2021-2022

PARIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# **STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**PARIS, ARKANSAS**

The policies of this handbook were reviewed by the Handbook Review Committee in May, 2021 and were adopted by the Board of Education of the Paris School District No. 7 in June 2021.

HANDBOOK REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE:

**P.E.S. HANDBOOK COMMITTEE**

**Lakaen Schluterman- Principal**

**Brad Pearson- Assistant Principal**

**April Moss - Counselor**

**Samantha Canada - Kindergarten Teacher**

**Evelyn Jones - First Grade Teacher**

**Lori Varnell - Second Grade Teacher**

**Alice Wewers - Third Grade Teacher**

**Chrissy Schluterman- Fourth Grade Teacher**

**Dana Taylor- Parent Involvement**

**Ellen Phillips- Media**

**Taleetha Moore - Parent**

**Raylan Moore- Student**

**Kati Patterson- SOAR**

**Paula Barnhill - Business**

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**TO TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND PARENTS**

It is the policy of Paris School District Number 7 to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, qualified handicap, disability or veteran, in its educational programs and activities. This includes, but is not limited to admissions, education services, and employment. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to: Equity Coordinator; Dr. Netlla Cureton, Paris School District, 602 North Tenth, Paris, AR 72855. Telephone number is 1-844-963-3243 Ext 4005.

## SCHOOL MOTTO

*“A place to learn, a place to grow,*

*P.E.S. is where we go*

*To be the best that we can be,*

*We’re a window to the world*

*As you can see!”*

## SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Paris Elementary School strives to recognize and meet the needs of children in developing educational, physical, emotional, moral and cultural experiences to the fullest of their potential. The school recognizes that each child is a unique individual, displaying special talents through everyday classroom work and play. Our goal is to help children develop basic skills necessary to prepare them to become responsible members of society.

**DISCRIMINATION IS PROHIBITED** – No person in the United States, shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the

benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, or be so treated on the basis of gender under most education program or activities receiving federal assistance.

PARIS SCHOOL DISTRICT

2021-2022 School Calendar

July 12- August 6 Online Student Registration .

August 12 Kindergarten Open House (by appointment)

August 12 First Grade Open house (by appointment)

August 12 Second Grade Open house (by appointment)

August 12 Third Grade Open house (by appointment)

August 12 Fourth Grade Open house (by appointment)

August 16 First Day of School (staggered entry)

* August 16 for group A. August 17 for group B. All students will attend on August 18.

September 6 Labor Day

TBD District Wide Flu Vaccinations

October 14 End of 1st Quarter - 43 Days

October 21 Parent Teacher Conferences

October 22 No School

November 22 - 26 Thanksgiving Break

December 17 End of 2nd Quarter - 40 Days

Dec. 20 - Jan 3 Christmas Break

January 4 Students Return to School

January 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School

February 21 President’s Day - Virtual Day

March 11 End of 3rd Quarter - 47 Days

March 17 Parent/Teacher Conferences

March 18 No SCHOOL

March 21 - 25 Statewide Spring Break

TBD Graduation

May 27 Last Day of School End of 4th quarter - 48 Days

Make Up days will begin with the first non-student day after any missed day due to inclement weather or other situations. Make up days will be May 31 and June 1,2,3, and 6 Days will NOT be taken from Thanksgiving break, Christmas break or Spring break.

**PURPOSE**

This handbook is written to acquaint the parents and the students of Paris Elementary School of the offerings, procedures, rules and regulations of the school.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

DAILY SCHEDULE: The school day for Paris Elementary School students will be from 8:00 a.m. until 3:05 p.m. except for early dismissal, which will be announced. The building will not be open until 7:35 a.m. and students should not arrive on campus before 7:40 a.m. when assigned duty teachers begin their schedules. Once a child arrives on campus, he/she cannot leave unless the student is officially checked out in the office.

Regular Schedule

Report to Class 8:00 a.m.

Tardy Bell 8:05 a.m.

1st Bell\* 3:05 p.m.

(\*This bell is for students are transported in privately owned vehicles)

2nd bell\*\* 3:20 p.m.

(\*\*This bell is for students who ride buses and walkers)

1:30 Dismissal - 1st Bell for students are transported in privately owned vehicles will ring at 1:20

Report to Class 8:00 a.m.

Tardy Bell 8:05 a.m.

1st Bell\* 1:20 p.m.

(\*This bell is for students who are transported in privately owned vehicles)

2nd Bell\*\* 1:30 p.m.

(\*\*This bell is for students who ride buses and walkers)

**ABSENCES**

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students’ regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enriches the learning environment and promotes a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement. In recognition of the need for students to regularly attend school, the district’s policy governing students’ absences is as follows.

Students shall not be absent, as defined in this policy more than nine days in a semester. When a student has four unexcused absences his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis shall be notified that the student has missed half the allowable days for the semester. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail within a return address sent no later than the following school days.

Whenever a student exceeds nine unexcused absences in a semester the district shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, guardian or person in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

Students with nine unexcused absences in a semester shall not receive credit for that subject. If the student fails to receive credit for a sufficient number of courses and at the discretion of the principal after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences however, shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly’s intention that students having excessive absences due to illness, accident, or other unavoidable reason be given assistance in obtaining credit for their subjects. Therefore, at any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of allowable absences (unless unable to do so due to unforeseen circumstances), the student, or his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district’s administration for special arrangements to address the agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement’s requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student’s parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee. Unless a student’s excessive absences is due to an unforeseen circumstance, the District will not accept a doctor’s note for a student’s excessive absence.

Days missed due to in-school or out-of-school suspension shall not count toward the allowable number of days absent.

It is necessary to call the Paris Elementary School office to report absences. If you need to call for homework, please refer to HOMEWORK in our student handbook. Documentation will need to be provided to the office immediately upon the student’s return to school.

ADDITIONAL ABSENCES

Additional absences that are not charged against the allowable number of unexcused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons and the student brings a written statement upon his/her return to school from the parent, guardian, person in loco parentis, or appropriate government agency stating such reason:

#### **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

1. The student’s illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students

2. Death in their immediate family

3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by their faith

4. Attendance at a medical appointment

5. For purposes pre-approved by the school administration such as visiting prospective colleges, to obey a subpoena, or to attend an appointment with a government agency.

6. Participation in FFA, FHA 4-H or other school sanctioned activity.

7. To visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting.

8. Due to the student having been sent home from school due to illness.

9. Absences for students excluded from school by the AR. Dept. of Health during a disease breakout because the student has an immunization waiver or whose immunizations are not up to date.

ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE – ABSENCES REGARDING PROMOTION OR CREDIT

**Whenever a student has accumulated seven (7) absences in a semester either excused or unexcused a letter will be sent home to the parent requesting a conference with the principal to discuss the student’s promotion and/or credit of a grade or class. After the 9th absence in a semester, either excused or unexcused, the student may be denied credit for given class(es), promotion** **or graduation**. The student and parent or guardian shall present documentation (notes from a doctor, court records, etc.) to explain why the excessive absences were necessary. It is the parents and students responsibility to attend an attendance conference. The principal will make the decision on the basis of the information that is presented. The decision of the principal may be appealed to the superintendent.

**Parents, guardians and students will be allowed to petition the school or district administration for additional absences. The petition must be made before the student accumulates the maximum number of absences allowed. The school will allow exceptions as necessary to satisfy Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 plans.**

A.C.A. 6-18-209

A.C.A. 6-18-220

A.C.A. 6-18-222

A.C.A. 27-16-701

**ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

Bullying is a destructive behavior that will erode the foundational principles on which a school is built. This school will not tolerate any behavior that is classified under the definition of bullying and will take steps needed to eliminate such behavior. Bullying is prohibited on school property including buses, and on all school-sponsored activities. This district will not tolerate bullying and school employees, volunteers and students are encouraged to report any instances of bullying without fear of consequences. Any reports will take into account the age of the offending student, the level of seriousness of the behavior, and whether or not the offending student has developed a habit of engaging in bullying behavior. Appropriate measures will be taken in dealing with such students. After completing an investigation of the reported incident, a student who was found to have participated in bullying behavior will be subject to disciplinary action that is appropriate to the degree of seriousness of the bullying behavior.

For the purposes of this policy, bullying is defined as any written or verbal expression or physical act or gesture, or a pattern thereof, that is intended to cause distress or fear upon one or more students. A student will be found violating this policy if their conduct has been found to have the effect of humiliation or embarrassment on a student, and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it limits the student’s ability to participate in, or benefit from, an education program or activity.

Bullying behavior will generally be established when an individual has endured a pattern of offensive behavior or when a single serious act is committed. What is or isn’t bullying will depend on the surrounding circumstances.

Students who believe they have been victimized by a bully or parents who believe their child has been victimized by a bully should file a complaint by contacting a school counselor, teacher, principal, or superintendent who will assist in getting help for the child and take the appropriate steps to ensure that such behavior is stopped. To the extent possible, complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Limited disclosure may be necessary in order to complete a thorough investigation. Students, parents, or teachers who file a complaint against a student who is guilty of being a bully, will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form. Students or adults, who knowingly fabricate allegations and falsely accuse a student of being a bully, will be subject to disciplinary action.

Individuals who withhold information, purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of a student for the purposes of bullying, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

A school principal or his or her designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

Act 681

**ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL**

Duty teachers will be on duty at 7:40 a.m. Students are to arrive **NO** earlier than that time. Students are not to enter the building without permission from a duty teacher. Kdg. through fourth grade students should be dropped off on the north side of the building and are toenter through the kindergarten hallway doors. Weather permitting, they will go outside. In case of inclement weather, students will enter the building and proceed to their respective hallways. They will be seated in the hallways and monitored by the duty teachers. Pre-K students and parents are to enter the building through the Pre-K hallway door located on the north side of the building. STUDENTS DO NOT ENTER THE BUILDING ON THE WEST SIDE BEFORE 8:00 A.M. **If a student arrives between 8:05 and 10:00** **a.m. he/she will be considered tardy (refer to TARDIES).**  **Arrival between 10:00 am and 12:05 pm constitutes a half-day absence.**.

#### **CHECKING OUT TO LEAVE CAMPUS**

Once students arrive at school they may not leave the campus any time during the school day for any reason without being checked out through the office by a parent/guardian or designee. **If a parent/guardian checks a student out between 8:30 a.m. and 3:05 p.m., he or she will be counted ½ day absent. If a student misses more than four (4) instructional hours out of a school day, he/she will be counted absent a full day.**

**Students will be assigned a PIN number at pre-registration. Parents will need to remember this PIN number! This PIN number will be necessary to check out a student.**

**DEPARTING SCHOOL**

There is one after school pick-up option: Car line on the southeast corner of the building, commonly referred to as “outback”. For the safety of our students, walkers will not be allowed to leave the duty teacher’s line until the busses leave and they are accompanied by a responsible party. Also to alleviate congestion in the office, we ask that you follow these guidelines and refrain from coming into the building to wait on your child.

**CAFETERIA**

The school cafeteria offers a well-balanced breakfast and lunch menu at no cost to the students.

If your child is eating a meal provided by the Paris School District and has an allergy to food and/or milk products, a physician's note must be on file in the cafeteria and the nurse’s office. At that time, an alternative will be provided for your child. Students are not allowed to bring energy drinks or sodas.

All children have an opportunity to eat breakfast at school. If you have any questions you can call the Director of Food Services at 1-844-963-3243 ext. 3090.

Parents will not be allowed to eat with students during lunch or breakfast.

Students may bring their lunch to school, but no other outside food (fast food) will be allowed.

We will not have a food sharing table this school year.

**CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

Use and misuse of cell phones has become a serious problem that threatens the ability of the district’s schools to properly and efficiently operate its education program. The school board believes it is necessary to restrict student use and possession of cell phones or other electronic communication devices, so that the opportunity for learning in the district’s schools may be enhanced.

Students are not allowed to have cell phones or any other personal electronic device. The building principal or his/her designee for health or other compelling reasons may make exceptions. The use of such devices at school sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.

If a student brings a cellphone or other electronic device to school, it will be confiscated by the principal or his or her designee and held in the office until the parent can be notified. Confiscated cell phones and other electronic communication devices may be picked up at the school’s administration office by the student’s parents and/or guardians. Upon written approval from a parent, a student may bring his or her cell phone or other electronic device to school. The student will turn the device off, bring the cell phone or other electronic device to the office at the beginning of the day and pick it up as they exit the building at the end of the day. Students have no right of privacy as to the content contained on any cell phones and other electronic communication devices that have been confiscated.

Students who use a school issued cell phones and/or computers for non-school purposes, except as permitted by the district’s Internet/computer use policy, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Legal Reference; A.C.A. 6-18-502(b)(3)(D)(ii)

**COLLECTION OF MONEY**

Money will be collected from students for designated parties, picnics, assembly programs, fundraising, yearbooks and reading book orders. Please send correct change with your child in an envelope marked with your child’s name and what the money is for. Any other collections must have the approval of the principal. Parents please do not send your child to school to sell anything regardless of how worthy the cause.

**COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Every parent, guardian or other person having custody or charge of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1st of that year and who resides, as defined by policy (RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the district shall enroll and send the child to a district school with the following exceptions.

1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.

2. The child is being homeschooled and the conditions of policy (HOMESCHOOLING) have been met.

3. The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1st of that particular school year and the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education must be signed and on file with the District Administrative office.

4. The child has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.

5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.

6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. 6-18-201 (b)

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-18-201

##### **COMPUTER USE POLICY**

The Paris School District makes computers and/or computer Internet access available to students to permit students to perform research and to allow students to learn how to use computer technology. It is the policy of this school district to equip each computer in which students have use, and any computer not designated for student use by which a student, to be equipped with Internet filtering software access. No student will be granted Internet access until and unless a Student Acceptable Use Guidelines and Permission Form for Network, Internet, and Personal Electronic Devices is signed by both the student and the parent or legal guardian (if the student is under the age of eighteen (18) is on file. The current version of the aforementioned forms is incorporated into board policy and is considered part of the student handbook.

Student use of computers shall only be as directed or assigned by staff or teachers. Students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their computer use, including email, and that monitoring of student computer use is continuous. Students must not disable or bypass security procedures, compromise, attempt to compromise or defeat the district’s technology network security or Internet filtering software, alter data without authorization, or disclose passwords to other students. Students who misuse district-owned computers or Internet access in any way, including using computers to violate any other policy or contrary to the computer use agreement, or using the computers to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics, will face disciplinary action as specified in the computer use agreement. In an effort to help protect student welfare when they navigate the Internet, the district will work to educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Computers will be provided for all elementary students in the 2020-2021 school year. Students may only be on websites approved by the teacher and cannot use external storage devices. Computers will be utilized in the classroom, unless a guardian has checked the device out with the office. Computers will be sent home with students in the event of a school closure or if the child is unable to attend school due to illness. Students will, however, be responsible for using technology appropriately and with reasonable care to avoid unnecessary damage. Students who misuse computers will temporarily lose technology privileges until parents can be notified and an individual contract can be agreed upon to monitor suitable student use of this educational tool.

##### **CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL**

Questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student is above eighteen (18) years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant. If the district makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal’s designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student’s parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis on student enrollment forms.

Principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of the social services with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student’s parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or persons acting in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee and leave both a day and an after hours telephone number.

Legal Reference A.C.A. 6-18-513

##### **DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY**

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property or steal, or attempt to steal school property. This applies to all school property including textbooks and electronic devices. The school district will attempt to recover damages from the student and parents of students destroying school property. Parents of any minor student (under 18 years of age) will be held liable for any damages caused by their child.

**EMERGENCY DRILLS**

All schools in the District shall conduct fire drills at least monthly. Tornado drills shall also be conducted no fewer than three (3) times per year with at least one each in the months of September, January and February. Students who ride school buses, shall also participate in emergency evacuation drills at least twice each school year.

The District shall annually conduct an active shooter drill and school safety assessment for all District schools in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel. Students will be included in the drills to the extent that is developmentally appropriate for the age of both the students and grade configuration of the school.

Drills may be conducted during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods.

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted to test the implementation of the District’s emergency plans in the event of an earthquake or terrorist attack that might include the use of biological or chemical agents. Students shall be included in the drills to the extent practicable.

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

To enroll in a school in the district, the child must be a resident of the district as defined in policy stated in RESIDENT REQUIREMENTS, meet the criteria outlined in the HOMELESS STUDENTS policy, be accepted as a transfer student or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option. Also students who are foster children (refer to RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS). This is according to A.C.A. 9-28-113 (a) and (b).

Students may enter Kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1st of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment. Any student who has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the district.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, or any student or his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before August 1st of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district to determine placement. The student may be placed in the first grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the first grade and the child’s parent or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade in a district school if the child will attain the age of six (6) years during the school year in which the child is seeking enrollment and the child has successfully completed a kindergarten program in a public school in Arkansas.

Any child who has been enrolled in the first grade in a state-accredited or state-approved elementary school in another state for a period of at least sixty (60) days, who will become age six (6) years during the school year in which he/she is enrolled in grade one (1), and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in the first grade.

Students who move into the district from an accredited school shall be assigned to the same grade as they were attending in their previous school (mid-year transfers) or as they would have been assigned in their previous school. Home-schooled students shall be evaluated by the district to determine their appropriate grade placement.

Prior to the child’s admission to a district school:

1. The parent, guardian or other responsible person shall furnish the child’s social security number or upon request, the district will assign the child a nine digit number designated by the Department of Education.

2. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child’s age:

a. A state certified birth certificate from the Bureau of Vital Statistics.

b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child’s date of birth.

c. An attested baptismal certificate.

d. A passport.

e. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child’s parent or guardian.

f. Previous school records or.

g. Military I.D.

3. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school

registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is party to an expulsion proceeding.

4. The child shall be age appropriately immunized. A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization may be removed from school during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of health. The student may not return to school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student’s return is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-201©, A.C.A. 6-18-207

A.C.A. 6-18-208 A.C.A. 6-18-702

A.C.A. 6-15-504 (f)

**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR KINDERGARTEN PHYSICAL SCREENINGS**

1.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

1.01 These regulations shall be known as Arkansas Department of Education Regulations Governing Kindergarten Physical Screening

1.02 These regulations are enacted pursuant to the State Board of Education’s authority under the Arkansas Codes Ann 6-15-202 (1987) and Standards for accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools (VI-E).

2.00 PURPOSE

2.01 The purpose these regulations is to set forth for school districts the guidelines to assure that all kindergarten students have a comprehensive preschool examination

3.00 DEFINITIONS

3.01 The equivalent of EPSDT refers to a physical examination administered by a licensed physician or a registered nurse qualified to conduct screening examinations

4.0 REQUIRED RECORDS

4.01 The Arkansas Dept. of Education will disseminate to districts, through the educational cooperatives, the Student Health Record Folders and Health History forms.

4.02 Parents shall complete a Health History Form prior to the physical examination/assessment.

4.03 The school will fill each student’s Health History in the Student Health Record folder.

4.04 The school will file each student’s record as additional medical data.

4.05 The school staff shall maintain records showing the number of students screened, the number referred for treatment or further evaluation, reasons given for referral, the number seen by a physician and the number treated.

5.0 COMPOSITION AND DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL EXAMINATION

5.01 All enrolling kindergarten students shall be evaluated with the Early Periodic, Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) equivalent

5.02 The EPSDT or its equivalent shall occur within 90 days after the student’s initial enrollment in Kindergarten.

5.03 If a child does not attend kindergarten, the EPSD or its equivalent shall occur either within two

years prior to or within 90 days after the student’s initial enrollment in first grade

5.04 If the district administers the EPSD or its equivalent, the district shall refer to parents any results requiring further assessment or treatment.

5.05 Any pupil may be excused from the examination on presentation of a certificate from a reputable physician that he has recently examined the pupil or on presentation of a written statement of the pupil’s parent or guardian that he objects to the examination of his child or ward, but this provision shall not be applicable in case of a pupil suspected of having a contagious or infectious disease (Ark. Code Ann. 6-18-701)

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The board believes in providing opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student’s educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student's participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom academic achievement. Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal and absences from class to participate in extracurricular activities shall not exceed one per week per extracurricular activity (tournaments or other similar events accepted with approval of the principal). All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in the policy.

A student may lose his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities when, in the opinion of the school’s administration, the student’s participation in such an activity may adversely jeopardize his/her academic achievement. Students may also be denied permission to participate in extracurricular activities as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the administration for inappropriate behavior.

For the purpose of this policy, extracurricular activities are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to, interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competition, and club activities.

Legal References: Arkansas Department of Education: Rules and Regulations Establishing the Academic Standards for Student Participation in competitive Interscholastic Activities. State Board of Education Standards for Accreditation 10.05 and 10.06.

**FIELD TRIPS AND ASSEMBLIES**

Each year certain field trips, assemblies and parties are included in the learning

experiences of the school. If any of the above conflict with the religious beliefs of the

student, a note from the parents to exclude the student from this activity will be honored.

Students attending school-sponsored field trips must ride the bus to the event. Parents may bring ONLY their child home and must sign a release from the child’s teacher. Parents attending field trip events must provide their own transportation unless asked by the teacher to help supervise students. Parents may not attend reward trips due to limited space. The school will provide the necessary chaperones. All guidelines provided by the Arkansas Department of Health will be followed.

**FUNDRAISING**

All fundraising activities held in the district or in the name of the district must be

pre-approved in writing by the superintendent and affected school principal. The list of potential fundraisers for the coming school year will be presented to the School Board for approval in May of each year. Approval will be predicated on the potential for return relative to the time and energy to be invested in the fundraising. Fundraising that conflicts excessively with and/or detracts from student or teacher instructional time in either planning or execution of the activity will not be approved.

Neither an individual school nor the district shall be liable for any contract between clubs or organizations and third parties. Student participation in any fundraising activity shall:

1. Be voluntary. Students who choose not to participate shall not forfeit any school privileges.

2. Not influence or affect the student’s grade.

Fund raising in the elementary school may only be done by the school-sponsored

organization. School must provide written notification of the following to parents or legal guardians of elementary student who participate in fundraising programs.

* Student participation in fundraising programs is voluntary;
* Students who do not participate will not forfeit any school privileges;
* Unless the school provides supervision, parents must accept responsibility for appropriate adult supervision.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-18-1104

##### **GRADING AND PROMOTION**

At Paris Elementary, we believe student achievement occurs through clearly defined standards and authentic learning opportunities. The district strives to provide accurate, meaningful, and timely feedback to both students and parents throughout the learning process.

Paris Elementary grading and reporting is based on the Arkansas Academic Standards.

This system of grading and reporting:

❖ Aligns with the Arkansas Academic Standards.

❖ Provides teachers with resources to communicate in a more exact and consistent manner.

❖ Provides parents with comprehensive information about how their child is learning.

❖ Incorporates research-based best practices in student grading and reporting

**Grading Scale**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **S** | **Satisfactory/ Meets Expectations** |
| **N** | **Needs Improvement** |
| **U** | **Unsatisfactory/ Minimal Progress** |
|  | **Not Assessed** |

Standards Based Grading reports what students know and are able to do within each content area at each grade level. The real-time monitoring of students performance reflects a more accurate picture of student achievement.

PARIS SCHOOL DISTRICT’S GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE AND POLICY

The following represents the Paris School District’s Grievance Procedure and Policy. You may obtain the grievance forms from the Paris School District Administrator’s office.

District Grievance Officer: District Equity Coordinator:

Dr. Netlla Cureton, Grievance Officer Dr. Netlla Cureton, Equity Coordinator

P.O. Box 645 401 North School Street

Paris, AR 72855 Paris, AR 72855

Phone: 1-844-963-3243 ext 4005 Phone: 1-844-963-3243 ext 4005

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. It is the stated policy of the Paris School District that a grievance procedure, which provides for an orderly method of resolving concerns raised by an employee or patron be handled at the lowest possible administrative level.
2. The following steps will be used by any district employee or patron in any complaint or grievance:
   1. The first step in all complaints or grievances is an attempt to resolve the matter informally through a phone call or a conference between the involved parties.
   2. If the attempt at an informal resolution fails, the complaint will begin the grievance procedure in written form at the appropriate level of supervisory personnel.
   3. Any person involved in this procedure is entitled to third party representation at any level if an advanced notice of five (5) days is given to both the other party and the administrator.
3. The following timelines are to be used. Grievance forms are available in the school office. The timelines may be shortened but not lengthened unless by mutual agreement of all parties.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

The following steps will be used in any complaint or grievance:

Step #1 The complainant must present in written form within ten days (two working

weeks) the complaint to the responsible person designated as the grievance officer.

Step #2 The responsible person has a working week (five days) in which to investigate

and respond.

Step #3 If not satisfied, the complainant may appeal within ten days (two working weeks)

to the Superintendent or his designated officer.

Step #4 Response by the district officer must be given within five days (one working

week).

Step #5 If the complainant is not satisfied at this level, an appeal may be made within ten

days (two working weeks) to the Paris Board of Education, which will hear the

complainant at the next regular meeting or within thirty (30) calendar days. Paris

Board of Education hearings shall be conducted so as to accord due process to all

parties involved in the complaint such as written notice of hearings, date and

specific charges, right of counsel, right to present witnesses, right to cross

examine, and to present written statements. The decision of the Board shall be by a

majority of the members at a meeting, which shall be public.

Step #6 The Paris Board of Education will respond to the complainant within thirty (30)

calendar days.

Step #7 If the complainant is not satisfied with the Paris Board of Education’s decision,

an appeal may be made, within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of the

written decision, to the State Board of Education.

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##### **HEALTH SERVICES**

Paris Elementary School offers a wide variety of services with a school nurse on duty during the school day. Your school is very much interested in the general health of each child. During the school year the teachers and nurse will work together to teach good healthy habits. Below is an outline of health services available to pupils of the Paris School system.

1. Hearing Screening

2. Vision Screenings

3. Dental Health Week – includes films and proper tooth brushing techniques.

4. Scoliosis (curvatures of spine) screening in various grades.

5. Head lice awareness programs.

6. B.M.I. (body mass index) screenings.

If your child has any known health problems, please let the school nurse know. If

she can be of help at any time, feel free to contact her at the elementary school.

#### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES**

Students with communicable diseases or with parasites shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are contagious. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live lice or nits would be asked to pick their child up at school. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of head lice. Before students may be readmitted following an absence due to head lice, proof of treatment will need to be given to the school nurse and she or a designee shall examine the student to make sure they are free of any lice or nits.

Each school may conduct screenings of students for human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the confidentiality of each student.

**STUDENT MEDICATIONS**

Prior to the administration of any medication to any student under the age of eighteen (18), written parental consent is required. The consent form shall include authorization to administer the medication and relieve the Board and its employees of civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to students in accordance with this policy.

Students are not allowed to carry any medications while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student’s medication to the nurse, or in the absence of the nurse, to the principal’s office. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. Medications must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student’s name, the ordering provider’s name, the name of the medication, the dosages, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Controlled medications such as prescription pain medications and ADHD medications cannot be sent to school with the student. Parent or guardian must deliver these medications to school

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medication past the end of the school year. Parents shall be notified ten (10) days in advance of the school’s intention to dispose of any medication. Medications not picked up by the parents or legal guardians within the ten (10) day period shall be destroyed by the nurse with a witness present.

If a student becomes too ill to remain in class and/or could be contagious to other students, the principal or designee will attempt to notify the student’s parent or legal guardian. The student will remain in the school’s health room or a place where he/she can be supervised until the end of the school day or until the parent/legal guardian can check the student out of school.

If a student becomes seriously ill or is injured while at school and the parent/legal guardian cannot be contacted, the failure to make such contact shall not unreasonably delay the school’s expeditious transport of the student to an appropriate medical care facility. The school assumes no responsibility for treatment of the student. When available, current, and applicable, the student’s emergency contact numbers and medical information will be utilized. Parents are strongly encouraged to keep this information up to date.

**NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OF ANY CHANGES IN MEDICATION**

**ILLNESS AT SCHOOL**

Students who are ill prior to school hours should remain at home. These guidelines are suggested for making this determination:

1. If you complain before school, have your temperature taken and stay home if your temperature exceeds 99.9 degrees.

2. If you complain with a stomach disorder such nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, you should not be sent to school. Stomach viruses are contagious.

3. If you have a rash of unknown origin or have a suspected condition, which may be contagious, do not come to school until it is diagnosed as non-contagious or disappears.

4. If you are sent home, you will need to remain at home until you are free of the symptoms listed above for a period of 24 hours or until a doctor has released you.

5. If you have been in contact with anyone that has tested positive for COVID-19, you must quarantine for the number of days recommended by CDC.

6. If you test positive for COVID-19, you must isolate per CDC Protocol.

If your child becomes sick during the day or is injured, at the discretion of the nurse

the parents will be notified. Any students needing to stay in the building during the noon period or physical education period due to previous sickness or injury will need to bring a note from home and have it approved by the school nurse. Do not write these notes for more than one day except in the case of emergency such as surgery, broken bones and recovering from serious illness.

**IMMUNIZATIONS**

All students must show evidence of completing the required immunizations against varicella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, red measles, German measles, mumps and rubella as evidenced by a certificate of a licensed physician or the public health department. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Logan County Health Department at 963-6126 or the school nurse at 1-844-963-3243 ext 1007. The Arkansas Department of Health required the following:

1. Three (4) DTP, the last dose given after the child’s 4th birthday.

2. Three (4) polio, the last dose given after the child’s 4th birthday.

3. Three (4) doses of Hepatitis B vaccine for students in Kindergarten, Seventh grade and transfer students.

5. One (2) dose of Varicella or chickenpox vaccine for students in Kindergarten.

6. A physical is also required by the State Department of Education for kindergarten

7. One (1) dose of T- dap for 7th grade.

8. Two (2) doses of Hepatits A for students entering Kindergarten and 1st grade.

A child enrolling in a district school and living in the household of a person on active military duty has 30 days to receive his/her initial required immunizations and 12 months to be up to date on the required immunizations for the student’s age. Immunization exemptions based on religious, philosophical or medical reasons require an exemption form, provided by the Arkansas Health Department, be completed and submitted annually to the school district.

**HOMEWORK**

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the district. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student’s educational development. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful. Teachers should be aware of the potential problem students may have completing assignments from multiple teachers and vary the amount of homework they give from day to day. Parents shall be notified of this policy at the beginning of each school year.

Legal Reference: State Board of Education Rules and Regulations: Accreditation Standards 10.07

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to delegate the responsibility of assigning homework for students in grades K-12 to professional staff in accordance with the following principles and guidelines:

* The purpose of homework assignments will be to provide either massed practice for a skill or concept recently learned or distributive practice to maximize retention of a skill or concept learned earlier.
* The level of difficulty should allow the student to perform the assignment without supervision and guidance.
* Homework assignments in order to provide meaningful instruction should be checked/graded for credit or points and returned to students to provide feedback as soon as possible after its completion.
* Care should be given to see that the quantity of homework is not so great as to have the effect of causing students to lose whatever degree of positive regard they hold for the subject matter.
* Parents may request homework for students who are absent. Requests need to be called in before noon and can be picked up in the office after 2:30 on the day of the request..

Legal Reference: State Board of Education Rules and Regulations: Accreditation Standards V (G)

**HOME SCHOOLING**

Parents or legal guardians desiring to provide a home school for their children must

give written notice to the Superintendent of their intent to do so and sign a waiver

acknowledging that the State of Arkansas is not liable for the education of their children

during the time the parents choose to homeschool. Notice shall be given:

1. At the beginning of each school year, but no later than August 16th;
2. By December 17th for parents who decide to start homeschooling at the beginning of the spring semesters; or
3. Five (5) calendar days prior to withdrawing the children (provided the students is not currently under disciplinary action for violation of any written school policy, including, but not limited to, excessive unexcused absences) and at the beginning of each school year thereafter.

The parents or legal guardians shall deliver written notice in person to the

Superintendent the first time such notice is given and the notice must include:

* The name, date of birth, grade level, and the name and address of the school last attended, if any;
* The location of the home school;
* The basic core curriculum to be offered;
* The proposed schedule of instruction; and
* The qualifications of the parent-teacher.

To aid the district in providing a free and appropriate public education to students in

need of special education services, the parents or legal guardians home-schooling

their children shall provide information, which might indicate the need for special

education services.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-15-503

A.C.A. 6-41-206

**INCLEMENT WEATHER**

During bad weather, students will enter the building and go to designated supervised areas. Bad weather includes falling precipitation and/or temperatures of near 40 degrees (dampness, amount of wind, and other factors will be considered regarding whether to allow students to move inside at the discretion of the principal). In case of school closing due to ice, snow, or other emergencies, an announcement will be made on the Paris School District web page, Paris School District Facebook page, School Reach Message via phone, area television stations to include Channel 40/29 and Channel 5 and radio station KDYN 92.7 in Ozark, Arkansas. If an announcement is not made, school will be in session.

**INSURANCE**

The Paris Public Schools has purchased a student accident policy to help cover the cost of accidental injuries sustained during the regular school term on the school premises while school is in session. This includes any accidents that may occur during athletics. This policy is free to our students and is considered a “secondary policy”, meaning that coverage is designed to supplement your own private insurance by assisting with primary policy deductibles and balances. A copy of the master policy is on file at the superintendent’s office for your review. In addition you may purchase other coverage, which provides the student with protection while at home and/or outside of school, on vacation, etc. A parent letter and information pamphlet will be sent home with each student the first day of school. If you need more information, or need to file a claim, contact the school nurse at Paris Elementary School at 1-844-963-3243 ext 1007.

**LOST AND FOUND**

Lost and found items are kept in a box in the principal’s office. To prevent lost articles, **please mark student’s belongings with a permanent marker**. After a reasonable time, unclaimed items will be donated to a charity organization.

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##### **MAKE-UP WORK**

Students who miss school due to an excused absence shall be allowed to make up the work they missed during their absence. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange for all make-up work with his/her teacher(s). Students are allowed one day for every day missed to make up the work missed in class. Make up credit will not be given for out-of-school suspensions. Make up credit for other absences is up to the individual teacher.

##### **MANDATORY REPORTING**

In accordance with Act 1520 of 1999, whenever the Principal/Assistant Principal, or other persons in charge, of a public school had direct knowledge, or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a student enrolled in the public school, has committed a felony on school property, or while under school supervision, or has committed any other violent criminal act against a teacher, school employee or student, the Principal, or person in charge, shall immediately report the incident to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for investigation and to the appropriate school district for resolution. This report may be made to the district’s School Resource Officer.

**MESSAGES AND DELIVERIES TO STUDENTS**

Please make after school arrangements before your student comes to school. If you need to make a change regarding transportation for your student, you will need to write a note, which will be approved in the office and given to the teacher. Notes regarding extracurricular activities that are seasonal may be sent once and to state that this note is in effect until further notice. Messages will be given to students before the first dismissal bell rings.

Phone messages are taken for students in emergency situations only**. No messages will be accepted after 2:40. If there is an emergency after 2:40, parents must call the superintendent’s office.**

The only deliveries accepted for students would be for supplies that are school related. The student will be contacted and it will be up to the teacher's discretion as to when to send the student to the office. No gifts or flower deliveries for students will be accepted at the elementary school. Except in the case of emergencies, telephone calls may not be made during class time; in case of emergencies, the school staff will make appropriate communications.

**MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS**

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or student of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6th may request that the multiple birth siblings are placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing no later than the 14th calendar day prior to the first day of classes at the beginning of the academic year. The school shall honor the request unless it would require the school to add an additional class to the sibling’s grade level. If one parent of multiple birth siblings requests a placement that differs from that of the other parent of the same multiple birth siblings, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the siblings.

The school may change the classroom placement of one or more multiple birth siblings if:

1. There have been a minimum of 30 instructional days since the start of the school year; and

a. After consulting with each classroom teacher in which the siblings were placed, the school determines the parent’s classroom placement request is:

1. Detrimental to the educational achievement of one or more of the siblings;

2. Disruptive to the siblings’ assigned classroom learning environment; or

3. Disruptive to the school’s educational or disciplinary environment.

If a parent believes the school has not followed the requirements of this policy, the parent may appeal the multiple birth siblings’ classroom placement to the superintendent. The Superintendent’s decision regarding the appeal shall be final. Refer to A.C.A. 6-18-106.

##### **PARENT VISITS TO SCHOOL**

Parents are welcome at Paris Elementary School to meet with teachers about academic progress. However, due to safety concerns, we ask that parents adhere to certain guidelines. We ask that parents **make appointments to see teachers** so that student instruction time is not affected. During your visit to the school parents are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner with both behavior and dress.

Enter through the double doors by the school office on the west side. You will be checked in by office staff before entering the building.

Due to bus drop off and loading procedures, visitor parking on the curb in front of the school will not be available immediately before and after school.

All visitors must follow guidelines approved by the Arkansas Department of Health and DESE. Volunteers must be approved by the principal prior to the date of arrival.

**PARENT & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**

Paris Elementary School has an active Parent & Family Engagement Program. One aspect of this program is our Parent & Family Engagement Center located just off the cafeteria in Room 137. Parents may check out games, books, learning tools (i.e. flash cards, backpacks with units) and supplies to help reinforce skills learned in the classroom. Parent videos and books related to homework, discipline, goal setting and other topics are also available. We encourage parents to ask for help with specific areas of study so that the Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator can assist with putting together resources specifically geared toward helping children master important skills. The Parent & Family Engagement Center is open during regular school hours, by appointment. The Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator can be reached at 1-844-963-3243 ext 1137 if parents have questions about available resources.

#### **PARTIES**

Class parties require permission from the principal. As of now, there are two parties held throughout the school, Halloween and Valentine’s Day. **Party refreshments should be pre-packaged or purchased from a health department governed facility such as a grocery store, deli, bakery, etc.** All refreshments must beconsumed at parties. Room parents are asked to limit refreshments so that none is taken on buses.

**P.E.**

In lieu of signing a consent form to climb the rock wall located in the gymnasium during P.E. classes, parents will need to state in writing, that they do NOT want their students to participate in the activities involving the rock wall.

##### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Arkansas State Law, Act 959, requires the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools be followed by one minute of silence, that schools lead or broadcast a recitation of the Pledge followed by one minute of silence at each assembly and sporting event, etc.

Arkansas State Law, Act 958 requires that grades K-12 to broadcast the 'Star-Spangled Banner' at the commencement of each school-sanctioned sporting event and at least once per week during school hours; regulates performances; more.

##### **PRIVACY OF STUDENTS’ RECORDS**

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary etc. For purposes of this policy the Paris School District does not distinguish between a custodial and noncustodial parent **or a non-parent such as a person acting in loco parentis or a foster parent** with respect to gaining access to a student’s records. **Unless a court order restricting such access has been presented to the district to the contrary the** fact of a person’s status as parent or guardian alone, enables that parent or guardian to review and copy his child’s records.

If there exist a court order which directs that a parent not have access to a student or his records, the parent, guardian **person acting in loco parentis, or an agent of the department of Human Services** must present a file marked copy of such order to the building principal and the superintendent.

All students’ educational records are available for inspection and copying by the parents of any student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18) the right to inspect and copy a student’s records transfers to the student. The school will make a good faith effort to act in accordance with such court orders, but the failure to do so does not impose legal liability upon the school. The actual responsibility for enforcement of such court orders rest with the parents or guardians, their attorneys and the court. A parent or guardian does not have the right to remove any material from a student’s records, but such parent or guardian may challenge the accuracy of a record. The right to challenge the accuracy of a record does not include the right to dispute a grade, which must be done only through the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, the decision of whom is final. A challenge to the accuracy of material contained in a student’s file must be initiated with the building principal, with an appeal available to the Superintendent or his designee. Any appeal above that level will be to an independent hearing officer and must be consistent with the purposes of the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Unless the parent or guardian of a student (or student if above the age of eighteen (18)) objects directory information about a student may be made available to the public. “Directory information” includes a student’s name, address, telephone number, class in which he/she is enrolled, his/her placement on the honor roll (or the receipt of other types of honors), as well as his/her participation in school clubs and extracurricular activities, among others. If the student participates in inherently public activities (for examples, basketball, football, other interscholastic activities, or the school studio lab), the publication of such information will be beyond the control of the district. The form regarding the directory information is located in the back of the student handbook and must be completed and signed by the parent or age eligible student and filed with the building principal’s office no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of each school year.

Legal Reference: 28 U.S.C. 1232G

**PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLES**

As mandated by state law, there must be separate designated loading and unloading zones for buses and privately owned vehicles. Therefore, all students who are PICKED UP AT THE END OF THE DAY will need to follow the directions below.

1. Off of Highway 22 east of Wal-Mart, you will turn north onto Lowder Street.

2. Lowder Street will turn west onto East Short Mountain Street.

3. You will enter the driveway on the east end, running parallel to East Short Mountain Street.

4. You will exit the driveway on the west end near the intersection of East Short Mountain Street and Dandridge Street. This is the area where you will pick up your students.

5. Upon exiting the driveway, you will have the option to either go west on East Short Mountain Street or go south on Dandridge Street.

**YOU WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP YOUR STUDENTS ON THE WEST SIDE (FRONT) OF THE BUILDING IF YOU ARE ARRIVING AFTER** **8:00 A.M. OR BEFORE 3:00 P.M.** Parents picking up students must use designated visitor parking spaces.

You will drop off your student only on the north side of the building and you may use the following route. **THIS ROUTE IS FOR DROPPING OFF STUDENTS IN THE MORNINGS ONLY; YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO USE THIS ROUTE IN THE AFTERNOONS DUE TO THE BUS TRAFFIC.**

1. At the intersection of Wood Street and Slaughter Street you will need to go south on Slaughter Street and go on the east side of the City Park.

2. You will then turn left and be heading west onto East Chism Street.

3. You will need to pull up to the designated area marked with a blue sign to unload your child.

4. You may then proceed west on East Chism Street to Tenth Street or turn north onto Patterson Street.

For school business in the building, parents are requested to use the vacant visitor

parking spaces on the west and north side of the building. **PRE-K PARENTS ARE ASKED TO PARK ON THE WEST OR NORTH SIDE OF THE CITY PARK, CROSS THE STREET AT THE DESIGNATED CROSSWALK AND THEY ARE TO ENTER THE BUILDING AT THE DESIGNATED DOORS LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE BUILDING. DAYCARE PARENTS WILL PARK ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE METAL EDUCATION BUILDING TO DELIVER AND PICK UP THEIR CHILDREN.**

**REMEMBER: YOU WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP YOUR STUDENTS ON THE WEST SIDE (FRONT) OF THE BUILDING IF YOU ARE ARRIVING AFTER 8:00 A.M. OR BEFORE 3:00 P.M.**

##### **PROMOTION/RETENTION**

Students in kindergarten through fourth grade (K-4*)* not performing at grade level or not scoring proficient or advanced on the state mandated assessment shall participate in a remediation program during the school year or a summer school remediation program to be eligible for promotion to the next grade. Students participating in the remediation program must have 80% attendance and show progress from pretest to posttest. Retention is a committee decision and parents will be notified by the student’s classroom teachers regarding the committee’s recommendation.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

DEFINITIONS:

“Reside” means to be physically present and to maintain a permanent place of abode for an average of no fewer than four (4) calendar days and nights per week for a primary purpose other than school attendance.

“Resident” means a student who parents; legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside in the school district.

“Residential address” means the physical location where the student’s parent, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside. A student may use such a residential address only if he/she resides at the same residential address and if the guardianship or other legal authority is not granted solely for education needs or school attendance purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes.

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the district’s schools separate and apart from his or her parents, guardians, or other persons having lawful control of him or her under an order of a court, the person must actually reside in the district for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance.

The schools for the district shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty one (21) years who parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court reside within the district and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the district for educational purposes.

However, a student previously enrolled in the district who is placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools.

Under instances prescribed in A.C.A. 6-18-203, a child or ward of an employee of the district or of the education coop to which the district belongs may enroll in the district even though the employee and his/her child or ward reside outside the district.

A foster child who was previously enrolled in a District school and who has had a change in placement to a residence outside the district, may continue to remain enrolled in his/her current school unless the presiding court rules otherwise. This is a provision of .C.A. 9-28-113 (a) and (b)

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-202

A.C.A. 6-18-203

**SCHOOL CHOICE**

The Paris School District adopts the Arkansas Public School Choice Act of 1989. Priority will be given to applications from siblings or step siblings residence or household of students already attending the district by choice. The district may reject a non resident's application for admission if its acceptance would necessitate the addition of staff or classrooms, exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, or cause the district to provide educational services not currently provided in the affected school. The Board of Directors reserves the right, after a hearing before the board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another district to enroll as a student until the time of the person’s expulsion has expired. The superintendent will consider all applications for School Choice postmarked no later than the July 1 preceding the fall semester the applicant would begin school in the District. The superintendent shall notify the parent or guardian and the student’s resident district in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application within 30 days of its receipt of the application. The district shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation. Letter of rejection shall state the reason(s) for the rejection. Students admitted under this policy shall be entitled to continued enrollment until they graduate or are no longer eligible for enrollment in the District’s schools. Any student admitted to this district under the provisions of this policy who chooses to return to his/her resident district during the school year voids the transfer and must reapply for a school choice admission if desiring to return to this district in the future.

Opportunity School Choice – unless there is a lack of capacity at the district’s school or the transfer conflicts with a federal desegregation order applicable to the district, a student who is eligible for transfer from a school identified under A.C.A. 6-15-21-3(1) may enroll in a district school that has a performance category level 3 or higher as defined by A.C.A. 6-15-21083(a) provided the student’s parent or guardian, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18) , has successfully completed the necessary application process by July 30 preceding the year of desired enrollment. For the purposes of this policy, a “lack of capacity” is defined as when the school district has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal or state law, the rules for the Standards of Accreditation or other applicable rules. A student’s enrollment under the opportunity school choice provision is irrevocable for the duration of the school year and is renewable until the student completes high school or is beyond the legal age of enrollment. The District may provide transportation to and from the transferring district, but is not responsible for the cost of transporting the student if the student lives outside the district. Act 1147 requires the ADE to promulgate rules governing the use of capacity as a basis for denying admission under opportunity choice. The language in the act is “school district” capacity, but school capacity would seem more appropriate. Hopefully, the rules will clarify the language. The act also stipulates that a student or his/her parents may appeal to the State Board a decision to deny admission due to a lack of capacity. This according to A.C.A. 6-15-2103 and A.C.A. 6-18-227.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-206

A.C.A. 6-18-510

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

The Paris Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the district’s students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs; at any time on the school grounds; off school grounds at a school sponsored function, activity, or event; going to and from school or a school activity.

The district’s administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to a felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult, an assault or battery, drug law violations, or sexual misconduct of a serious nature. Any disciplinary action pursued by the district shall be in accordance with the student’s appropriate due process rights.

The district’s personnel policy committee shall review the student discipline policies annually and may recommend changes in the policies to the Paris School Board. The Board shall approve any changes to student discipline policies.

The district’s student discipline policies shall be distributed to each student during the first week of school each year and to new students upon their enrollment. Each student’s parent or legal guardian shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents where a person has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence or any crime involving a deadly weapon on school property or while under school supervision.

Paris Elementary School has installed a set of classroom expectations with consequences for every grade level. Parents will receive information regarding expected behaviors, incentives and rewards along with an explanation of the consequences for unacceptable behavior.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-18-502

A.C.A. 6-17-113

**PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

Students and staff require a safe and orderly learning environment that is conducive to high student achievement. Certain student behaviors are unacceptable in such an environment and are hereby prohibited by the board. Prohibited behaviors include, but shall not be limited to the following:

1. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;

2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;

3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;

4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;

5. Possession or use of tobacco/e-cigarettes/vaping devices in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;

6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;

7. Possession of any electronic communication device including cell phones on the school campus during normal school hours unless specifically exempted by the administration for health or other compelling reasons. If a student needs to carry a cell phone to school, we must have written permission from the parent and the student will need to leave it in the office during class time. Under any circumstances, the school will not be held responsible for lost, stolen or damaged electronic devices mentioned above.

8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;

9. Inappropriate public displays of affection;

10. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person’s work to be his/her own;

11. Gambling;

12. Inappropriate student dress;

13. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;

14. Attendance Policy Violation;

15. Excessive tardiness;

16. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability;

17. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;

18. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, “throwing signs” or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;

19. Sexual harassment; and

20. Bullying of other students (see ANTI-BULLYING POLICY)

Parents and students are reminded that Paris Public Schools adheres to a “hands-

off” policy. Students should keep their hands and feet to themselves. Often times there have been cases where so called “horseplay” has led to serious fights and injury. The “hands-off” policy includes the use of feet, throwing objects, or other types of physical contact.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-502 A.C.A. 6-5-201 A.C.A. 6-15-1005

A.C.A. 6-18-222 A.C.A. 6-21-609 A.C.A. 6-18-506

**CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL**

Students are subject to the same rules of conduct while traveling to and from school and at bus stops as they are while on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate student code of conduct rules.

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. Disciplinary measures for problems related to bus behavior shall include suspension or expulsion from school, or suspending or terminating the student’s transportation privileges. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student’s parents or legal guardian.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-19-119 (b)

**DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL**

No student shall by the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function. Nor shall any student encourage any other student to engage in such activities.

Disorderly activities by any student or group of students that adversely affect the school’s orderly educational environment shall not be tolerated at any time on school grounds. Teachers may remove from class and send to the principal or principal's’ designee, a student whose behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher’s ability to teach the students.

No person shall make, or communicate by any means, whether verbal or nonverbal, a threat that a bomb has been or will be placed on school premises. Because of the potential for evacuation of the schools and other disruption for school operations, placement of a bomb or of a “look-alike” bomb on school premises will be considered a threat and will be turned over to law enforcement authorities for investigation.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-18-511

**PHYSICAL ATTACK/HARM ON STUDENT OR STAFF OR BATTERY**

A student shall not threaten, physically abuse, or attempt to physically abuse, or behave in such a way as to be perceived to threaten bodily harm to any other person (student, school employee, or school visitor). Any gestures, vulgar abusive or insulting language, taunting, threatening, harassing, or intimidating remarks by a student toward another person that threatens their well-being is strictly forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, fighting, racial ethnic, religious, or sexual slurs.

Furthermore, it is unlawful, during regular school hours, and in a place where a public school employee is required to be in the course of his or her duties, for any person to address a public school employee using language which, in its common understanding, is calculated to: a) cause a breach of the peace; b) materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school; c) arouse the person to whom it is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation. Students guilty of such an offense may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

**ARTICLES PROHIBITED AT SCHOOL**

Firearms, skateboards, water pistols, slingshots, fireworks of any kind, caps or cap guns, paintball guns, knives of any kind, horns or other noise making devices are prohibited. In addition, students are not to bring phones, gaming devices, or ipads unless prior approval is received from the office. In accordance with Act 447 of 2001 students may not be in possession of cellular phones or any other type of electronic communication device (unless required by IEP) during normal school hours (refer to POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES, BEEPERS, ETC.). Please note the cell phone procedure stated on Page 12. Students are not to be in possession of any other type of object or material that is disruptive to the educational process. Any of these types of articles may be confiscated by the teacher, Principal, or other school personnel and kept until the end of the semester/year and/is to be picked up by the student’s parent/guardian.

**TOBACCO/E-CIGARETTES/VAPING DEVICES AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

Smoking or use of tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping devices or products containing tobacco in any form (including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping, and snuff) in or on any property owned or leased by a district school, including school buses, is prohibited. Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

Act 1331 of 1999 was enacted to protect the rights of non-smokers on property owned or leased by public school districts. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars ($10.00), nor more than one hundred dollars ($100.00).

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-21-609

**WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS**

No student shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon while in school, on or about school property, before or after school, in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity, en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity, off the school grounds at any school bus stop, or at any school sponsored activity or event.

A weapon is defined as any knife, gun, pistol, revolver, shotgun, BB gun, rifle, pellet gun, razor, ice pick, dirk, box cutter, nunchucks, pepper spray or other noxious spray, explosive or any other instrument or substance capable of causing body harm.

Possession means having a weapon, as defined in this policy, on the student’s body or in an area under his/her control. If, prior to any questioning or search by any school personnel, a student discovers that he/she has accidentally brought a weapon to school and immediately takes the weapon to the principal’s office, or a student realizes that he/she has brought a weapon to school that is in a vehicle on school grounds, and the student informs the principal or a staff person immediately, the student will not be considered to be in possession of a weapon.

Students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm or other weapon shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year. The Superintendent shall have the discretion, however, to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing the child to possess a weapon on school property. Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-502 © (2) (A) (B)

A.C.A. 6-1-8-507 (e) (1) (2)

20 USCS 8921

**DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the deleterious effects of alcohol and drugs. Their use is illegal, disruptive to the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our school.

Therefore, no student in the Paris School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, attempt to sell, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substances as defined in this policy. This policy applies to any student who; is on or about school property; is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity; has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; is en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.

Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to, alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage, inhalants that alter a student’s ability to act, think or respond, LSD, or any other hallucinogen, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug, PCP, amphetamines, steroids, “designer drugs” look-alike drugs, or any controlled substance.

Selling, distributing, or attempting to sell or distribute, over-the-counter or prescription drugs not in accordance with the recommended dosage is prohibited.

Law enforcement officials shall be informed *charges may be filed* and parents shall be required to meet with school officials. In addition, students shall not possess drug paraphernalia at any time. All principals are instructed to cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies and are required to report to them any and all information that would be considered beneficial in their efforts to fully investigate and stem the use of illegal substances by Paris District students. The administrative staff is also instructed to take immediate steps to prevent any persons from coming upon the campus of any school in the Paris Public School District who is in possession of or under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, or hallucinogenic drugs of any kind.

**GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY**

The board is committed to ensuring a safe school environment conducive to promoting a learning environment where students and staff can excel. An orderly environment cannot exist where unlawful acts occur causing fear, intimidation, or physical harm to students or school staff. Gangs and their activities create such an atmosphere and shall not be allowed on school grounds or at school functions.

The following actions are prohibited by students on school property or at school functions:

1. Wearing or possessing any clothing, bandanas, jewelry, symbol, or other sign associated with membership in, or representative or any gang;

2. Engaging in any verbal or nonverbal act such as throwing signs, gestures, or handshakes representative of membership in any gang;

3. Recruiting, soliciting, or encouraging any person through duress or intimidation to become or remain a member of any gang; and/or

4. Extorting payment from any individual in return for protection from harm from any gang.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary

action up to and including expulsion.

Students arrested for gang related activities occurring off school grounds shall be subject to the same disciplinary actions as if they had occurred on school grounds.

**STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

The Paris School District is committed to having an academic environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere of equal educational opportunity that is free of discrimination. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational environment and will not be tolerated.

Believing that prevention is the best policy, the district will periodically inform students and employees about the nature of sexual harassment, the procedures for registering a complaint, and the possible redress that is available. The information will stress that the district does not tolerate sexual harassment and that students and employees can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student or employee to be subjected to, or to subject another person, to, sexual harassment as defined in this policy. Any employee found, after an investigation, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, termination.

Sexual harassment refers to unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual

favors, or other personally offensive verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone under any of the following condition:

1. Submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual’s education or employment;

2. Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic or employment decisions affecting

3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual’s academic or work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic or work environment.

The terms “intimidating,” “hostile,” and “offensive” include conduct of a sexual

nature which has the effect of humiliation or embarrassment and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it limits the student’s or employee’s ability to participate in, or benefit from, an educational program or activity or their employment environment.

Within the educational or work environment, sexual harassment is prohibited between any of the following: students; employees and students, non-employees and student; employees; employees and nonemployees.

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances. Depending upon such circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to: unwelcome touching; crude jokes or pictures; discussions of sexual experiences; pressure for sexual activity; intimidation by words, actions, insults or name calling; teasing related to sexual characteristics; and spreading rumors related to a person’s alleged sexual activities.

Employees who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment are encouraged to file a complaint by contacting their immediate supervisor, administrator, or Title IX coordinator who will assist them in the complaint process. Under no circumstances shall an employee be required to first report allegations of sexual harassment to a school contact person if that person is the individual who is accused of the harassment. To the extent possible, complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Limited disclosure may be necessary in order to complete a thorough investigation.

Employees who file a complaint of sexual harassment will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Employees who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Individuals who withhold information, purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Legal References: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 181, et. seq.

Title VII of the civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000-e, et seq.

ACA 6-15-1005 (b) (1)

**SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS**

All district personnel are expected to conscientiously execute their responsibilities

to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the district's students under their care. The

Superintendent shall direct all principals to establish regulations ensuring faculty

supervision of students throughout the school day and at extracurricular activities.

**LASER POINTERS**

Students shall not possess any hand held laser pointer while in school; on or about

school property, before or after school; in attendance at school or any school-sponsored

activity; en route to or from school or any school-sponsored activity; off the school

grounds at any school bus stop or at any school-sponsored activity or event. School

personnel shall seize any laser pointer from the student possessing it and the student may

reclaim it at the close of the school year, or when the student is no longer enrolled in the

district.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-512

A.C.A. 5-60-122

A.C.A. 5-60-122

**BUS AND TRANSPORTATION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

To ride a public school bus is a privilege. Because State law and the policies of the

Paris School district’s Board of Education provide that a bus is an extension of the

classroom, for those who use the bus service, the school day begins when the student

boards the bus and ends once the student leaves the bus. Therefore, a student riding on a

Paris School district bus is expected to behave as he would in a classroom. Misconduct

on a bus will not be tolerated, as it may endanger the safety and well being of others.

REPEATED UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR BY A STUDENT WILL RESULT IN

THEIR BEING SUSPENDED FROM THE BUS. If a student is suspended from riding a

bus, it is the responsibility of his/her parent or guardian to provide transportation to and

from school any absences resulting from bus suspension will be considered unexcused.

The bus driver is charged by the school district to maintain student order and make

every reasonable effort to insure maximum safety at all times. He/she is therefore given

the authority to direct and instruct students while on his/her bus regarding proper conduct

and safety. Unacceptable behavior by students while on the bus will be reported in

writing by the driver to the principal. The principal will be responsible for disciplining

students.

Questions and inquiries regarding stops, routes, and student eligibility must be

directed to the superintendent’s office. Because of the potential for harm to students,

additional behavioral guidelines are necessary for students who are riding school buses.

The following additional guidelines will apply:

· The individual driver, the transportation supervisor, and the school Principal have the authority to assign seats to individual students.

· Bus drivers are instructed not to wait on students so it is imperative that students be at assigned bus stops when the bus arrives.

· Food or drinks are not allowed on buses unless they are brought as part of the student’s lunch to be consumed in the cafeteria.

· Students are not allowed to get off at any stop other than their own unless the student has a note from a parent/guardian and signed by the building principal/designee. The student is responsible for showing the note to the driver.

· Students are not to use the back door of the school bus, except in case of emergencies or drills.

· If necessary for a student to cross the road, he/she must cross in front of the bus.

· Students are prohibited from throwing objects on or out of the bus.

· Act. 1744 of 2001 requires that students remain seated while the bus is in motion.

**All bus and transportation rules and regulations provided by the Arkansas Department of Health will be followed.**

**DISCIPLINARY ACTION (S)/CONSEQUENCES (S)**

A discipline policy has been established for all students enrolled in the Paris Elementary School. It is expected that this policy shall be followed and enforced in the same spirit and manner throughout the school. When reasonable and possible teachers will manage all discipline problems in the classroom. (Exception: violence or damage to property.) When the teacher(s) is unable to resolve the problem, students will be sent to the office along with thorough and accurate documentation of all significant facts surrounding the incident as well as all actions taken by the teacher.

Every attempt will be made to ensure that discipline on the Paris Elementary School campus is consistent and progressive. Consequences ranging from the use of verbal reprimands to the use of our school suspension or expulsion may be used with the severity of the discipline being based upon the misbehavior and/or frequency of infraction. The following consequences may be used in the course of correcting students’ mis-behaviors.

A. Verbal reprimands

B. Parent Notification

C. Loss of privileges

D. Suspension from the bus

E. Classroom isolation

F. Assignments to participate in campus service chores

G. In school suspension

H. Suspension from school for up to ten (10) days

I. Notification of law enforcement official(s)

J. For possession of controlled substances, student will be suspended (may be in school or out-of-school or a combination of the two). An expulsion may also result.

K. A student may be suspended or recommended to the Board for expulsion for any first severe offense when, in the opinion of the principal, the student’s presence would present a hazard to others or would adversely affect the learning environment.

L. Referral to the Alternative Education Program.

M. Expulsion from school

**DISCIPLINE OF DISABLED STUDENTS**

Students identified as disabled under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will be subject to all school policies and rules unless otherwise directed by the student’s Individual Education Plan. Further, discipline of IDEA identified students will conform to laws and regulations as enumerated under IDEA.

Students who are determined to be disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will be subject to all school policies and rules unless otherwise directed by the student’s Individual Accommodation Plan.

**SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL**

Students not present at school cannot benefit from the educational opportunities the school environment affords. Administrators, therefore, shall strive to find ways to keep students in school as participants in the educational process. There are instances, however, when the needs of the other students or the interests of the orderly learning environment require the removal of a student from school. The Board authorizes school principals or their designees to suspend students for disciplinary reasons for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) school days, including the day upon which the suspension is imposed. The suspension may be in school or out of school. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs: at any time on the school grounds; off school grounds at a school-sponsored function, activity, or event; going to and from school or a school activity. A student may be suspended for behavior including, but not limited to that which:

1. Is in violation of school policies, rules, or regulations;

2. Substantially interferes with the safe and orderly educational environment;

3. School administrators believe will result in the substantial interference with the safe and orderly educational environment; and/or

The school principal or designee shall proceed as follows in deciding whether or not to suspend a student.

1. The student shall be given written notice or advised orally of the charges against him/her;

2. If the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an explanation of the evidence against him/her and be allowed to present his/her version of the facts;

3. If the principal finds the student guilty of the misconduct, he/she may be suspended.

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student’s re-admittance to class will be given to the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) prior to the suspension. According to Act 159, schools will notify parents or legal guardians when a student is suspended, by the contact information that parents must provide to the school.

The Paris School District Board of Education will not hear an appeal of any disciplinary matter except those resulting in expulsion.

Generally, notice and hearing should precede the student’s removal from school, but if prior notice and hearing are not feasible, as where the student’s presence endangers persons or property or threatens disruption of the academic process, thus justifying immediate removal from school, the necessary notice and hearing should follow as soon as practicable.

Out of school suspension shall be treated as unexcused absences and during the period of suspension students shall not be permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference at principal’s discretion.

In-school suspension shall be treated as if the student was present at school however, on the third day and subsequent days in the semester of in-school suspension the student shall not attend any school-sponsored activities during the imposed

in-suspension nor shall the student participate in any school-sponsored activities.

Disciplinary actions initiated by the principal or his/her designee may be appealed to the Assistant Superintendent or the Superintendent, but not to the Board.

Suspensions initiated by the Superintendent may be appealed to the Board.

Disciplinary action may not be appealed to the Paris Board of Education unless the recommendation is for a student expulsion from school.

If a student is in I.S.S., or O.S.S. or Homebound (due to behavior issues) he or she will not be allowed to attend any school functions. It will be at the principal’s discretion as to what extent the student will have contact with his or her classmates

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-507

Goss v Lopez, 419 U.S. 565(1975)

**CORPORAL PUNISHMENT**

Corporal punishment is not used by administration at Paris Elementary School.

**EXPULSION**

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than (10) school days for violation of the district’s written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate, or where the student’s continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment or would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents or legal guardians (mailed to the address reflected on the district’s records) that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reason for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

The hearing shall be conducted not earlier than ten (10) school days following the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.

The President of the Board, Hearing Officer, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing. The student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

During the hearing, the Superintendent will present evidence, including the calling of witnesses that gave rise to the recommendation of expulsion. The student, or his/her representative, may then present evidence including statements from persons with personal knowledge of the events or circumstances relevant to the charges against the student. Formal cross-examination will not be permitted. However, any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or designee, the student, or his/her representative may question anyone making a statement and/or the student. The presiding officer shall decide questions concerning the appropriateness or relevance of any questions asked during the hearing.

The Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm or other weapon prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The Superintendent and the Board of Education shall complete the expulsion process of any student that was initiated because the student possessed a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property regardless of the enrollment status of the student.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-18-507

**SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS**

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a “72 hour hold” without obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student is above eighteen (18) years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

The district respects the rights of its students against arbitrary intrusion of their person and property. At the same time, it is the responsibility of school officials to protect the health, safety and welfare of all students enrolled in the district in order to promote an environment conducive to student learning. The Superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right to inspect and search school property and equipment. They may also search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, when there is reasonable suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community. School authorities may seize evidence found in the search and disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence found which appears to be in violation of the law shall be reported to the appropriate authority.

School property shall include, but not be limited to lockers, desks, and parking lots, as well as personal effects left there by students. When possible, prior notice will be given and the student will be allowed to be present along with an adult witness, however, searches may be done at any time with or without notice or the student’s consent. A personal search must not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

The Superintendent, principals, and their designees may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to help conduct searches. Such searches may include the use of specially trained dogs.

A school official of the same sex shall conduct personal searches with an adult witness of the same sex present.

Questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant. If the district makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order the principal or the principal’s designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student’s parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis on student enrollment forms.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-513

**STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING**

The Paris Board of Education recognizes that dress can be a matter of personal taste and preference. At the same time, the district has responsibility to promote an environment conducive to student learning. This requires limitations to student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process because they are immodest, disruptive, unsanitary, unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency.

The Superintendent shall establish student dress codes for the district’s school, to be included in the student handbook and are consistent with the above criteria.

DURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES MUST BE FOLLOWED:

1. Students shall not wear clothing judged by the school administration that is inappropriate INAPPROPRIATE CLOTHING INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

a. Sexually suggestive clothing.

b. Jewelry or other apparel that displays words, pictures, or symbols pertaining to alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping devices, gangs, sex, profanity, or drugs. This also applies to any body marking (ink, tattoos, etc.)

c. Clothing that is unzipped, unbuttoned, unsnapped, un-strapped, unbelted, or otherwise unfastened.

d. Clothing with messages that mocks, ridicules, demeans, or provokes others.

e. Extreme styles or sizes that may be disruptive or dangerous such as jewelry, chains, sagging pants, jeans with holes, spandex, etc. Anything that is disruptive to the educational process.

f. Waistbands worn below the hips. Belts must be worn if pants fit loosely.

g. Bare midriff for either boys or girls, halter-top styles including spaghetti straps for girls, fish net shirts without a tee shirt underneath and undershirts for boys.

h. Shoes with rollers or cleats

i. Shorts or skirts may not be any shorter than six inches above the middle of the knee and shorts must be worn under all skirts no matter the length.

j. Any dress that does not comply with the health and safety codes of the State of Arkansas.

k. No backless shoes such as flip flops. Shoelaces must be tied at all times for safety reasons.

l. No caps or hats. Hoodies may be worn but the hood part cannot be worn on the student’s head in the building.

M If a student is wearing leggings of any style, their top must reach mid thigh.

2. Students who report to school dressed inappropriately will be required to contact a parent/guardian so that they may bring appropriate clothing for their student to change into before returning to class. Any absences from school for that reason will be considered an unexcused absence.

3. Backpacks must be worn correctly on the back. There are to be no toys, key chains, etc. hanging from the backpacks or purses. Backpacks with rollers may not be used in the building.

4. Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the school grounds during the school day and at school-sponsored events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttock, or the breast of a female. This prohibition does not apply, however to a costume or uniform worn by a student while participating in a school-sponsored activity or event. Legal References A.C.A. 6-18-502 (1) and A.C.A. 6-18-503

\* Paris Elementary students will follow all guidelines approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

**TEACHER’S REMOVAL OF A STUDENT FROM THE CLASSROOM:**

A teacher may remove a student from class whose behavior the teacher has documented to be

repeatedly interfering with the teacher’s ability to teach the students in the class or whose behavior is

so unruly, disruptive or abusive that it interferes with the ability of the student’s other classmates to

learn. Students who have been removed from their classroom by a teacher shall be sent to the

principals or principal’s designee office for appropriate discipline.

The teacher’s principal or the principal’s designee may:

1. Place the student into another appropriate classroom;

2. Place the student into in-school suspension;

3. Place the student into the District’s alternative learning environment in accordance with policy.

4. Return the student to the class; or

5. Take other appropriate action consistent with the district’s student discipline policies and state and federal law.

If a teacher removes a student from class two (2) times during any nine-week grading period, the

principal or the principal’s designee may not return the student to the teacher’s class unless a

conference has been held for the purpose of determining the cause of the problem and possible

solutions. The conference is to be held with the following individuals present:

1. The principal or the principal’s designee;

2. The teacher;

3. The school counselor;

4. The parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis; and

5. The student, if appropriate.

However, the failure of the parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis to attend the conference does

not prevent any action from being taken as a result of the conference.

*Note and advisement: This policy is adopted by the Board of Directors in order to bring the District into compliance with ADE rules concerning student discipline, and to incorporate the provision of A.C.A. 6-18-511. However, teachers should be aware that federal law governing a student’s Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 plan, or status as an individual with a disability will supersede Arkansas law. In many cases, removing a student from a classroom due to behavioral problems, will violate a student’s IEP, violate a student’s 504 plan, or constitute discrimination against the student due to a disability that affects the student’s ability to conform his or her behavior. Teachers have been successfully sued for IEP and 504 plan violations in other jurisdictions, and the teachers need to understand that violating a student’s rights is outside of the scope of his or her employment, and no insurance is available or provided by the school district for either legal defense or to pay a money judgement. Teachers who rely on this law and this policy to exclude a student with special needs or a disability are assuming a grave personal risk.*

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

It shall be the policy of the Paris School district that the most recently adopted version of the Student Handbook be incorporated by reference into the policies of this district. In the event that there is a conflict between the student handbook and a general board policy or policies, the more recently adopted language will be considered binding and controlling on the matter provided the parent(s) of the student, or the student if 18 years of age or older have acknowledged receipt of the controlling language.

**STUDENT TRANSFERS**

The Paris School District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both in and out of the district, on a case-by-case basis in the regular school board meeting in August and December.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Department of Education to a school in this district shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school.

Any student transferring from home school or a school that is not accredited by the Department of Education to a district school shall be evaluated by district staff to determine the student’s appropriate grade placement.

The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another district to enroll as a student until the time of the person’s expulsion has expired.

The responsibility for transportation of any nonresident student admitted to a school in this District shall be borne by the student or the student’s parents. The district and the resident district may enter into a written agreement with the student or student’s parents to provide transportation to or from the district, or both.

Legal References: A.C.A. 6-18-316

A.C.A. 6-18-510

A.C.A. 6-15-504 (f)

State Board of Education Standards of Accreditation VII (E)

**STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN SURVEYS**

Section One: No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation which is administered or distributed by a school, and is funded in whole or in part by any program administered by the U.S. Department of Education without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian that reveals information concerning the following:

1. political affiliations;

2. mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his family;

3. sex behaviors and attitudes;

4. illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, and 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; 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)

Section Two: No surveys shall be administered without the prior approval of the school principal. Any survey created by a third party, or funded, in whole or in part, as part of any US Department of Education administered program, containing one or more of the eight categories listed above shall be available to be inspected by a student’s parent/guardian before the survey is administered or distributed by a school to a student.

Parents/guardians shall have the right to deny permission for their child to participate in the taking of the survey. The school shall not penalize students whose parents/guardians exercise this option. The school shall take reasonable precautions to protect students’ privacy during their participation in the administration of any survey, analysis, or evaluation containing one or more of the eight categories listed above.

Section Three: Parents or guardians wishing to inspect a survey, analysis, or evaluation shall be able to so in the administrative office of the administering school where the surveys shall be available for inspection for a period of ten (10)\* days (regular school days when school is in session) after the notice of intent to administer the survey is sent. Included in the notice shall be information regarding how the survey or questionnaire will be administered; how it will be utilized; and the persons or entities that will have access to the results of the completed survey or questionnaire. Parents may refuse to allow their student to participate before or after reviewing the survey or questionnaire.

The requirements of sections one, two, and three of this policy do not apply to a survey administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Section Four: Prior written parental permission is required before any survey or questionnaire (not including tests mandated by state or Federal law or regulation and standardized scholastic achievement tests) is administered to a student the responses to which are to be provided to a person or entity other than another public school, school district or any branch of the Federal Government and which requests or requires a student to provide any of the eight (8) categories of information listed above and/or the following;

1. A student’s name;

2. The name of the student’s parent or member of the student’s family;

3. The address, telephone number, or email address of a student or a member of a student’s family;

4. A personal identification number, such as a social security number, driver’s license number, or student identification number of a student or a member of the student’s family;

5. Any information, the disclosure of which is regulated, or prohibited by any other state or federal law or regulation.

The rights provided to parents under this policy transfer to the student when he/she turns 18 years old.

Note: This policy is to be developed in conjunction with parents.

Parents must be “directly” notified of this policy, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in the policy and include in the notice the specific or approximate dates (to the extent known) during the school year when these activities are scheduled. “Directly notified” in regard to this policy means by mail or email; inclusion in the student handbook does not meet the law’s requirements.

\*The length of time may be adjusted, but it must be a “reasonable period of time.”

Legal Reference: 20 USC 1232H(a), (b), (c) {NCLB Act of 2001, Part F, Section 1061 (c)(1)(A)(i)(ii)(B), (2)(A)(i)(ii)(B) (C)(ii), (5)(A)(ii)(B), (6)(C)(F)(G)} ACA 6-18-1301 et seq.

**TARDIES**

Promptness is an important character trait that District staff is encouraged to model and help develop in our schools’ students. At the same time, promptness is the responsibility of each student. Students who are late to class show a disregard for both the teacher and their classmates which compromises potential student achievement.

IF YOU ARRIVE LATE TO SCHOOL, YOU MUST COME TO THE OFFICE AND RECEIVE A TARDY SLIP. **Your parent or legal guardian must come inside to sign you into class.**

1. Students who are not inside their assigned classroom when the 8:05 bell rings will be considered tardy.

2. Any student detained in the office on school business will not be marked tardy or absent. A note should be obtained from the office for presentation to the teacher upon arrival to class.

3. A pattern of excessive unexcused tardies is in violation of the mandatory attendance law and is subject to reports to proper authorities.

4. For a student who has an unexcused tardy for the fifth time in a nine-week period, the parent will need to come in for a conference with the principal.

**VIDEO SURVEILLANCE**

Video cameras are in use on the elementary school campus for the safety of our students.

**VOLUNTEERS-**

Enlisting the support of volunteers is a way in which the district can expand the scope of resources and knowledge available to enrich the students’ educational experiences, while strengthening the relationship between the school and the community. Volunteers can also perform non-instructional tasks that allow certified personnel more time to devote to instruction.

The superintendent shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining a program to coordinate the services volunteers are willing and able to contribute with the needs of district personnel. The program shall establish guidelines to ensure volunteers are aware of pertinent district policies and rules. Volunteers who violate school policies or rules, or knowingly allow students to violate school rules, may be asked to leave the school campus. The guidelines should also include provision for evaluation of the volunteer program and a method for soliciting suggestions from both the volunteers and staff for its improvement. Our volunteers will be required to go through a brief orientation before becoming a P.E.S. volunteer. To obtain more information regarding our volunteer program you may contact our Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator at (844)-963-3243, ext. 1137.

All volunteers must follow guidelines approved by the Arkansas Department of Health and DESE. Volunteers must be approved by the principal prior to the date of arrival.

**WELLNESS POLICY**

The health and physical well being of our students directly affects their ability to learn. Childhood obesity increases the incidence of adult diseases occurring in children and adolescents such as heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes. The increased

risk carries forward into their adulthood. Research indicates that a healthy diet and regular physical activity can help prevent obesity and the diseases resulting from it. It is understood that the eating habits and exercise patterns of students cannot be magically

changed overnight, but at the same time, the board of directors believes it is necessary to strive to create a culture in our schools that consistently promotes good nutrition and physical activity.

The problem of obesity and inactivity is a public health issue. The board is keenly aware that it has taken years for this problem to reach its present level and will similarly take years to correct. The responsibility for addressing the problem lies not only with the schools and the Department of Education, but with the community and its residents, organizations and agencies. Therefore, the district shall enlist the support of the larger community to find solutions which improve the health and physical activity of our

students.

Goals

In its efforts to improve the school nutrition environment, promote student health and reduce childhood obesity; the district will adhere to the Arkansas Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards in Arkansas Public School. Adhering to these

rules will include, but is not limited to district efforts to:

1. Appoint a district school health coordinator who shall be responsible for ensuring that each school fulfills the requirements of this policy; 1

2. Implement a grade appropriate nutrition education program that will develop an awareness of and appreciate for nutrition and physical activity throughout the curriculum;

3. Enforce existing physical education requirements and engage students in healthy levels of vigorous physical activity;

4. Strive to improve the quality of physical education curricula and increase the training of physical education teachers; 2

5. Follow the Arkansas Physical Education and Health Education Frameworks in grades K-12;

6. Not use food or beverages as rewards for academic, classroom, or sports performances;

7. Ensure that drinking water is available without charge to all students;

8. Establish class schedules, and bus routes that don’t directly or indirectly restrict meal access;

9. Provide students with ample time to eat their meals in pleasant cafeteria and dining areas;

10. Establish no more than nine (9) school wide events that permit exceptions to the food and beverage limitations established by Rule. The schedule of the events shall be by school, approved by the principal and shall be part of the annual school calendar. 3

11. Abide by the current allowable food and beverage portion standards;

12. Meet or exceed the more stringent of Arkansas’ or the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Nutrition Standards for reimbursable meals and a la’ carte foods served in the cafeteria; 4

13. Restrict access to vended foods, competitive foods, and foods of minimal nutritional value (FMNV) as required by law and Rule;

14. Conform to new and/or renewed vending contracts to the content restrictions contained in the rules and reduce district dependence on profits from the sale of FMNV;

15. Provide professional development to all district staff on the topics of nutrition and/or physical activity; 5

16. Utilize the School Health Index available from the Center for disease Control (CDC) to assess how well the district is doing at implementing this wellness policy and at promoting a healthy environment for its students;

Legal References: Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act 42 W.S.C. 1751 et. Seq

Child Nutrition Act of 1966 42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq

A.C.A. 20-17-133, 134 and 135

ADE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards in

Arkansas Public Schools.

Allowable Competitive Foods/Beverages – Maximum Portion Size List for Middle, Junior High and High School

Nutrition Standards for Arkansas Public Schools (Commissioner’s Memo FIN-06-106)

SMART CORE INFORMED CONSENT FORM

(FOR GRADUATING CLASS OF 2016 AND AFTER)

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Smart Core to Arkansas’s college and career-ready curriculum for high school student. College and Career readiness in Arkansas means that students are prepared for success in entry-level, credit-bearing courses at two-year and four-year colleges. and universities, in technical postsecondary training and in well-paid jobs that support families and have pathways to advancement. To be college and college ready, students need to be adept problems solvers and critical thinkers who can contribute and apply their knowledge in novel contexts and a variety of situations. Smart Core is the foundation for college and

career readiness. All students should supplement additional rigorous coursework within their career focus.

Parents or guardians may waive the right for a student to participate in Smart Core and instead to participate in the Core curriculum. The parent must sign the separate Smart Core Waiver form to do so.

SMART CORE CURRICULUM

English - 4 units

* English 9th grade
* English 10th grade
* English 11th grade
* English 12th grade or Transitional English 12

Mathematics - 4 units (or 3 units of math and 1 unit of Computer Science\*) At least one MATH unit must be taken in Grade 11 or Grade 12.

* Algebra 1 (or Algebra A & Algebra B - Grades 7-8 or 8-9)
* Geometry (or Geometry A & Geometry B - Grades 8-9 or 9-10)
* Algebra II
* Fourth Math - Advanced Topics and Modeling in Mathematics, Algebra III, Calculus, Computer Science and Mathematics, Linear Systems and Statistics, Transitional Math Ready, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Pre-Calculus, or an Advanced Placement mathematics - Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.

Science - 3 units with lab experience (or 2 units with lab experience and 1 unit of Computer Science\*)

* Biology - 1 unit (All students must have 1 unit in Biology, IB Biology, ADE Biology, ADE Approved Biology Honors, or concurrent Credit Biology.)
* Physical Science, chemistry or Physics - 2 units

Social Studies - 3 units

* Civics - ½ unit
* World History - 1 unit
* U.S. History - 1 unit
* and social studies - ½ unit

Oral Communications - ½ unit

Physical Education - ½ unit

Health and Safety - ½ unit

Economics - ½ unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)

Fine Arts - ½ unit

Career Focus - 6 units

\*Computer Science - (optional) A flex unit of computer Science and Mathematics, Essentials of Computer Programming, AP Computer Science, or IB computer Science may replace the 4th math requirement or the 3rd science requirement. Two distinct units of the computer science courses listed above may replace the 4th math requirement and the 3rd science requirement. If the 4th math requirement and the 3rd science requirement have been met through other coursework, any of the computer science courses listed above may be used for career focus credit.

Beginning with the entering 9th grade class of the 2014 - 2015 school year, each high school student shall be required to take at least one digital learning course for credit to graduate. (Act 1280 of 2013).

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have been informed of the requirements and implementation of the Smart Core Curriculum and am choosing the Smart Core Curriculum for my child

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Parent/Guardian Signature and date School Official Signature and Date