: _____
Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5005
Transportation of Option Students

The board of education does not provide transportation services for option-enrolled students, unless such services are otherwise required by law.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5006
Foreign Exchange Students

The school district may accept a foreign exchange student on a non-tuition basis if the student is sponsored by an organized exchange program that is acceptable to the board of education, approved for enrollment, and resides with a host family that lives within district boundaries.

A foreign student is not entitled to tuition-free schooling in the school district merely because he or she resides with a family within the district. The host family and/or sponsoring exchange program must file an application with the administration to enroll the student. In reviewing the application, the administration will consider the following factors:

whether the student possesses a sufficient command of the English language;

whether an appropriate program is available;

whether the student meets the general admission requirements for the school; and

such other factors as are relevant to the admission of the student.

Foreign exchange students who are accepted and enrolled will be subject to all policies and regulations governing the conduct and behavior of resident students. All foreign exchange applications must be received by August 1st of the upcoming school year.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5007
Enrollment of Expelled Students

The administration shall not enroll any student during the term of any known expulsion of the student from any public school in any state unless the board of education has approved the enrollment by a vote of a majority of the members of the board. The district shall not enroll any student during the known term of any expulsion of the student from a private school for an offense for which expulsion is authorized for a public school student unless the board has approved the enrollment by a vote of a majority of the members of the board. This policy does not require the board to take a vote on the enrollment application of any such student.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5008
Married and/or Pregnant Students

Students who are married and/or pregnant are encouraged to continue with their formal education, and will be allowed to stay in their school placement if they so desire.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5009
Adult Education

The school district may offer adult education programs.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5010 Immunizations

1. General Rule

- a. Each student wishing to enroll in the school district is required to be immunized against measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis and varicella (chicken pox) prior to enrollment.
- b. The district is not responsible for the cost of such immunizations.
- c. Any student who does not comply with this policy shall not be permitted to continue attending school.

2. Exceptions

- a. Provisional Enrollment.

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

- b. Immunization shall not be required if the student's parent or guardian submits one of the following to the superintendent of schools:
 - i. A statement signed by a medical professional stating that the required immunization would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student or any member of the student's household.
 - ii. An affidavit signed by the student or a legally authorized representative of the student, stating that the immunization conflicts with the student's sincerely held religious beliefs.
- c. 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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

5011
Physical Examination of Students

The following students shall provide evidence of a physical examination by a qualified health care provider:

- all incoming students in the beginner grade;
- students in seventh grade; and
- all out-of-state transfer students.

Evidence of a physical examination must be dated no more than six months prior to entrance or within sixty days after enrollment. If the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) object to a physical examination, they must submit a signed and dated refusal form to the school.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5012
Basic Testing Program

The school district will use a basic testing program to evaluate the outcome of the educational program and to provide information needed in working with individuals. The program will be supplemented by such individual and supplementary tests as the needs of the educational program and the district indicate. The superintendent and designees will coordinate the program from Kindergarten through twelfth grade to provide continuity. Teachers are prohibited from engaging in any behavior that adversely affects the validity of test scores as a measure of student achievement

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5013

Use and Dissemination of Test Results

At the board of education's regular July meeting, the superintendent of schools shall provide an annual written report consisting of the results of the district's performance program including but not limited to: standardized norm-referenced assessments, criterion-referenced assessments, student performance, school system demographics, financial information, a follow-up study of graduates, and a learning climate survey. This report shall be made available to all patrons of the district. Building level results will be reported only to appropriate staff for review and goal setting.

This report shall not include any individual test scores or assessment, but individual student test scores or assessment results will be reported to the student's parents or legal guardian(s).

A comprehensive evaluation of the district shall be conducted at least once every five years using instruments and guides approved by the Department of Education.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5014 Homeless Students

1. General Policy

The school district will provide tuition free education for homeless children and youth who are in the district and accord them the educational rights and legal protections provided by state and federal law. Homeless children and youth shall not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless and shall have access to the same services offered to other students. It is the intent of this policy to remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless children and youth in the school district.

2. Homeless Liaison

The district's homeless liaison is the Superintendent. Students in homeless situations who require assistance should contact the liaison at 308 262 1470 or in person at the District Office, 800 Q Street, Bridgeport, Ne 69336.

3. Definitions

- a. "Homeless children and youth" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and include
 - i. Children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals or are awaiting foster care placement; and
 - ii. Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
 - iii. Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
 - iv. Migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

- b. The term "homeless" or "homeless individual" does not include any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained by the act of Congress or by state law.
- c. "Child" and "youth" refers to persons who, if they were children of residents of the District, would be entitled to a free education.
- d. The term "unaccompanied youth" includes a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.
- e. "School of origin" means the school that the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled.

4. Strategies to Address Enrollment Delays. In order to address enrollment delays resulting from homelessness, the school district shall immediately enroll homeless students even if they are unable to produce records normally required for enrollment such as immunization and medical records, residency documents, birth certificates, school records, or other documentation, or guardianship documents. The school district shall immediately contact the school last attended by the student to obtain academic and other records. The school district's homeless liaison shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations, or immunization or medical records.

5. Transportation. Transportation shall be provided to homeless students to the extent required by law and comparable to that provided to students who are not homeless. At the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the liaison), transportation shall be provided to and from the school of origin as follows:

- a. If the homeless child or youth continues to live in the area served by the school district, the child's or youth's transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided or arranged by the school district.
- b. If the homeless child's or youth's living arrangements in the area served by the school district terminate and the child or youth, though continuing his or her education in the school district, begins living in an area served by another school district, the school district and the new school district in which the homeless

child or youth is living shall negotiate to agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from the school district. If the districts are unable to agree, the responsibility and cost for transportation shall be shared equally.

6. Dispute Process. If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment in a school:

- a. The child or youth shall be admitted immediately to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute;
- b. The child, youth, parent, or guardian shall be referred to the district's homeless liaison who shall carry out the dispute resolution process within (30) thirty calendar days after receiving notice of the dispute;
- c. The parent or guardian of the child or youth shall be provided with a written explanation of the school's decision regarding school selection or enrollment, including the rights of the parent, guardian, or youth to appeal the decision within (30) thirty calendar days of the time such complaint or dispute is brought.
- d. In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the homeless liaison shall ensure that the youth is immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought pending resolution of the dispute.

7. Appeal Process

a. Nebraska Department of Education. If the Complainant is not satisfied with the written decision of the District after the dispute resolution process, the Complainant may appeal the decision of the District to the Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education within (30) thirty calendar days of receipt of the decision from the District, pursuant to Nebraska Department of Education Rule 19.

b. State Board of Education. If the Complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the Commissioner, the Complainant may file a Petition with the State Board of Education within (30) thirty calendar days of the receipt of the decision of the Commissioner pursuant to

Nebraska Department of Education Rule 19.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Reviewed on: _____

Revised on: _____

5015

Protection of Pupil Rights

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

1. Surveys

- a. Surveys Created by a Third Party
 - i. This section applies to every survey:
 - (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district staff member or student;
 - (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified; and
 - (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions
 - ii. Parents have the right to inspect any survey created by a third party before that survey is distributed to their student.
- b. Surveys Requesting Particular Sensitive Information
 - i. Sensitive information shall include:
 - (1) Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent(s);
 - (2) Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
 - (3) Sexual behavior or attitudes;
 - (4) Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 - (5) Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
 - (6) Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers; physicians, and ministers;
 - (7) Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent(s); or
 - (8) Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program), without prior written consent of the parent or eligible student.
 - ii. No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that requests sensitive information.

- iii. If a survey requesting sensitive information is funded, in whole or in part, by a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education, the school district must obtain the written consent of a student's parent(s) before the student participates in the survey.
 - iv. School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey (created by any person or entity, including the district) containing any sensitive information.
 - v. Parents have the right to inspect any survey which requests sensitive information before that survey is distributed to their student.
- c. Survey Inspection Requests
 - i. School officials shall inform parents of their right to inspect surveys requesting sensitive information before the surveys are distributed to any student.
 - ii. All survey inspection requests must be in writing to the building principal and delivered to the building principal prior to the date on which the survey is scheduled to be administered to the students.
 - iii. The principal shall respond to survey inspection requests without delay.

2. Invasive Physical Examinations

- a. The term "invasive physical examination" means:
 - i. any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts; or
 - ii. any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body; and
 - iii. does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.
- b. Parents may refuse to allow their student to participate in any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is:
 - i. required as a condition of attendance;
 - ii. administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
 - iii. not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.
- c. This policy does not apply to any physical examination or screening that:
 - i. is permitted or required by an applicable state law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification;

- ii. is administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*)
- iii. is otherwise authorized by Board policy.

3. Collection of Personal Information from Students for Marketing

- a. The term “personal information” means individually identifiable information including:
 - i. student’s and parent(s)’ first and last name;
 - ii. home or other physical address;
 - iii. telephone number; and/or
 - iv. social security number.
- b. No school official or staff member shall administer or distribute to students a survey or other instrument for the purpose of collecting personal information for marketing or for selling that information.
- c. This policy does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for the exclusive purpose of providing educational services to students, such as the following:
 - i. post-secondary education recruitment;
 - ii. military recruitment;
 - iii. tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic or achievement information about students; and/or
 - iv. student recognition programs.

4. Inspection of Instructional Material

- a. Definition
 - i. The term “instructional materials” means instructional content that is provided to a student regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet).
 - ii. The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.
- b. Parents may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child’s education curriculum.
- c. Curriculum inspection requests must be made to the building principal in writing.
- d. Building principals shall respond to inspection requests within a reasonable amount of time.

5. Notification of Rights and Procedures

- a. The superintendent shall notify parents of:
 - i. this policy and its availability upon request from the office of the district;
 - ii. how to opt their child out of participation in activities as provided for in this policy;
 - iii. the approximate dates during the school year when a survey requesting personal information is scheduled or expected to be scheduled; and
 - iv. how to request access to any survey or other material described in this policy.
- b. This notification shall be given to parents as least annually, at the beginning of the school year and within a reasonable period after any substantive change in this policy.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5016

Student Records

The school district shall maintain student records and reports as are necessary for effective administration and in compliance with law. In general "student records" shall not include transitory communications such as e-mail, text messages, handwritten communication between school and home and the like, and these items will not generally be maintained by the district.

Each building principal will assign responsibilities for the preparation and maintenance of pupil records and will establish rules and regulations regarding their storage and use in the building.

Students or their parents, guardians, teachers, counselors, or school administrators shall have access to the school's files or records maintained concerning themselves or their students. For purposes of this policy, "teachers" include paraeducators and volunteers who are providing educational services to a student on behalf of the School District. "School administrators" include attorneys, members of law enforcement acting on behalf of the school district as well as third-party website operators who have contracted with the school district or its agent to offer online programs for the benefit of students and the district. No other person shall have access thereto nor shall the contents thereof be divulged in any manner to any unauthorized person. All disciplinary material shall be removed and destroyed upon the pupil's graduation or after the pupil's continuous absence from the school for a period of three years, and after authorization is given by the State Records Board pursuant to state law. Upon request, the school district will disclose education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

Outside agencies such as physicians, probation officers, psychologists, child guidance clinics, and other agencies concerned with child welfare who are working directly with a child may have access to information pertaining to that child with written parental consent.

The school district shall share student data, records, and information with school districts, educational service units, learning communities, and the State Department of Education to the fullest extent practicable unless otherwise prohibited by law.

Each year, the school district will notify parents and guardians of their rights under this policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5017
Routine Directory Information

The school district shall disclose the following as routine directory information pertaining to any past, present or future student who is, has been, or will be regularly enrolled in the district.

- 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.

Upon request, the district will provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses and telephone listings of high school students unless a student's parents have notified the district that they do not want this information disclosed without their prior written consent

The district will notify parents and guardians each year of their rights under this policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Parents will be given to opportunity to prevent the release of this directory information by filing a written objection with the district.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5018
Parental Involvement In Education Practices

The school district recognizes the importance of parental involvement in the education of their children. To ensure such rights, parents will be:

1. Provided access, as described in district procedures, to district-approved textbooks and other curricular materials and tests used in the district.
 - a. A parental request to review specific approved textbooks and other district- or building-approved curricular materials (written, visual, and audio) should be made to the principal of the building where the textbooks and curriculum materials are used. Parents may check out textbooks and may review curricular materials such as video and audio recordings within a time frame determined by the building principal to prevent disruption of the instructional process. A parental request to review specific standardized and criterion-referenced tests used in the district should be made in writing to the building principal. Copies of the most recent tests used in the district will be available for parent review. In the case of secure tests such as the ACT, parents must contact the publisher to obtain copies of the test.
2. Permitted, within district procedures, to attend and observe courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities.
 - a. Parents are invited to make appointments with the building principal to visit classes, assemblies and other instructional activities. The principal shall give permission after determining that parental observation would not disrupt the activity.
 - b. Parents may request permission to attend counseling sessions in which their child is involved.
3. Permitted, within district procedures, to ask that their children be excused from testing, classroom instruction, surveys and other school experiences that parents find objectionable.
 - a. Building principals will excuse a student from any single school experience at the parent's written request.

- b. When appropriate, alternative experiences will be provided for the student by the school.
- 4. Informed through the student handbook of the manner that the district will provide access to records of students.
- 5. Informed of the standardized and criterion-referenced district testing program. Parents may request additional information from the building principal.
- 6. Notified of their right to remove their children from surveys prior to district participation in surveys.
 - a. The principal must approve all surveys intended to gather information from students before they are administered to students.
 - b. Students' participation in surveys is voluntary. Parents may restrict their child from participating in any survey.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5019
Communicating with Parents

Parents shall be kept informed of student progress, grades, and attendance through 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 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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5020
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.

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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5021
Student Photograph and Video Policy

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 the administration. 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.

Adopted:July 18th, 2016

5022
Investigations and Arrests by Police
or Other Law Enforcement Officers

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 not allow law enforcement officers access to students to conduct an investigation during school hours unless the officers are investigating charges that the student has been the victim of abuse or neglect. Contact between the school and law enforcement authorities on matters involving students shall be made through the office of the superintendent or principal and the law enforcement officer.

Law enforcement officers may talk to a student away from the school before or after school hours, and they should be encouraged to do so. Law enforcement officers shall be allowed to conduct an interview at the school only when the interview is conducted at the request of the school or when they can show that special circumstances exist. This determination should be made by the appropriate building principal or superintendent. Law enforcement officers should be permitted to interview students on school grounds only after providing the superintendent or appropriate building principal with a statement in writing that the law enforcement officer has reason to believe and does believe that the student is the victim of child abuse or neglect perpetrated by the child's parent(s) or some other member of the child's immediate family or household, and that the law enforcement official wishes to interview the student regarding such abuse or neglect.

Throughout this process, all attempts should be made to avoid embarrassing the student before his or her teachers and peers, and to avoid disrupting the student's and school's education program.

1. Law enforcement officers should be permitted to take custody of a student if they possess an arrest warrant or if they otherwise assert a lawful basis for doing so. Whenever possible, the arrest or release of the student should be conducted in the building principal's office and out of the view of other students. When a principal or other school official releases a minor student to a law enforcement officer for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, he or she shall take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or other responsible adult regarding the release of the minor to the officer and the place to which the minor is reportedly being

taken, except when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse. If the law enforcement officer indicates that the child is being taken into custody because the child is the victim of suspected child abuse, the principal or other school official shall, as a condition of releasing the student to the law enforcement officer, require the officer to sign the statement appended hereto certifying that the child is being removed from school premises because he or she is believed to be the victim of child abuse and that the officer understands and will comply with the legal requirements of NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-294.

2. Law enforcement personnel shall not be allowed to roam about the school until the student is found, and shall remain in the administration office while school personnel seek the student.
3. If possible, the education program of the student should not be disrupted to allow for police questioning of the student during class time.
4. Any questioning by law enforcement officers that is permitted should be conducted in a private room or area where confidentiality can be maintained. This should be an area removed from observation by or contact with other pupils and school personnel.
5. If law enforcement officers are to be allowed to question a student under the age of 18, the principal or school official shall make a reasonable attempt to notify the child's parents before questioning begins, except in cases of suspected child abuse or child neglect involving the parent or other family member. The parents should be given the opportunity to come to the school prior to the questioning.
6. If the parents are notified and are able to attend, they should be allowed to be present at the interview. The principal or designee should be present at the interview, but should not take part in any questioning. The principal or designee should remain a neutral observer at all times.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5023

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 supports 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 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.

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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5024

Medication of Students

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, (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:

1. Prescription medication

- a. Parents/guardians must provide a physician's written authorization for the administration of the medication.
- b. Parents/guardians must provide their own written permission for the administration of the medication.
- c. 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.

2. Non-prescription medication

- a. Parents/guardians must provide written permission for the administration of the medication
- b. The medication must be brought to the school in the manufacturer's container.
- c. 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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5025
Insurance Program

The school district is not an insurer of student safety, and parents are encouraged to secure insurance covering their students' healthcare needs, including catastrophic coverage for injuries which may be sustained while participating in athletics or other extracurricular activities.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5026
Sex Equality in the Education Program

The district prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity except when it is necessary to accomplish a specific purpose that does not impinge upon essential equality or fairness in the treatment of students or employees. Employees are required to comply with this policy and the subsequent rules and regulations, as well as with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the regulations of the U.S. Department of Education as applicable to this district.

The district's Title IX Coordinator is the Superintendent. The Title IX Coordinator may be contacted at 308 262 1470 or in person at 800 Q Street, Bridgeport NE 69336.

The Title IX Coordinator shall administer, coordinate, and publish this policy, together with any rules and regulations, to all students, parents, and other interested groups and associations. The Title IX Coordinator shall report annually to the board of education on the district's compliance with this policy and shall recommend such changes as he or she deems necessary.

Any individual who believes he or she is being discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, or age may seek relief by filing a complaint pursuant to Board Policy 2006 – Complaint Policy.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5027

Sexual Harassment of Students by Other Students

Students should be provided with an environment that is free from unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct constituting sexual harassment. The board of education unequivocally prohibits sexual harassment by its students against other students even when the affected student does not complain to the faculty or the administration.

Sexual harassment is a form of misconduct that wrongfully deprives students of their dignity and the opportunity to study and be in an environment free from unwelcome sexual overtones. Sexual harassment includes all unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other such verbal or physical misconduct. Sexual harassment means:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical misconduct of a sexual nature constitutes sexual harassment when such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's educational opportunities or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment.

A student who feels he or she has been sexually harassed by another student should directly inform the offending student that the conduct or communication is offensive and must stop. If the student does not wish to communicate directly with the offending student, or if direct communication has been ineffective, the student should report the conduct or communication to the Title IX coordinator or to a teacher, principal or counselor with whom she or he feels comfortable.

Regardless of the means selected for resolving the problem, the good faith initiation of a complaint of sexual harassment will not cause any reflection on the complaining student, or affect his or her status as a student.

Any student who sexually harasses another student will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion, depending on the severity of the misconduct. A decision to take disciplinary action under this policy may be based on the statements of a complaining student, statements, observations of educators, or any other credible evidence.

This policy pertains to sexual harassment of students by other students. The sexual harassment of students by school district employees is governed by other board policy.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5028 Initiations

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.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5029
Crisis Response Policy

I. The following objectives apply to dealing with a crisis situation:

- A. Ensuring the safety and emotional security of students.
- B. Formulating a plan of action immediately that provides uniformity in the treatment of each crisis.
- C. Identifying those students and staff who will likely be most strongly affected by grief.
- D. Preserving, to the extent possible, the daily school routine and pre-scheduled activities so as not to draw others into deeper levels of grief than they would normally experience.
- E. Monitoring students' progress through the stages of the grief process.
- F. Making the school's resources available to parents and guardians who become concerned about their child's reaction to a crisis.

II. Policy

- A. School Hours
 - 1. During a crisis situation, the administration will maintain established school hours and proceed with all co-curricular activities as scheduled whenever possible.
 - 2. If, during a crisis situation, the parent(s) or guardian of a student decide that the student needs to be absent, this absence will be excused.
- B. Access to School Facilities
 - 1. The school's facilities may not be used for funeral or memorial services during the school day.

2. This policy does not discourage the presentation of traditional American Legion memorial services which promote patriotism.

C. Memorials

1. Memorials often create a visual reminder of a particular crisis that may reintroduce feelings of grief for students. Therefore, memorials may not be displayed anywhere on the school premises without board approval.

This policy is not intended to discourage the acceptance of memorial funds or specific items.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5031
Student Appearance

Any manner of dress, hair style, make up, or personal cleanliness, that constitutes a threat to the safety, health, welfare, or morals of the student or others; that violates any statute; that interferes with the education process, or that school officials can reasonably predict will interfere with the education process; or that causes or may cause excessive maintenance problems in the school, may be grounds for corrective or disciplinary action. The superintendent or designee may institute specific dress code regulations in any school consistent with board policy.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

Student Driving and Parking

Students who drive to school are required to park their vehicles and leave them unoccupied until it is time to drive home. Students may not drive or have access to their vehicles during the school day without the express permission of their building principal or the superintendent of schools.

Students are to park appropriately and in the assigned areas on school property. Student parking shall not be permitted in bus loading zones. When the buses are loading or unloading, all vehicles must stop and wait for the loading or unloading process to be completed.

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

Adopted on: July 18, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5034
Handbooks

The student handbook is an extension of these policies and has the force and effect of board policy when approved by the board of education.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5035
Student Discipline

Students who violate school rules will face disciplinary consequences up to and including expulsion from school. The code of conduct and procedure for imposing discipline on students is set forth in Board Policy 6024 and the student handbook. The board of education will not consider an appeal of any disciplinary sanction unless the student and his/her family have complied with all applicable procedures.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5036
Lockers

Lockers are the property of the school district and students are permitted to use them without charge. 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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5037

Student Internet and Computer Access

Students are expected to use computers and the Internet as an educational resource. The following procedures and guidelines govern the use of computers and the Internet at school.

I. Student Expectations in the Use of the Internet

A. Acceptable Use

1. Students may use the Internet to conduct research assigned by teachers.
2. Students may use the Internet to conduct research for classroom projects.
3. Students may use the Internet to gain access to information about current events.
4. Students may use the Internet to conduct research for school-related activities.
5. Students may use the Internet for appropriate educational purposes.

B. Unacceptable Use

1. Students shall not use school computers to gain access to material that is obscene, pornographic, harmful to minors, or otherwise inappropriate for educational uses.
2. Students shall not engage in any illegal or inappropriate activities on school computers, including the downloading and copying of copyrighted material.
3. Students shall not use electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, or other forms of direct electronic communications on school computers.
4. Students shall not use school computers to participate in on-line auctions, on-line gaming or mp3 sharing systems including, but not limited to Aimster or Freenet and the like.
5. Students shall not disclose personal information, such as their names, school, addresses, or telephone numbers outside the school network.

6. Students shall not use school computers for commercial advertising or political advocacy of any kind without the express written permission of the system administrator.
7. Students shall not publish web pages that purport to represent the school district or the work of students at the school district without the express written permission of the system administrator.
8. Students shall not erase, rename or make unusable anyone else's computer files, programs or disks.
9. Students shall not share their passwords with fellow students, school volunteers or any other individuals, and shall not use, or try to discover, another user's password.
10. Students shall not copy, change or transfer any software or documentation provided by the school district, teachers or another student without permission from the system administrator.
11. Students shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate or attempt to introduce any computer code designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called, but is not limited to, a bug, virus, worm, or Trojan Horse.
12. Students shall not configure or troubleshoot computers, networks, printers or other associated equipment, except as directed by a teacher or the system administrator.
13. Students shall not take home technology equipment (hardware or software) without permission of the system administrator.
14. Students shall not forge electronic mail messages or web pages.

II. Enforcement

A. Methods of Enforcement

1. The district monitors all Internet communications, Internet usage and patterns of Internet usage. Students have no right of privacy to any Internet communications or other electronic files. The computer system is owned by the school district. As with any school property, any electronic files on the system are subject to search and inspection at any time.

2. The school district uses a technology protection measure that blocks access to some Internet sites that are not in accordance with the policy of the school district. Standard use of the Internet utilizes a proxy server-based filter that screens for non-curriculum related pages.
3. Due to the nature of filtering technology, the filter may at times filter pages that are appropriate for student research. The system administrator may override the technology protection measure for the student to access a site with legitimate educational value that is wrongly blocked.
4. The school district staff will monitor students' use of the Internet through direct supervision and by monitoring Internet use history to ensure enforcement of the policy.

B. Consequences for Violation of this Policy

1. Access to the school's computer system and to the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Any violation of school policy and rules may result in:
 - a. Loss of computer privileges;
 - b. Short-term suspension;
 - c. Long-term suspension or expulsion in accordance with the Nebraska Student Discipline Act; and
 - d. Other discipline as school administration and the school board deem appropriate.
2. Students who use school computer systems without permission and for non-school purposes may be guilty of a criminal violation and will be prosecuted.

III. Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

- A. The school will not allow companies and to collect personal information from children under 13 for commercial purposes. The school will make reasonable efforts to disable advertising in educational computer applications.
- B. This policy allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for education purposes.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5038
Lunch Program

The superintendent shall be the administrator of school lunch program which shall be run in accordance with state and federal guidelines.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5039
Money-Raising Activities

All money-raising activities shall require authorization by a member of the school district administration.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5040
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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5041
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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5042
Bulletin Boards

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

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5043
School-Sponsored Publications

School-sponsored student publications and electronic media productions are part of the school district's instructional program. The board of education supports the development of student communication skills through school-sponsored newspapers, annuals, magazines, and electronic media including computer, video and digital productions.

Student publications and productions must conform to all good scholastic and professional journalistic standards. The board delegates to the superintendent of schools the right to prohibit dissemination of any school-sponsored publication or media production that does not conform to these standards, or which the superintendent or designee deems inappropriate for the school environment.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5044
Safe Pupil Transportation Plan

It is the goal of the school district to provide safe, comfortable and reliable transportation for bus-riding school children.

1. Emergency Procedures

a) Mechanical breakdown

In the event of a mechanical breakdown, the driver will:

- 1) Stop the vehicle in a safe location
- 2) Keep passengers in the vehicle, if it is safe to do so
- 3) Take steps to warn motorists, by activating hazard lights and placing emergency triangles
- 4) Radio or call for assistance

b) Injuries/Medical Emergencies

If a student is seriously injured or suffers from a medical emergency, the driver will stop the vehicle at the first safe opportunity. The driver will provide emergency medical assistance in accordance with the driver's first aid training. The driver will notify the school district of the emergency using the radio or other communication equipment. The district will then summon emergency medical services by immediately calling 911 and notify administrative personnel.

c) Severe Weather

1) Tornadoes.

If the driver determines that there is likelihood that a tornado will hit the vehicle, and there is not an escape route available or time to drive to a safe location, the driver will evacuate the vehicle, taking only the first aid kit. The driver will take the students to the basement of a nearby building or to the nearest depression or ditch upwind (toward the storm) of the vehicle far enough away from the vehicle so that it will not roll over on the students. The driver should instruct students to cover their heads with their arms. If the students are wearing coats or jackets, they can be used to provide additional protection for their heads and bodies. If there is no time to evacuate the students after stopping the vehicle, the driver

should have the students remain in their seats and assume a protective position with their heads below window level.

2) **Winter Weather**

If the school district or driver determines that a trip is too dangerous to drive due to winter weather conditions, the district will cancel the trip.

Parents should ensure that students are appropriately dressed for winter conditions.

d) **Weapons, Hazardous Substances and Dangerous Contraband**

If a driver discovers that a passenger may have a weapon, hazardous substance or other dangerous contraband on the vehicle, he or she should remain calm and call for assistance. The driver should not inform passengers of the presence of the weapon or other contraband.

e) **Terroristic Threat**

If a driver receives a terroristic threat that he or she deems credible, he or she will notify the school district of the threat using the radio or other communication equipment. After consulting with school officials, the driver will determine whether the threat requires evacuation of the bus. The school will promptly notify the authorities of the threat.

For purposes of this policy, a terroristic threat is a threat to commit any crime of violence or to burn or damage property with the purpose of terrorizing another or of causing the evacuation of the bus or in reckless disregard of causing such terror or inconvenience

f) **Emergency Incident Reports**

Drivers will provide written documentation of any of the emergency events specified in this policy by completing the incident form attached hereto. This documentation must be submitted to the school administration within 24 hours of the event.

2. **Drop-off**

Drivers will drop students off at a location pre-determined through communication between the school district and parents/guardians.

In the event the drop-off location is uncertain or appears to be unsafe, the driver will communicate with school staff in the building to seek additional guidance.

In no event will a driver drop a student off in a location which in the reasonable judgment of the driver appears to be unsafe. Drivers who believe the drop-off location to be unsafe shall release students directly into the custody of a parent/guardian or shall return students to their school building.

3. Evacuation of Students With Disabilities

The Transportation supervisor, in consultation with bus drivers and members of the administrative team, shall develop a written emergency evacuation plan for each bus route. The plan shall include an assessment of each student's ability to evacuate himself or herself as well as his or her ability to assist others. Disabled students should practice their evacuation skills as required of their non-disabled peers if possible during evacuation drills. Students or other individuals who will be assisting disabled students evacuate during emergencies should practice this skill during evacuation drills. Drivers or students who will be assisting with the evacuation process should be familiar with any equipment on the bus that would aid in the actual evacuation.

4. Student Behavior on School Vehicles

Riding school vehicles is a privilege, not a right. 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.

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) Student must respect the rights and safety of others at all times.
- 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:

- 1) Note home to parents
- 2) Suspension of bus riding privileges
- 3) Exclusion from extracurricular activities

- 4) In-school suspension
- 5) Short term or long term suspension from school
- 6) 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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5045 Student Fees

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.

A. 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.

B. Listing of Fees Charged by this District.

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

3. Personal or Consumable Items.

The district may 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 district does not 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.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for course materials shall be:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| ▪ Industrial Technology Classes | \$TBD |
| ▪ Art Classes | \$TBD |
| ▪ Family and Consumer Science Classes | \$TBD |

5. Extracurricular Activities.

The 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. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will 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.

The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all extracurricular activities fees and the specifications for any equipment or attire required for participation in extracurricular activities:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ▪ Student activity card | \$TBD |
| <i>Covers admission to all extracurricular events</i> | |
| ▪ Student participation fee | \$TBD |
| <i>Required of all students who participate in athletics and/or other extracurricular activities</i> | |
| ▪ Future Business Leaders of America | \$TBD |
| ▪ DECA | \$TBD |
| ▪ National Honor Society | \$TBD |
| ▪ Cheerleading, Drill Team, Flag Corps | Students must purchase uniforms and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group. The maximum dollar amount charged by the school district for these items will be \$TBD. |
| ▪ Football | students must provide their own football shoes, undergarments, and mouth guards |

▪ Golf	students must provide their own golf shoes, undergarments, and clubs
▪ Softball and Baseball	students must provide their own shoes, gloves, and undergarments
▪ Track, Volleyball, Wrestling and Basketball	students must provide their own shoes and undergarments
▪ Future Farmers of America	student must purchase their own jackets and pay dues of \$TBD
▪ Rifle and Trap Teams	students must provide their own weapons and ammunition
▪ Science Club	\$TBD
▪ FCCLA	\$TBD
▪ Spanish Club	\$TBD

6. Post-Secondary Education Costs.

Some students enroll in postsecondary courses while still enrolled in the district's 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 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 will charge students reasonable fees for transportation services provided by the district to the extent permitted by federal and state statutes and regulations.

The maximum dollar amount of the transportation fee charged by this district shall be \$TBD.

8. Copies of Student Files or Records.

The district will charge a fee for making copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of student record fees. Parents of students have the right to inspect and review the students' files or records without the payment of a fee, and the district shall not charge a fee to search for or retrieve any student's files or records.

The district will charge a fee of \$TBD per page for reproduction of student records.

9. Participation in Before-and-After-School or Pre-Kindergarten Services.

The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in before-and-after school or pre-kindergarten services offered by the district pursuant to statute.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these services shall be \$TBD.

10. 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.

The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for summer and night school shall be \$TBD.

11. 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.

12. 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 and marching band shoes, which must be white, rubber-soled sneakers
- Swing Choir Students must purchase outfits and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for these materials will be \$TBD

13. Contributions for Junior and Senior Class Extracurricular Activities.

Students are eligible to participate in a number of unique extracurricular activities during their last two years in 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. This contribution is completely voluntary. Students who chose not to contribute to the class fund are still eligible to participate in the extra activities. The suggested donation to the class fund will be \$TBD.

C. 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. Actual participation in the free or reduced-price lunch program is not required 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.

D. Distribution of Policy.

This policy will be published in the Student Handbook or its equivalent that will be provided to students at no cost.

E. Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.

The district will, when appropriate, 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 clearly communicate that fact to students, parents and patrons.

F. Fund-Raising Activities

Students may be permitted or required to engage in fund-raising activities to support various curricular and extracurricular activities in which they participate. Students who decline to participate in fund-raising activities are not eligible under this policy for waiver of the costs or fees which the fund-raising activity was meant to defray.

G. Student Fee Fund.

The school board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund that will not be funded by tax revenue, and that will serve as a depository for all monies collected from students for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) post-secondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school courses. Monies in the Student Fee Fund shall be expended only for the purposes for which they were collected from students.

CERTIFICATION

On the ____ day of _____, 20__, the Board of Education of _____ Public Schools held a public hearing on a proposed student fee policy. The hearing followed a review of the amount of money collected from students pursuant to, and the use of waivers provided in, the student fee policy for the ____-__ school year. This student fee policy was then adopted by a majority vote of the school board at an open public meeting conducted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Superintendent of Schools or Other
Authorized School Representative

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5046
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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5047
Press Releases

All press releases regarding school-related activities and events must have administrative approval prior to being given to the media. The superintendent may delegate responsibility for communicating with the media to building principals, the activities director, event sponsors, and other staff on an ad hoc basis.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5048

**Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or
Systemic Allergic Reactions (ANAPHYLAXIS)**

School employees will comply with the requirements of "Protocol: Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis)". The district shall procure and maintain the equipment and medication necessary to implement the protocol.

The superintendent shall obtain the required signature(s) of one or more physicians licensed to practice medicine in Nebraska on the form entitled "Protocol: Emergency Response to Life Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis)" ("Protocol"). The superintendent shall publish this policy and Protocol in each employee handbook.

The superintendent shall arrange to have a qualified medical person train employees, and for training updates as necessary.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5049
Firearms and Weapons

Weapons. No student may possess, handle, or transmit any weapon while on school grounds or at any school activity or event off school grounds except as permitted by this policy. No visitor under the age of 18 may possess, handle, or transmit any weapon while on school grounds or at any school activity or event off school grounds except as permitted by this policy. **Definition of Weapon.** The term “weapon” means any object, device, instrument, material, or substance which is capable of causing injury in the manner it is used or intended to be used.

Firearms. No person may bring, possess, handle or transmit a firearm on school grounds, in a school owned vehicle, or at a school activity or event off school grounds, except as permitted by this policy. **Definition of Firearm.** The term “firearm, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, means any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or firearm silencer, or any destructive device (excluding an antique firearm).

Exceptions Regarding Firearms. The prohibition against firearms does not apply to:

1. The issuance of firearms to or possession by members of the armed forces of the United States, active or reserve, National Guard of this State, or Reserve Officers Training Corps or peace officers or other duly authorized law enforcement officers when on duty or training; or
2. Firearms that may lawfully be possessed by a person who is receiving instruction at the school under the immediate supervision of an adult instructor;
3. Firearms which may lawfully be possessed by a person for the purpose of using them, with the approval of the school, in a historical reenactment, in a hunter education program, or as part of an honor guard;
4. Firearms contained within a private vehicle **operated by a nonstudent adult** that are not loaded **and** are encased or are in a locked firearm rack that is on a motor vehicle; or

5. A handgun carried as a concealed handgun by nonstudent adult who holds a valid permit issued under the Concealed Handgun Permit Act in a vehicle or on his or her person while riding in or on a vehicle into or onto any parking area, which is open to the public and used by the school if, prior to exiting the vehicle, the handgun is locked inside the glove box, trunk, or other compartment of the vehicle, a storage box securely attached to the vehicle, or, if the vehicle is a motorcycle, a hardened compartment securely attached to the motorcycle while the vehicle is in or on such parking area, except as prohibited by federal law.

Definition of Encased. The term “encased” means enclosed in a case that is expressly made for the purpose of containing a firearm and that is completely zipped, snapped, buckled, tied, or otherwise fastened with no part of the firearm exposed.

Exceptions for Students. The only exceptions for a student to bring or possess a weapon, including a firearm, are as follows:

1. The firearm or weapon has been brought to school grounds or to an activity or event off school grounds for some educational purpose;
2. The person bringing the firearm or weapon has requested and received the prior approval of both the instructor and the building principal to do so; and
3. All arrangements to use and store the firearm or weapon safely while it is on school premises have been agreed to and carried out.

Consequences - Firearm. Any student who brings a firearm, as that term is defined in 18 United States Code 921, to school will be expelled from school for one calendar year. The superintendent of schools and the board of education shall have the authority to modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

Consequences – Weapon. State law and this policy provide that any student who violates this policy by knowingly bringing, possessing, handling or transmitting a weapon, other than a firearm, on school grounds, in a school owned vehicle, or at a school activity or event off school grounds may be suspended on a long-term basis, mandatorily reassigned, or expelled for the remainder of the school year in which the expulsion takes effect (if the misconduct occurs during the first semester) or the remainder of the second semester, summer school, and the first semester of the following school year (if the misconduct occurs during the second semester).

Confiscation of Firearms. Administrative and teaching personnel are statutorily authorized, without a warrant, to confiscate any firearm possessed in violation of this policy. By statute, any firearm that is confiscated by school personnel shall be delivered to a peace officer as soon as practicable. Such firearms are subject to being destroyed by law enforcement authorities.

Report to Law Enforcement Authorities. All school personnel are required to report any violation of this policy to a principal or the superintendent of schools. Pursuant to state and federal law, school personnel are required to report to law enforcement authorities when a student brings a firearm or weapon to school.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5050
Home Schools and/or Schools Not Meeting Approval and Accreditation
Regulations

Students in Nebraska may choose to be educated at a home school that meets the requirements of statute and the Nebraska Department of Education. The board of education encourages the parents and guardians of all school-age children who reside within the school district to enroll them in the public school or an approved or accredited private school so they may benefit from a well-planned education program and the socialization of a group environment.

The school district's administration will inform the appropriate agency of the names of all students who are school age and known not to be in attendance at a public, private, or parochial school that has met the requirements for legal operation prescribed in statute and the rules of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5051
Eye Examinations for Students

The parent(s) or guardian(s) of (1) all incoming students in the beginner grade and (2) all out-of-state transfer students must provide evidence of a vision examination by a qualified vision health care provider.

They must provide evidence of the vision examination within six months prior to entrance. The health care provider must test the student for amblyopia, strabismus and internal and external eye health, with testing sufficient to determine visual acuity.

Any parent(s) or guardian(s) who object to a vision examination must submit a signed and dated refusal form to the school. Parents or guardians who wish to receive information regarding free or reduced-cost visual evaluations may contact Kids Connection at (877)-NEB-KIDS or the Nebraska Optometric Association at (800) 766-4466.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5052 School Wellness Policy

The school district is committed to providing a school environment that enhances learning and the development of lifelong wellness.

1. Goals for Nutrition Education

- a. The health curriculum will include information on good nutrition and healthy living habits.
- b. Teachers will incorporate information on nutrition and wellness into the classroom curriculum as appropriate.

2. Goals for Physical Activity

- a. The physical education curriculum shall include instruction on physical activity and habits for healthy living.
- b. Students will be encouraged to engage in physical activities throughout the school day.
- c. The district encourages parents and guardians to support their children's participation in physical activity, to be physically active role models, and to include physical activity in family events.

3. Goals for Other School-Based Activities Designed to Promote Student Wellness

- a. Students will be provided sufficient time in which to eat school-provided meals.
- b. The district's lunchrooms will be attractive and well-lighted.
- c. The district will allow other health-related entities to use school facilities for activities such as health clinics and screenings so long as the activities meet the district's requirements and criteria for the use of facilities.

4. Nutrition Guidelines

- a. Food providers will take measures to ensure that student access to foods and beverages meet federal, state and local laws and guidelines.
- b. Food providers will offer students a variety of age appropriate healthy food and beverage selections for elementary schools, middle schools and high schools.

5. Operational Responsibility

The superintendent is responsible for coordinating the implementation of this policy and for monitoring the district's progress in meeting the goals established by this policy. The superintendent will periodically report to the board on the district's progress in implementing this policy.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

Self Management of Diabetes or Asthma/Anaphylaxis

Upon receiving the written request of a student's parent or guardian and the written authorization by the student's physician, the school district will work with the parent or guardian in consultation with the physician to develop a medical management plan for a student with diabetes, asthma, or anaphylaxis (referred to herein as "medical condition").

The plan for a student with diabetes will (a) identify the health care services the student may receive at school, (b) evaluate the student's understanding of and ability to self-manage his or her medical condition, (c) permit regular monitoring of the student's self management by an appropriately credentialed health care professional, and (d) be signed by the student's parent or guardian and the physician responsible for the student's medical condition.

The plan for a student with asthma or anaphylaxis will (a) identify the health care services the student may receive at school, (b) evaluate the student's understanding of and ability to self-manage his or her medical condition, (c) permit regular monitoring of the student's self management by an appropriately credentialed health care professional, (d) include the name, purpose, and dosage of the prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication prescribed for such student, (e) include procedures for storage and access to backup supplies of such prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication, and (f) be signed by the student's parent or guardian and the physician responsible for the student's medical condition.

The plan will permit the students to self-manage his or her medical condition in any part of the school or on school grounds during any school-related activity, or in a private location. The parent or guardian of a student for whom such a medical management plan has been developed shall sign a statement acknowledging that (a) the school and its employees and agents are not liable for any injury or death arising from a student's self-management of his or her medical condition and (b) the parent or guardian will indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents against any claim arising from a student's self management of his or her medical condition. The student's parent or guardian will be personally responsible for any and all costs associated with any injury to school personnel or another student resulting from the a diabetic student's misuse of necessary medical supplies.

The district may prohibit a student from possessing medical supplies for self-management and may establish other necessary and appropriate restrictions or conditions when the district determines that the student has endangered himself,

herself, or others through misuse or threatened misuse of such medical supplies. The district will promptly notify the parent or guardian of any such prohibition, restriction, or condition.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5054 Student Bullying

Bullying Prohibited. Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of bullying behavior. Without limiting any definition of bullying under any state or federal law or regulation, bullying behavior, as used herein, refers to the use of physical force or verbal, nonverbal, written, and electronic communication (including but not limited to instant messaging, text messaging, e-mailing, and using websites) to threaten, intimidate, ridicule, humiliate, or harass any person.

Disciplinary Consequences. The disciplinary consequences for bullying behavior will depend on the frequency, duration, severity and effect of the behavior.

A student who engages in bullying behavior 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 may be subject to disciplinary consequences including but not limited to long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.

Without limiting the foregoing, a student who engages in bullying behavior that materially and substantially interferes with or disrupts the educational environment, the district's day-to-day operations, or the education process, regardless of where the student is at the time of engaging in the bullying behavior, may be subject to discipline to the extent permitted by law.

Bullying Prevention and Education. Students and parents are encouraged to inform teachers or administrators orally or in writing about bullying behavior or suspected bullying behavior. School employees are required to inform the administrator of all such reports. The appropriate administrator shall promptly investigate all such reports. Each building shall engage in activities which educate students about bullying and bullying prevention.

Policy Review. The school district shall review this policy annually.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5055
Enrollment in Kindergarten

Beginning with the 2013-14 school year, a child must reach the age of five on or before July 31st of the calendar year to be enrolled in kindergarten. The school district will enroll a child who will reach the age of five between August 1st and October 15th of the year of enrollment if the parent or guardian requests such enrollment and provides an affidavit stating:

- (a) the child attended kindergarten in another jurisdiction in the current school year; or
- (b) the family anticipates relocating to another jurisdiction that would allow admission within the current year; or
- (c) the child has demonstrated through recognized assessment procedures approved by the board that he or she is capable of performing the work of kindergarten.

The recognized assessment procedure(s) approved by the board is TBD

The board delegates to the elementary principal responsibility for determining whether the conditions of this policy have been met.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5056
Free Expression by Students

The board of education is responsible for providing a program of education for students in this district and is authorized to preserve order so that the system may function properly. Under the United States Constitution, students are entitled to assemble peaceably and to express ideas and opinions, privately or publicly, provided that their activities do not infringe on the rights of others and do not interfere with the operation of the education program.

Students are prohibited from engaging in any willful activity that interferes with the orderly operation of the educational program or offends the rights of others. The board specifically prohibits any assembly or public expression that materially disrupts instruction; is obscene, slanderous, or grossly prejudicial to an ethnic, national, religious, or racial group or to either gender; advocates the use of substances that are illegal to minors; incites violence or urges the violation of law or school rules. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with law and board policy; staff members who assist students in improper conduct are subject to disciplinary measures.

The building principal is responsible for identifying and resolving disruptions in any school building and may summon law enforcement officers as deemed necessary.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5057
Parental Involvement In the Title I Program

The school district will jointly develop with parents a School-Parent-Student Compact that outlines shared responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

The school district recognizes the unique needs of students who are being served in its Title I program, and the importance of parental involvement in the Title I program. Parental Involvement in the Title I Program shall include, but is not limited to:

1. An annual meeting to which all parents of participating children will be invited. 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. An explanation of the details for the child's and parents' participation, including but not limited to: curriculum objectives, type and extent of participation, parental input in educational decisions, coordination and integration with other district programs, and evaluations of progress. This information may be included in the annual Title I Individual Education Plan (IEP) for the student.
3. Opportunities for parent involvement activities, such as training on ways to support children's learning. This opportunity may include, but is not limited to, attendance at the annual Nebraska State Title I Parent Involvement Conference. The goal of these 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, and 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.

This policy shall be reviewed annually at the annual meeting where concerned parties can have a conversation about possible changes to the Parental Involvement Policy, and the Board will either (1) alter the policy and adopt it as altered, or (2) reaffirm the policy, following a public hearing.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5058 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 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.

Adopted: July 18th, 2016

5059
Emergency Medical Treatment

If a child becomes ill or is injured while at school or while being supervised by a member of the school district's staff, the staff member shall promptly render first aid and, when appropriate, summon rescue squad assistance. Staff will promptly notify a student's parent or guardian when a student needs medical attention.

The school district is not qualified under law to comply with directives to physicians limiting medical treatment and will not accept such directives. School district staff members will not honor "do not resuscitate/do not intubate" (DNR/DNI) orders, requests for transport to particular medical facilities and the like. Parents/Guardians must arrange for all such requests with rescue squad and medical providers directly.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5060 Animals

Animals are not allowed in school district buildings or on school district property without the permission of the superintendent except as provided in this policy.

The school district does not permit discrimination against individuals with disabilities, including those who require the assistance of a service animal. An individual with a disability is permitted to be accompanied by his/her service animal on school property when required by law, subject to the conditions of this policy.

Service Animal. A “service animal” is a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Work or tasks **do not** include the crime deterrent effects of an animal’s presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler’s disability or necessary to mitigate a disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. **See also**, Miniature Horses below.

School District Inquiries. School officials **may** ask the owner or handler of an animal whether the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to do **unless** the answers to these inquiries are readily apparent. School officials **may not** ask about the nature or extent of a person’s disability and may not require documentary proof of certification or licensing as a service animal.

Procedural Requirements. The following requirements must be satisfied **before** a service animal will be allowed in school buildings or on school grounds:

Request. A person who wants to be accompanied by his/her service animal must submit a written request form to a principal or superintendent. The request form is attached to this policy. These requests must be renewed each school year or whenever a different service animal will be used.

Health and Vaccination. The service animal must be in good health and immunized against diseases common to that type of animal. The owner or handler of the animal must submit proof of current licensure from the local licensing authority and proof of the service animal’s current vaccinations and immunizations from a licensed veterinarian.

Service animals will not be allowed in school buildings or other school property until the school has approved the request.

Control. A service animal must be under the control of its handler at all times. The service animal must have a harness, backpack, vest identifying the dog as a trained service dog, leash, or other tether. If the handler is unable to use a harness, backpack, vest, leash, or other tether, because of a disability or the use of a harness, backpack, vest, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, the use of these items is not required. However, the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control.

Exclusion or Removal from School. A service animal may be excluded from school property and buildings if a school administrator determines that:

- (1) A handler does not have control of the service animal;
- (2) The service animal is not housebroken;
- (3) The service animal presents a direct and immediate threat to others in the school; or
- (4) The animal's presence fundamentally alters the nature of the service, program, or activity.

The handler or the student's parent or guardian shall be required to remove the service animal from school premises immediately upon such a determination. If the service animal is removed, the individual with a disability shall be provided with the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without the service animal.

Allergic Reactions. If any student or school employee assigned to a classroom or mode of transportation in which a service animal is permitted suffers an allergic reaction to the service animal, the person having custody and control of the animal will be required to remove the animal to a different location designated by an administrator. The school will arrange a meeting between school personnel, the individual with the disability, and the parents or guardian(s) of the person with the disability if that person is a student to develop an alternate plan.

Supervision and Care of Service Animals. The owner or handler of a service animal is solely responsible for the supervision and care of the animal, including any feeding, exercising, and clean up while the animal is in a school building or on school property. The student's parent or guardian is responsible for providing for the supervision and the care of the animal in the event that his or her student

is not able to do so. The school district is not responsible for providing any care, supervision, or assistance for a service animal.

Extra Charges. The owner or handler of a service animal will not be required to pay an admission fee or a charge for the animal to attend events for which a fee is charged.

Damage to School Property and Injuries. The owner or handler of a service animal is solely responsible and liable for any damage to school property or injury to personnel, students, or others caused by the animal.

Miniature Horses. Requests to permit the use of a miniature horse by an individual with a disability will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by considering the following factors:

- (1) The type, size, and weight of the miniature horse and whether the facility can accommodate these features;
- (2) Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse;
- (3) Whether the miniature horse is housebroken; and
- (4) Whether the miniature horse's presence in a specific facility compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation.

All additional requirements outlined in this policy, which apply to service animals, shall apply to miniature horses.

Service Animal in Training. This policy shall also be applicable to service animals in training that are accompanied by a bona fide trainer.

Denial of Access and Grievance. If a school official denies a request for access of a service animal, the disabled individual or parent or guardian can file a written grievance with the school's Section 504 Coordinator.

ADOPTED: July 18th, 2016

5061 Therapy Dogs

The school district supports the use of therapy dogs by teachers or other qualified school personnel (“Owner”) for the benefit of its students subject to the conditions of this policy.

Therapy Dog. A “therapy dog” is a dog that has been individually trained and certified to work with its Owner to provide emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship to school district students. Therapy dogs are not “service animals” as that term is used in the American with Disabilities Act. The dog must be well behaved and have a temperament that is suitable for interaction with students and others in a public school. Therapy dogs are personal property of the teacher or employee and are not owned by the school district.

Therapy Dog Standards and Procedures. The following requirements must be satisfied ***before*** a therapy dog will be allowed in school buildings or on school grounds:

Request. An Owner who wants to bring a therapy dog to school must submit a written request form to a principal or superintendent. The request form is attached to this policy. The request must be renewed each school year or whenever a different therapy dog will be used.

Training and Certification. The Owner must submit the American Kennel Club’s Canine Good Citizen Certification or its equivalent as determined by the Superintendent. The certification must remain current at all times.

Health and Vaccination. The therapy dog must be clean, well groomed, in good health, house broken, and immunized against diseases common to dogs. The Owner must submit proof of current licensure from the local licensing authority and proof of the therapy dog’s current vaccinations and immunizations from a licensed veterinarian.

Control. A therapy dog must be under the control of the teacher or school employee through the use of a leash or other tether unless the use of a leash or other tether would interfere with the therapy dog’s safe, effective performance of its work or tasks. However, the therapy dog must be under the owner’s control at all times.

Identification. The therapy dog must have appropriate identification identifying it as a therapy dog.

No Disruption. The therapy dog must not disrupt the educational process by barking, seeking attention, or any other behavior.

Health and Safety. The therapy dog must not pose a health and safety risk to any student, employee, or other person at school.

Supervision and Care of Therapy dogs. The Owner is solely responsible for the supervision and care of the therapy dog, including any feeding, exercising, and clean up while the animal is in a school building or on school property. The school district is not responsible for providing any care, supervision, or assistance for a therapy dog.

Authorized Area(s). The Owner shall only allow the therapy dog to be in areas in school buildings or on school property that are authorized by school district administrators.

Insurance. The Owner must submit a copy of an insurance policy that provides liability coverage for the therapy dog while on school property.

Exclusion or Removal from School. A therapy dog may be excluded from school property and buildings if a school administrator determines that:

- (1) A handler does not have control of the therapy dog;
- (2) The therapy dog is not housebroken;
- (3) The therapy dog presents a direct and immediate threat to others in the school; or
- (4) The animal's presence otherwise interferes with the educational process.

The Owner shall be required to remove the therapy dog from school premises immediately upon such a determination.

Allergic Reactions. If any student or school employee assigned to a classroom in which a therapy dog is permitted suffers an allergic reaction to the therapy dog, the Owner of the animal will be required to remove the animal to a different location designated by an administrator.

Damages to School Property and Injuries. The Owner of a therapy dog is solely responsible and liable for any damage to school property or injury to personnel, students, or others caused by the therapy dog.

Therapy dog in Training. This policy shall also be applicable to therapy dogs in training that are accompanied by a bona fide trainer.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5062
Lice and Nits

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.

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.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5063 Recording Policy

Students are prohibited from making audio or video recordings on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event except as provided in this policy or as otherwise required by law.

Classroom Recordings. Students may make audio recordings of classroom lectures, discussions, or activities:

- (1) For their convenience after providing notice to the classroom teacher and receiving the teacher's permission;
- (2) For the benefit of another student who is absent after providing notice to the classroom teacher and receiving the teacher's permission;
- (3) If recording is necessary to accommodate the student's disability and is required by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

Students and their parents or guardians should assume that any class in which students are enrolled may be recorded by the school district or other students.

Non-classroom Recordings. Students may make audio or video recordings pursuant to this policy outside the classroom only with the permission of a teacher or school administrator, provided that such recordings otherwise comply with any applicable state and federal laws.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5064

Title I Supplement, Not Supplant Policy

The district will use Title I funds to Supplement, Not Supplant, state and local funds that would, in the absence of Title I funds, be spent on Title I programs. The district will ensure that Title I funds will not be used to provide services which otherwise take the place of public education services that are to be provided to all students.

The district maintains records of the professional development provided at the district level that is funded with Title I funds. The Superintendent will ensure that professional development is aligned with the needs of the district's Title I programs. Title I professional development will not duplicate that which the district provides for non-Title I purposes which, in the absence of Title I funds, would be provided to all staff.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5065 Bed Bugs

Students found to have bed bugs will be removed from the classroom and inspected by the school nurse. Any bugs found should be removed and collected for identification. If an active bed bug is discovered, the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified, and prompt, proper treatment will be required. Any other students residing in the same household or otherwise at risk of infection should be inspected as soon as possible after the initial diagnosis.

The student will not be excluded from school the day of the diagnosis unless the student has been diagnosed previously and attempts at treatment have failed. No healthy child should be excluded from or allowed to miss school time because of bed bugs unless efforts to remedy an infestation have been unsuccessful.

If bed bugs are found in a classroom or elsewhere in the building, the school will notify parent(s) and guardian(s) of all students so that the students' clothing and other belongings may be inspected before bringing them into the home. The school will not be closed due to a bed bug presence. If pest management is necessary, it will be provided to affected areas of the school.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

5065 Early Graduation

General Policy. Students most effectively obtain the skills and experience necessary to graduate from high school by completing grades 9 through 12 over the course of 4 years. Unless otherwise permitted by Board policy or other applicable law, students must finish all 4 grade levels in order to graduate.

Requirements for Application. In unique circumstances, the Board may waive the four-year attendance requirement for high school graduation, provided that the student has met the requirements of this policy.

Students must make an application to the high school principal before they may seek permission to graduate early from the Board. The principal may consult with appropriate instructional and guidance staff members in making the determination. The student's application must include:

1. Proof that the student will meet all academic requirements necessary to graduate on or before the proposed graduation date;
2. A transcript showing that the student has no grade lower than "C" in any required course at the time of application;
3. A detailed essay that (a) addresses the reasons for seeking early graduation and (b) articulates the student's post-graduation plans, including goals and objectives justifying the need to graduate early; and
4. A letter from a parent/guardian supporting the application.

The student may submit any additional materials which support the student's efforts to graduate early. Such materials may include, but are not required to include: letters of support from staff and community members; proof of admission in a postsecondary program; and/or any other materials which the student believes to support the student's application.

Consideration by the Board of Education. The principal will make a written recommendation to the Board based on the submitted application from the student. The Board will consider but is not bound by the principal's recommendation. Along with the application, the Board may consult with members of the administration, staff, or anyone else the Board deems appropriate. The Board will grant a student's application only if it determines that the student is best served by permitting the student to graduate early.

Participation in District Activities. Early graduates will be considered graduates of the district at the time the Board confers such status upon them. Therefore, early graduates will no longer be considered members of the student body and will forfeit those rights and privileges accorded such students.

Adopted on: July 18th, 2016

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____