

BEEBE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Grades K- 6
2023 – 2024



STUDENT HANDBOOK
beebebadgers.org

**Student Handbook
2023-2024
Statement of Responsibility**

Student Name _____

This sheet must be signed and returned to your child's teacher within one (1) week after the student receives it.

Corporal punishment (paddling) may be administered to students in grades K-6. A parent who does not wish his/her child to be paddled must personally deliver a **written request to the school principal**. The request must be **submitted annually**.

Please indicate below if you give permission for Beebe Public Schools to publicize your child's accomplishments by using his/her name and picture in the newspaper and on the school web page.

_____ Yes	_____ No	The school may use my child's picture and name in School publications and in the newspaper or other media not including the web page.
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_____ Yes	_____ No	The school may use my child's picture and name on the school web page.
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Signatures: We have received a copy of the Beebe Schools K-6 handbook or choose to access it online.
Please place a check mark in the box if you would like a printed copy of the handbook. ☐

Although we may not agree with all the regulations, we understand the student must adhere to them while he/she is at school or in attendance at school sponsored activities. In the event that we are not certain of some aspect of school policy, we will contact the principal for **clarification**.

We, the persons who have signed below, have read the internet agreement policy on pages 76-78, and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Parents will be notified before their child goes on any school-sponsored field trips during the regular school year.

Please indicate if your child has permission to participate in school-sponsored field trips _____yes _____no
(This includes trips to the main campus during the year)

Parent's Name

Date

Student's Name (please print)

Teacher's name

Student Signature

Date

Smart Core Waiver Form (New form will be available from the ADE website after July 31st)

Name of Student _____
Name of Parent/Guardian _____
Name of District _____
Name of School _____

Smart Core is Arkansas' college- and career-ready curriculum for high school students.

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 career ready, students need to be adept problem solvers and critical thinkers who can contribute and apply their knowledge in novel contexts and unforeseen situations. Smart Core *is* the foundation for- and career-readiness. All students should supplement with additional rigorous coursework within their career focus.

Successful completion of the Smart Core curriculum is one of the eligibility requirements for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship. Failure to complete the Smart Core curriculum for graduation *may* result in negative consequences such as conditional admission to college and ineligibility for scholarship programs.

Parents or guardians may waive the right for a student to participate in Smart Core. By signing this Smart Core Waiver Form, you are waiving your student's right to Smart Core and are placing him or her in the Core Curriculum.

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have been informed of the requirements and implementation of **the Smart Core curriculum and am choosing to waive the Smart Core curriculum for my child.** I understand the potential negative consequences of this action as outlined on this form.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

School Official Signature

Date

**Beebe Public Schools
Student Health History**

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____ Primary

Contact: _____

Relationship: _____ Phone: _____ If parents or the emergency contact listed cannot be reached, does the school have the parents' consent to take the child to a doctor or hospital for treatment? It is understood that the parent is responsible for all medical expenses involved. Please Circle One: Yes No

Physician _____ Phone: _____ Preferred

Hospital _____ Does

your child have a medical condition of which we should be aware? Yes No

Please Check all that apply: _____ Asthma _____ ADHD _____ Diabetes _____ Seizures

If others, please explain: _____

List other condition(s): _____

List all current medications: _____

Will medication be required during school hours? (Circle One) Yes No

(*If yes, please complete medication request form available from your school nurse)

Allergies (food & drug): _____ If your child has food allergies that affect what he/she eats in the cafeteria, please have your child's doctor complete the "Certification of Special Dietary Needs." You can pick this form up from the school nurse.

AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

Written permission must be received from the parent/guardian in order for a child to receive medicine at school. Listed below are over-the-counter medications that our school keeps in stock for administration to students. Licensed school nurses will supervise administration of medications. All medications will be given according to label directions on the container. Indication(s) for the administration of medicine will be determined on an individual basis. This authorization is valid **ONLY** for the school year indicated on the date below.

- Acetaminophen / Ibuprofen (regular strength) **WILL NOT BE GIVEN BEFORE 10:00am OR AFTER 2:00pm** *may be given for fever over 102 degrees, and headaches and/or other pains not relieved by other means such as ice, heat, food, rest, etc.
- Antacid
- Cough Drops
- Benadryl – given in case of allergic reaction (indication for administration to be determined by the school nurse)
- Over The Counter Medications (ex: oral pain reliever, eye drops, topical ointment/cream/spray, throat spray, etc.)

Parent/Guardian

Signature Date

updated 3/2022

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Many policies in this handbook are based on state and federal legislation.

Mission Statements

Beebe Early Childhood

Beebe Early Childhood will reach educational excellence by providing every student with a highly qualified teacher using research based curriculum and practice. Student data will be used to meet the needs of all students individually, so they become productive citizens and life-long learners.

Beebe Elementary School

Our mission is to deliver a safe, loving environment to promote growth for all.

Beebe Middle School

The mission of Beebe Middle School is to prepare each student to be a respectful, responsible citizen by encouraging active learning through engagement and high individual expectations.

Through nurturing, guidance, and example, Beebe Early Childhood/Elementary Schools pledge to work side-by-side with our children, their families, and our community to continue the development of learning in our children that will lead them to become lifelong learners and positive, productive citizens, in a technological society.

A special thanks goes to the people listed below for their assistance in preparing this handbook:

2023-2024

Jennifer Curtis/Early Childhood Counselor
Caitlyn Vogl/Assistant Principal
Emily Chessser/Early Childhood Teacher
Keri Woechan/Early Childhood Teacher
Brandi Crowell/Nursing Supervisor
Dana Ragland/Parent
Jaymie McAfee/Beebe Elementary Counselor
Jodie Balogh/Beebe Elementary Teacher
Michelle Jenkins/Early Childhood Principal
Rob Rollins/Beebe Elementary Principal
Shannon Marshall/Assistant Principal
Kristen Roberts/Assistant Principal
Paula Courson/Middle School Principal
Dana Johnston/Beebe Elementary Teacher

Katrina Mills/Assistant Principal
Lauren Shook/Parent
Lindsey Farmer/Beebe Elem Nurse
Landa Kerr/Parent
Ashley Rathbun/Parent
Cathy Kidder/ Teacher
Stacy Driskill/ Nurse
Cari Rector/Counselor
Savannah Overstreet/Teacher
Doris Kirk/Teacher
Paige Tallie/Teacher
Talor Glaude/Teacher
Ashley Rathbun/Parent

Building Administration

Beebe Early Childhood Principal	Michelle Jenkins
Beebe Early Childhood Assistant Principal	Ashley Brinkman
Beebe Early Childhood School Counselor	Jennifer Curtis
Beebe Elementary School Principal	Rob Rollins
Beebe Elementary Assistant Principal	Kristen Roberts
Beebe Elementary Assistant Principal	Shannon Marshall
Beebe Elementary School Counselor	Jaymie McAfee
Beebe Elementary School Counselor	Melissa Brown
Beebe Middle School Principal	Paula Courson
Beebe Middle School Assistant Principal	Katrina Mills
Beebe Middle School Counselor	Cari Rector

Central Office Administration

Superintendent	Dr. Chris Nail
Deputy Superintendent	Dr. Rick Duff
Director of Safety/Support Services/Athletics	Mr. Ryan Marshall
Director of Federal Programs/Human Resources	Dr. Karla Tarkington
Director of Curriculum	Ms. Holly Glover
Director of Special Services	Dr. Brandy Dillin
Director of Special Education	Ms. Annita Blauser
Director of Gifted and Talented	Ms. Tammy Deaton

The Beebe School Board adopted this handbook May 15, 2023.

Welcome

Welcome to Beebe Public Schools! The faculty and administration are excited to be of service to you and your child. We sincerely hope that the years here will be a rewarding educational experience. You are invited to take an active role in your child's education and assist us in maintaining high standards of performance.

This handbook is provided for the purpose of sharing the philosophy, policies and procedures of Beebe Schools (K-6). It shall be the policy of the Beebe 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.

It is essential that parents thoroughly familiarize themselves with the information included in this handbook. Any questions should be addressed to the Principals. Principals shall review all changes to student policies and ensure that such changes are provided to students and parents, either in the handbook or, if changes are made after the handbook is printed, as an addendum to the handbook.

A **Handbook Committee** will be formed and the handbook reviewed. The district's **Personnel Policies Committee** will be formed and the handbook reviewed. The district's **Personnel Policies Committee** will review the student discipline policies each year as well. Principals shall review all changes to student policies and ensure that such changes are provided to students and parents, either in the Handbook or, if changes are made after the handbook is printed, as an addendum to the handbook.

We are proud of our staff, administration, support staff, and students. The faculty and staff work diligently to provide a quality education for all students. Parents are invited to visit the school and to observe the instructional program. Parental support is solicited and appreciated. Your support and cooperation is important as we work together to provide excellence in education.

The Philosophy of Beebe Public Schools

The Beebe Board of Education, administration, and teachers consider education a cooperation endeavor, which includes the home, community, and state.

The primary role of the school is to teach academic skills while offering a broad-based and flexible curriculum, which provides opportunities for individual students regardless of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap.

Educational experiences, which include extracurricular activities, should promote good citizenship, encourage students to take responsibility for their own actions, encourage students to perform well in the classroom, teach the importance of cooperation and working together to achieve common goals and provide opportunities for students to succeed.

The school should provide competent, qualified and dedicated instructors for the students as well as a physical plant that lends itself to changing education programs while providing a stimulating atmosphere.

In applying this philosophy, the following specific objectives will be sought:

- To strengthen the curriculum in the basic areas of reading, language arts, math and science.
- To broaden the scope of the curriculum to meet or exceed the recommended state educational standards.
- To provide in-service training to help teachers keep updated in developments relating to education.
- To offer programs which will help each learner work toward developing his/her potential
- To provide educational experiences which will promote good citizenship, responsibility and a spirit of cooperation
- To encourage increased parent-community participation in the school program.
- To promote maximum student attendance

PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN

ACT 1423 requests that a parent friendly summary of your school's parent involvement plan be placed in student handbooks. The parent involvement plan is as follows:

Philosophy – We recognize the family as the primary influence in a child's life. We believe:

- A child's education is a responsibility shared by school staff and family during the entire time they are in school.
- Families and school staff must work as knowledgeable partners.
- Families must play a positive role in providing for student success.

A successful Parental Involvement Plan will include, but not be limited to the following components:

- **Parent, Alumni, and Community Involvement** – Volunteer plan, activities and events, resource materials, recognition of parents, informational kits, parent center and a parent facilitator.
- **School Programs** – School programs are provided to assist parents including but not limited to those with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children.
- **School Policies** – school policies are implemented which encourage parental involvement and participation.

EQUITY GUIDELINES

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education that the School District shall place an equal emphasis upon the nondiscriminatory provision of educational opportunities for children, and no person shall be denied the benefits of any educational program or activity on the basis of race, color, handicap, creed, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, All programs offered by schools within the District shall be open to all students in compliance with statutory and judicial requirements.

CITIZENSHIP

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited during the first class period of each school day. Students choosing to participate shall do so by facing the flag with their right hands over their hearts, or in an appropriate salute if in uniform, while reciting the Pledge. Students choosing not to participate shall be quiet while either standing or sitting at their desks. Students shall not be compelled to recite the Pledge, but students who choose not to recite the Pledge shall not disrupt those who choose to do so. Students choosing not to recite the Pledge shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation or disciplinary action.

CODE OF ETHICS

As a student of Beebe Public Schools, I shall uphold its standards and strive to raise them at all times.

- I shall endeavor to raise my scholastic record and to influence other students to do likewise.
- I shall consider it an honor to represent my school to the best of my ability whenever possible.
- Because good manners and good conduct are essential to good citizenship, I shall practice them at all times.
- As a part of being a good citizen, I shall help keep my school buildings and grounds clean and attractive.
- I shall cooperate with the school officials in taking the best possible care of the school, its grounds, and its equipment.
- I shall consider it an honor as well as a duty to live up to this “Code of Ethics” in order to be a good student of Beebe Public Schools.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR STUDENT CONDUCT

Freedom is a constitutional right, but it does not mean the absence of reasonable rules and regulations, which serve to guide the actions of individuals. Along with freedom comes the responsibility to act in such a manner as to ensure that all participants may enjoy the same freedom. To obtain the greatest possible benefit to the students, teachers, administrators, parents, Board, and the entire community, it is essential that all work together to ensure that all persons are treated equally and with dignity and in respect to their rights and responsibilities.

STUDENTS

Students have the responsibility to pursue their education in the Beebe School District in a manner that shows respect for other students, faculty members, parents and other citizens. Students should be aware that they have a responsibility to cooperate with the assistance of the school staff in the orderly and efficient conduct of the schools by abiding by rules and regulations established by the Board and the school of attendance and implemented by teachers and school administrators. Each student is responsible for his/her own conduct at all times.

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS

Parents or guardians are responsible for exercising the required controls so that their children’s behavior at school will be conducive to their own progress and not disruptive to the school’s educational program. They are responsible for alerting school personnel when they have reason to believe that their children are experiencing difficulties at school or at home so that behavior standards may be maintained.

TEACHERS

All teachers are responsible for the supervision of the behavior of all the students in the school. This includes not only the students who are regularly assigned to the teacher, but also all other students with whom the teacher comes in contact. Each teacher is expected to maintain the kind of atmosphere and decorum, which will promote the learning process, and to utilize sound techniques, which seem appropriate. These techniques include conferences with students and parents, referral to counselors at the school, or referral to other supportive service personnel of the District (nurse, attendance caseworker, educational examiner, psychologist). When the teacher is unable to assist the student to maintain proper controls of his/her behavior, the student is to be referred to the appropriate administrator in the school.

STUDENT/PARENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

The Board believes that students and parents have the right to express school-related concerns and grievances when they arise. Any student, parent, student organization, or group of students should request a meeting with the principal or other appropriate authority for any discussion or consideration of a grievance, or other concern. It is the aim of the Board to have the consideration of student problems and concerns discussed and resolved as quickly and equitably as possible.

The proper channels for all student complaints, concerns, or grievance should be as follows:

1. Teacher or group sponsor
2. Principal
3. Superintendent
4. Board of Education

SCHOOL MASCOT AND COLORS

The Badger is the school mascot. Many years ago the founding fathers of our school along with students and patrons chose a school mascot that would represent our school with pride. The Badger was selected because it could overcome all odds with its tremendous strength, courage, alertness and intelligence. The colors of Beebe Public Schools are red and white.

SCHOOL HOURS

School begins at 8:00 A.M. Students who walk to school or who are transported by their parents should not arrive on campus before 7:30 A.M. When students arrive at school, they should proceed to the cafeteria if they are to eat breakfast.

The school day ends at 3:10 P.M. Students are not allowed on campus before or after school hours except for school-sponsored activities or contracted care. The police may ticket students who are on school grounds or in school buildings without authorization.

TRAFFIC PATTERNS

Morning Traffic:

In the morning, Opportunity Drive will be one-way into the campus for Junior/Senior High traffic heading south. Junior/Senior High traffic will follow around the buildings. Buses will unload at the Early Childhood building then Junior High and High school students then unload the 2-4 students beside the Beebe Elementary Cafeteria. **Only buses and Elementary School staff will be allowed in the parking areas beside the schools.** The front entrances of the Elementary Schools will only be open to parent traffic after 8:00 a.m. All traffic should yield to buses at all times.

Parents should turn onto the "ASU Farm Road" to deliver all 2-3 Beebe Elementary car riders to the back entrances of the Elementary School. The speed limit on campus access streets/roads is **15 mph**. Elementary students may be dropped off from **7:30-8:00 A.M.** Parents of Beebe Elementary School students (Grades 4) should unload students behind the Central Office at the back entrance of Beebe Elementary. **All students must be dropped off in the designated areas only. A duty teacher must be present before a student is dropped off. After 8:00 a student must be signed in at the office by the parent or guardian.**

Afternoon Traffic:

In the afternoons students 2-4 will load buses beside the Elementary Cafeteria. All bus traffic will be one-way headed north to Center Street. Parents should enter the "ASU Farm Road" to pick up car riders at the back of the Elementary School for 2-3 Beebe Elementary students. Beebe Elementary students, grade 4 car riders should be picked up in the circle drive behind Central Cafeteria. **NO CAR PICK-UP IS PERMITTED AT THE FRONT OF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UNTIL AFTER THE BUSES HAVE LEFT CAMPUS.**

The safety of our students is the top priority of Beebe Schools. With that in mind, designated parent pick-up areas are in place with duty teachers assigned to insure the safest possible environment for students. When students are dismissed at the end of the day we have over 3000 moving to the buses, pick-up areas, etc.

No vehicle movement will be allowed in this area until all buses have loaded and exited campus. Parents who have been waiting on their children in this area need to be reminded that the designated pick-up areas are as follows:

Beebe Elementary (2nd and 3rd grade): Enter on the College road on the west side of campus and pick up behind the building

Beebe Elementary (4th grade): Enter at Central Office and pick up behind the building.

Middle School Students: Same location as 4th grade Beebe Elementary behind Central Office.

Junior High: Behind the Junior High Gym (one-way going east in the afternoon).

High School 9-12 – North entrance to the Career Tech building.

The administration and faculty of the Beebe School District appreciates everyone's cooperative efforts in making the traffic flow smoothly. All drivers are asked to be extremely cautious while on or near the campus to protect the safety of children.

Students are not allowed to ride 2 or 3 wheeled motorized vehicles on campus. Bicycles should be parked in the rack North of Beebe Elementary. Bicycles may not be ridden during school hours.

We appreciate your understanding as we address this safety issue.

Traffic pattern maps for Beebe Early Childhood and Beebe Middle School will be available at Open House and will be sent home by students

Early Pickup

If it is necessary to pick-up your child in the afternoon before dismissal time, please park in the area behind the Central Office and walk over to the Elementary School. Parents who pull in front of the Elementary Schools after 2:45 will not be able to leave until after the buses depart due to children walking over to board the buses.

No student will be permitted to leave the school grounds without permission of the school office. If it is necessary to pick up your child during the school day, please report directly to the school office and sign out your child. **Do not go to your child's classroom.** Remember that valuable instruction time will be missed whenever children are checked out early. Please do not do so unless absolutely necessary.

STUDENT SAFETY

Safety is a great concern for our students; therefore, we require our students to use crosswalks any time they are crossing the streets, and encourage them to use caution any time they are near the flow of traffic.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

School Choice

Standard School Choice

"Sibling" means each of two (2) or more children having a common parent in common by blood, adoption, marriage, or foster care.

Transfers into the District

Capacity Determination and Public Pronouncement

The Board of Directors will annually adopt a resolution containing the capacity standards for the District. The resolution will contain the acceptance determination criteria identified by academic program, class, grade level, and individual school. The school is not obligated to add any teachers, other staff, or classrooms to accommodate choice applications. The District may only deny a Standard School Choice application if the District has a lack of capacity by the District having reached ninety percent (90%) of the maximum student population in a program, class, grade level, or school building authorized by the Standards or other State/Federal law.¹

The District shall advertise in appropriate broadcast media and either print media or on the Internet to inform students and parents in adjoining districts of the range of possible openings available under the School Choice program. The public pronouncements shall state the application deadline, the requirements and procedures for participation in the program, and include contact information for the primary point of contact at the District for school choice questions. Such pronouncements shall be made no later than January 31.²

Application Process

The student's parent shall submit a school choice application on a form approved by DESE to this District and the student's resident district. Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, the transfer application must be postmarked, emailed, or

hand delivered between January 1 and May 1 of the year preceding the fall semester the applicant would begin school in the District. The District shall date and time stamp all applications the District receives as both the resident and nonresident district as they are received in the District's central office. Except for applications from students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, applications postmarked or hand delivered between January 1 and May 1. Statutorily, preference is required to be given to siblings of students who are already enrolled in the District. Therefore, siblings whose applications fit the capacity standards approved by the Board of Directors may be approved ahead of an otherwise qualified non-sibling applicant who submitted an earlier application as identified by the application's date and time stamp.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, no earlier than January 1 of each year, the Superintendent will consider all properly submitted applications for School Choice. By July 1, the Superintendent shall notify the parent and the student's resident district, in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application.

Accepted Applications

Applications which fit within the District's stated capacity standards shall be accepted, in writing, with the notification letter stating a reasonable timeline by which the student shall enroll in the District by taking the steps detailed in the letter, including submission of all required documents. If the student fails to enroll within the stated timeline, or if all necessary steps to complete the enrollment are not taken, or examination of the documentation indicates the applicant does not meet the District's stated capacity standards, the acceptance shall be null and void.³

A student, whose application has been accepted and who has enrolled in the District, is eligible to continue enrollment until completing his/her secondary education. Continued enrollment is conditioned upon the student meeting applicable statutory and District policy requirements. Any student who has been accepted under choice and who either fails to initially enroll under the timelines and provisions provided in this policy, who chooses to return to his/her resident district; or who enrolls in a home school or private school voids the transfer and must reapply if, in the future, the student seeks another school choice transfer. A subsequent transfer application will be subject to the capacity standards applicable to the year in which the application is considered by the District.

A present or future sibling of a student who continues enrollment in this District may enroll in the District by submitting a Standard School Choice application. Applications of siblings of presently enrolled choice students are subject to the provisions of this policy including the capacity standards applicable to the year in which the sibling's application is considered by the District. A sibling who enrolls in the District through Standard School choice is eligible to remain in the District until completing his/her secondary education.

Students whose applications have been accepted and who have enrolled in the district shall not be discriminated against on the basis of gender, national origin, race, ethnicity, religion, or disability.

Rejected Applications

The District may reject an application for a transfer into the District under Standard School Choice due to a lack of capacity. However, the decision to accept or reject an application may not be based on the

student's previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, English proficiency level, or previous disciplinary proceedings other than a current expulsion.⁴

An application may be provisionally rejected if it is for an opening that was included in the District's capacity resolution, but was provisionally filled by an earlier applicant. If the provisionally approved applicant subsequently does not enroll in the District, the provisionally rejected applicant could be provisionally approved and would have to meet the acceptance requirements to be eligible to enroll in the District.

Rejection of applications shall be in writing and shall state the reason(s) for the rejection. A student whose application was rejected may request a hearing before the State Board of Education to reconsider the application. The request for a hearing must be submitted in writing to the State Board within ten (10) days of receiving the rejection letter from the District.

Transfers Out of the District

All Standard School Choice applications for transfers out of the District shall be granted.

Facilities Distress School Choice Applications

There are a few exceptions from the provisions of the rest of this policy that govern choice transfers triggered by facilities distress. Any student attending a school district that has been identified as being in facilities distress may transfer under the provisions of this policy, but with the following four (4) differences.

- The receiving district cannot be in facilities distress;
- The transfer is only available for the duration of the time the student's resident district remains in facilities distress;
- The student is not required to meet the May 1 application deadline; and
- The student's resident district is responsible for the cost of transporting the student to this District's school.

Opportunity School Choice

Transfers Into the District⁵

For the purposes of this section of the policy, a "lack of capacity"⁶ is defined as when the receiving school has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal or state law, the DESE Rules for the Standards for Accreditation, or other applicable rules. There is a lack of capacity if, as of the date of the application for Opportunity School Choice, ninety-five percent (95%) or more of the seats at the grade level at the nonresident school are filled.

Unless there is a lack of capacity⁷ at the District's school or the transfer conflicts with the provisions of a federal desegregation order applicable to the District, a student may transfer from the student's assigned school to another school in the District⁸ or from the student's resident district into the District if:


- Either:

- o The student's resident district has been classified by the state board as in need of Level 5
 - intensive support; or
- o The student's assigned school has a rating of "F"; and
- Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependents School Choice, the student's parent, guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age has submitted an application of the student's request to transfer by no earlier than January 1 and no later than May 1 of the school year before the school year the student intends to transfer to both the sending and receiving school districts.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Members Dependent School Choice or seeking to transfer within the District, the Superintendent shall notify in writing the parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, and the student's resident district whether the Opportunity School Choice application has been accepted or rejected by no later than July 1 of the school year the student is seeking to enroll. If the student is seeking a transfer within the District, the Superintendent shall notify in writing the parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, whether the Opportunity School Choice application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the student's application. The notification shall be sent via First-Class Mail to the address on the application.

If the application is accepted, the notification letter shall state the deadline by which the student must enroll in the receiving school or the transfer will be null and void.

If the District rejects the application, the District shall state in the notification letter the specific reasons for the rejection.⁷ Unless the student's application was rejected due to the application not being timely received by both the resident and nonresident districts, a parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, may appeal the District's decision to deny the application to the State Board of Education. The appeal must be in writing to the State Board of Education via hand delivery or certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than ten (10) calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the notice of rejection was received from the District.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, a  student's transfer under Opportunity School choice is effective at the beginning of the next school year and the student's enrollment 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. This provision for continuing eligibility under Opportunity Choice does not negate the student's right to apply for transfer to a district other than the student's assigned school or resident district under the Standard School Choice provisions of this policy.

The District may, but is not obligated to provide transportation to and from the transferring district.¹³²

Transfers out of, or within, the District⁵

If a District school receives a rating of "F" or the District has been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support, the District shall timely notify parents, guardians, or students, if over eighteen (18) years of age, as soon as practicable after the school or district designation is made of all options available under Opportunity School Choice. The District shall offer the parent or

guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, an opportunity to submit an application to enroll the student in:

1. A school district that has not been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support; or
2. If there is more than one school within the District covering the grade level of the student seeking to transfer that does not have a rating of "F", a public school within the District that is nearest to the student's legal residence that does not have a rating of "F"; or
3. If there is not more than one school within the District covering the grade level of the student seeking to transfer that does not have a rating of "F", a public school that does not have a rating of "F" within a School district that has not been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support.

Additionally, the District shall request public service announcements to be made over the broadcast media and in the print media at such times and in such a manner as to inform parents or guardians of students in adjoining districts of the availability of the program, the application deadline, and the requirements and procedure for nonresident students to participate in the program.⁹

Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice

"Uniformed service member" means an active or reserve component member of the:

- United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Space Force, or United States Coast Guard;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps; or
- United States Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service.

"Uniformed service veteran" means a former uniformed service member who has been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

A student shall be eligible for school choice under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice if the student is a dependent of a:

- o Uniformed service member in full-time active-duty status;
- o Surviving spouse of a uniformed service member;
- o Reserve component uniformed service member during the period six (6) months before until six (6) months after a Title 10, Title 32, or state active duty mobilization and service; or
- o Uniformed service veteran who is returning to civilian status at the conclusion of the uniformed service veteran's active duty status.

A student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student shall submit a school choice application by mail, e-mail, or in person to the student's nonresident district and resident district. The application shall be accompanied by:

- a. A copy of the identification card of the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis that qualifies the student under this section; and
- b. A copy of the official orders, assignment notification, or notice of mobilization of the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis.

The application deadline required under Standard School Choice and Opportunity School Choice shall not apply to uniformed service member dependents.

The superintendent of the nonresident district shall notify the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis of the student in writing whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) days of the nonresident district's receipt of the application. A student's transfer under the Uniformed Services Member Dependent School Choice is effective immediately upon the nonresident district's written notification of an acceptance.

A student shall be permitted only one (1) school transfer per academic year.

The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis to a student shall be responsible for transportation of the student.

Unsafe School Choice Program

Any student that becomes the victim of a violent criminal offense while in or on the grounds of a District school or who is attending a school classified by ADE as a persistently dangerous public school shall be allowed to attend a safe public school within the District.

Notes: ¹ For the Resolution, see Form 4.5F. There is no real flexibility in setting capacity as you can no longer take growth into account when setting slots for Standard School Choice. Districts may only deny a transfer if the transfer would place the district above the ninety percent (90%) maximum under law. Your application of a lack of capacity must be consistent; you can't choose to add a teacher due to accepting a student, but refuse to add a staff member because the applicant requires special education.

Once the resolution has been made, the Board's role in determining acceptance is finished and no further board action is required to accept school choice students.

² The statute does not stipulate a date and you can choose your own, but it should give parents a reasonable opportunity to submit their application. While the statute gives districts a choice between advertising in print or on the Internet, it also doesn't prohibit advertising in both. To help inform parents before they try to apply so they will know in advance if it's actually a possibility that their child could be accepted, we suggest either including your capacity resolution in the public announcements or state where the resolution can be found.

³ Consider the following about the timing of your acceptance of an application and why it's important to provisionally accept each application until the notification letter is returned to you:

The later you accept an application, the more confident you can be about accepting or denying based on capacity. (For example, have as many students as usual moved into your district and were they in the expected grade level patterns?) However, an earlier, **provisional**, acceptance, such as June 1, gives you more time to determine through the use of your acceptance notification letter whether the student's reality matches the information supplied on the application. For example, would the applicant have been held back in 3rd grade in the resident school and the parent is trying to keep that from happening by transferring. While you may have an opening in 4th grade (the grade the parent would have applied for), you may not

have an opening in 3rd grade and so would need to deny the application once the paperwork was submitted.

Another example would be an application for a kindergarten choice transfer. When reviewing the completed paperwork, you discover the child is medically fragile and will require additional staff to meet the student's needs. Provisional acceptance gives you the time and opportunity to reconsider your acceptance and still meet the July 1 deadline.

⁴ You are required to hold a hearing before the board of directors about the student's expulsion. (See A.C.A. § 6-18-510.) It is possible that the expulsion was for a disciplinary infraction that does not result in expulsion in your district. If this is the case, you have the choice of whether or not to admit the student under school choice due to the resident district's expulsion of the student, but you may **NOT** deny a student unless you hold a hearing.

⁵ Only include "or within" if your district has more than one school with the same grade(s).

⁶ The capacity standards under "Opportunity Choice" are slightly more strict than under "Standard Choice" standards and are limited to what is stated in the policy. Additionally, by Rule, you are required to base your decision on ninety-five (95%) of capacity at the time of the application with no provision for consideration of your district's normal growth. Just as with Standard School Choice, your application of a lack of capacity must be consistent; you can't choose to add a teacher due to accepting a student, but refuse to add a staff member because the applicant requires special education.

⁷ The student or his/her parents may appeal to the State Board a decision to deny admission.

⁸ Sending districts are required to spend up to four hundred dollars (\$400) per year to transport the student. The statute and the Rules are unclear. They both state that receiving districts **may** transport opportunity choice students, but sending districts **shall** pay up to four hundred dollars (\$400) per year to transport the student. The policy's language makes no attempt to settle the discrepancy. The financial responsibility of the transferring district goes away when the school no longer has a rating of "F" or the student's resident district is no longer classified by the state board as in need of Level 5 — intensive support. At that time the statute states that the receiving district may choose to pay for the transportation.

⁹ Opportunity Choice does not give you the option contained in Standard Choice of advertising on the Internet in place of print media.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-1-106
 A.C.A. § 6-13-113
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2915
 A.C.A. § 6-18-227
 A.C.A. § 6-18-233
 A.C.A. § 6-18-320
 A.C.A. § 6-18-510
 A.C.A. § 6-18-1901 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-21-812
 DESE Rules Governing the Public School Choice

Date Adopted: 6-10-2013

Last Revised: 7-14-2014, 7-13-2015, 6-19-2017, 2-15-2018, 6-17-2019, 4-20-2020, 5-21-2020,
6-17-2021, 3-14-2022

SCHOOL CHOICE CAPACITY RESOLUTION

Whereas:

- The Board of Directors of the Beebe School District has approved by a vote of the Board, the following capacity resolution for school choice applicants for the ____ school-year under the provisions of policy 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE and applicable Arkansas law.
- Except for applicants who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, applicants, whose applications meet the provisions of policy 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE, will be sent an acceptance notification letter which will give instructions on the necessary steps and timelines to enroll in the District. Acceptance shall be determined prior to July 1 with a final decision to be made by July 1 based on the district's available capacity for each academic program, class, grade level, and individual school.
- Applications will not be accepted if the applications:
 - Are received, electronically timestamped, or postmarked before January 1, unless the application is from a student who has a parent or guardian who is an active-duty member of the military and who has been transferred to and resides on a military base and the application is received, electronically timestamped, or postmarked within the fifteen (15) day period and accompanied by relevant documentation;
 - Are received, electronically timestamped, or postmarked after May 1, unless the application is postmarked before May 1 or is from a student who is transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice;
 - Are to a student's resident district that has declared itself exempt due to an existing desegregation order; or
 - The student is transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice and the application is not accompanied by relevant documentation.
- The district reserves to itself the ability to determine, based on an examination of student records obtained from the prior district, and other information, whether any student would require a different class, course or courses, program of instruction, or special services than originally applied for. If such an examination determines that capacity has been reached in the appropriate class, course or program of instruction, or that additional staff would have to be hired for the applicant, the District shall rescind the original acceptance letter and deny the Choice transfer for that student.
- The district reserves to itself the ability to decline to accept under school choice any student whose acceptance would require the district to add additional staff to exceed the District's current grade, program, or building capacity.

STUDENT TRANSFERS

Transfer applications received by the District shall be placed on the Board's next meeting agenda.¹ At least five (5) days before the meeting where the transfer application appears on the agenda, the superintendent shall notify the Board regarding:

- All transfer applications received since the last meeting; and
- The superintendent's recommendation concerning each transfer application.

Each transfer application shall be considered individually and receive a separate vote by the Board. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to a student who submits a transfer application shall be given at least five (5) minutes to present the student's case for a transfer to the Board.

The Board may reject a nonresident'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.² The District shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

If the superintendent intends to recommend the Board deny the transfer application, the superintendent shall provide a written explanation of the reasons for the recommendation to the Board and the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student.

The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student who submitted a transfer application that was rejected may appeal the decision of the Board to the State Board of Education.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) 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 grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities.

Any student transferring from home school or a school that is not accredited by the DESE to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff to determine the student's appropriate grade placement. A student transferring from home school will be placed in accordance with Policy 4.6---HOME SCHOOLING.

Any person who has been expelled from any other school district shall receive a hearing before the Board at the time the student is seeking enrollment in the District. The Board reserves the right to not allow the enrollment of such students until the time of the person's expulsion has expired following the hearing before the Board.³

Except as otherwise required or permitted by law⁴, 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.

Notes: ¹ Applications are required to be placed at the earliest meeting following their receipt, whether that is the next regularly scheduled meeting or a special board meeting. Consult A.C.A. § 6-18-317 for restrictions on transfers where either the resident or the receiving district is under a desegregation related court order.

² Your application of "capacity" should be consistent in order to avoid potential exposure to liability for unlawful discrimination against individuals with disabilities. For example, you should not choose to accept a student who requires no special services, but would require you to add an additional elementary teacher, but refuse to accept a student with a disability because it would require you to add an additional special education teacher. You may refuse to accept the transfer of a student with a disability whose acceptance would necessitate the hiring of an aide, interpreter, or other additional staff member.

³ A.C.A. § 6-18-510 requires that districts adopt this policy language, or similar, AND provide a hearing before the board for the student seeking to enroll in the district while currently serving an expulsion from another district in order for the district to exclude the student until the expiration of the student's expulsion. Districts who do not include this policy language, or similar, AND provide the hearing before the board may NOT prohibit the enrollment of a student who is currently serving an expulsion from another district.

⁴ A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(4) encourages districts to arrange for transportation for foster children who have had a change in placement to a new school, but have been kept in their previous school by a DHS or court ruling. The statute's language would permit the change in placement to be in a different district and the policy language would allow the district to arrange for the transportation at district expense.

Cross Reference: 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-504

A.C.A. § 6-18-316

A.C.A. § 6-18-317

A.C.A. § 6-18-510

A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(4)

A.C.A. § 9-28-205

Date Adopted: 06-13-2005

Last Revised: 08-11-2008, 7-18-2011, 7-11-2013, 7-13-2015, 2-23-2016, 6-19-2017,
6-26-2018, 6-17-2019, 10-21-2019

STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

The District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to foster children that are afforded other children and youth. The District shall work with the Department of Human Services (“DHS”), the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and individuals involved with each foster child to ensure that the foster child is able to maintain his/her continuity of educational services to the fullest extent that is practical and reasonable.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational liaison for foster children and youth whose responsibilities shall include ensuring the timely school enrollment of each foster child and assisting foster children who transfer between schools by expediting the transfer of relevant educational records.¹

The District, working with other individuals and agencies shall, unless the presiding court rules otherwise or DHS grants a request to transfer under Foster Child School Choice, ensure that the foster child remains in his/her school of origin, even if a change in the foster child’s placement results in a residency that is outside the district. In such a situation, the District will work with DHS to arrange for transportation to and from school for the foster child to the extent it is reasonable and practical.²

Upon notification to the District’s foster care liaison by a foster child’s caseworker that a foster child’s school enrollment is being changed to one of the District’s schools, the school receiving the child must immediately enroll him/her. Immediate enrollment is required even if a child lacks the required clothing, academic or medical records, or proof of residency.³

A foster child’s grades shall not be lowered due to absence from school that is caused by a change in the child’s school enrollment, the child’s attendance at dependency-neglect court proceedings, or other court-ordered counseling or treatment.

Any course work completed by the foster child prior to a school enrollment change shall be accepted as academic credit so long as the child has satisfactorily completed the appropriate academic placement assessment.⁴

If a foster child was enrolled in a District school immediately prior to completing his/her graduation requirements while detained in a juvenile detention facility or while committed to the Division of Youth Services of DHS, the District shall issue the child a diploma.

Foster Child School Choice

If DHS approves a request from a foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, to transfer to another school in the District or into the district as being in the best interest of the foster child, the District shall allow the foster child to transfer to another school in the District or into the District if the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, submits a request to transfer on a form approved by DESE that is postmarked by no later than May 1 of the year the student seeks to begin the fall semester at another school in the District or in the District.

By July 1 of the school year in which the student seeks to transfer under this section, the superintendent shall notify the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, in writing whether the application has been accepted or rejected. If the application is accepted,

the superintendent shall state in the notification letter a reasonable deadline for the foster child to enroll in the new school or the District and that failure to enroll by the date shall void the school choice acceptance. If the application is rejected, the superintendent shall state in the notification letter the reason for the rejection and that the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may submit a written appeal of the rejection to the State board within ten (10) days of receiving the notification letter.

The District shall only reject a Foster Child School Choice application if:⁵

1. The public school or District has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal law, state law, rules for standards of accreditation, or other applicable rule or regulation; or
2. Approving the transfer would conflict with a provision of an enforceable desegregation court order or a public school district's court-approved desegregation plan regarding the effects of past racial segregation in student assignment.

A foster child whose application is rejected by the District may submit a written request within ten (10) days following the receipt of the rejection letter from the superintendent to the State Board of Education for the State Board to reconsider the transfer.

A Foster Child School Choice transfer shall remain in effect until the foster child:

- Graduates from high school; or
- Transfers to another school or school district under:
 - The Foster Child School Choice Act;
 - Opportunity Public School Choice Act;
 - The Public School Choice Act of 2015; or
 - Any other law that allows a transfer.

The District shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by another public school district.

When a foster child transfers from the foster child's school of origin to another school in the District or into the District, the foster child or the foster parent is responsible for the foster child's transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to. The District and the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may enter into a written agreement for the District to provide the transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to.

Notes: ¹ The name and contact information of the liaison must be sent to the Special Education Section of DESE at the beginning of each school year. A.C.A. § 9-28-113 contains additional requirements/duties of the liaison.

² While A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(4) encourages districts to "arrange for transportation," there is no explanation of costs or methods.

³ A.C.A. § 9-28-113 does not address a district's right to refuse enrollment following a hearing before the board for a student that has been expelled from another school, but we believe that right is retained even in this circumstance.

⁴ This language is from A.C.A. § 9-28-113(g). You may add a sentence defining how you interpret its meaning or you may make it a procedural issue which would leave you more latitude for case-by-case implementation.

⁵ If the district is not under an enforceable desegregation court order or a court-approved desegregation plan, remove it as an option for denial of a Foster Child School Choice application.

If a foster child application is denied due to the district's enforceable desegregation court order or court-approved desegregation plan, the law requires that the district immediately submit proof from a federal court to DESE that the public school district has a genuine conflict under an active desegregation order or active court-approved desegregation plan with the provisions of A.C.A. § 6-18-233.

Cross References: 4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS
 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE
 4.7—ABSENCES

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-233
 A.C.A. § 9-28-113

PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or custody of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6 may request that the multiple birth siblings are placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing not 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 of the multiple birth siblings if:

- There have been a minimum of 30 instructional days since the start of the school year; and
 - After consulting with each classroom teacher in which the siblings were placed, the school determines the parent's classroom placement request is:
 - Detrimental to the educational achievement of one or more of the siblings;
 - Disruptive to the siblings' assigned classroom learning environment; or
 - 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. (A.C.A. 6-18-106)

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

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 whose parents, legal guardians, persons having 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 parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis reside. A student may use the residential address of a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis only if the student resides at the same residential address and if the guardianship or other legal authority is not granted solely for educational needs or school attendance

purposes.

The schools of 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 whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis reside within the District¹ and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the District for educational purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis 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 parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis, the student is required to reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance. 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.² 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.³

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.⁴

Children whose parent or legal guardian relocates within the state due to a mobilization, deployment, or available military housing while on active duty in or serving in the reserve component of a branch of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard may continue attending school in the school district the children were attending prior to the relocation or attend school in the school district where the children have relocated. A child may complete all remaining school years at the enrolled school district regardless of mobilization, deployment, or military status of the parent or guardian.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must be a resident of the District as defined in District policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), meet the criteria outlined in policy 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS or in policy 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN, be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option under Policy 4.5.

Students may enter kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 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, will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the District. Any student who was enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state or in a kindergarten program equivalent in another country, becomes a resident of this state as a direct result of active military orders or a court-ordered change of custody, will become five (5) years of age during the year in which he or she is enrolled in kindergarten, and meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon a written request to the District.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district and 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 requirements 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. Private school students shall be evaluated by the District to determine their appropriate grade placement. Home school students enrolling or re-enrolling as a public school student shall be placed in accordance with policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, of any student or his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.¹

Prior to the child's admission to a District school:²

- a. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the district will assign the child a nine (9) digit number designated by the Division of Elementary and Secondary education.
- b. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
 - c. A birth certificate;
 - d. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
 - e. An attested baptismal certificate;
 - f. A passport;
 - g. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis;
 - h. United States military identification; or
 - i. Previous school records.
- j. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or standing in loco parentis shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding. Any person who has been expelled from any other school district shall receive a hearing before the Board at the time the student is seeking enrollment in the District. The Board reserves the right to not allow the enrollment of such students until the time of the person's expulsion has expired following the hearing before the Board.³
- k. In accordance with Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS, the child shall be age appropriately immunized or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health.

See specific immunization policy on the Beebe School District website or contact your local Arkansas Department of Health Office.

Pre-School Health Screening

State law requires all pre-school age children to undergo a health and developmental screening.

Documentation of this screening is required for all enrolling kindergarten children.

The Beebe School District may provide from time to time for the administration of screenings for its

students. The intent of the screenings shall be to detect contagious or infectious diseases or a defect in hearing, vision, or other elements of health that would adversely affect the student's ability to achieve his/her full potential.

The district shall notify parents, at least annually, of the specific or approximate dates any physical examination or screening that is:

1. Required as a condition of attendance;
2. Administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
3. Not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students.

Contact with Students While at School

CONTACT BY PARENTS

Parents wishing to speak to their children during the school day shall register first with the office.

CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or the principal's designee establishing the parent's custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered "no contact" or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with the principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting visitation may eat lunch, volunteer in their child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy 4.16, Policy 6.5, and any other policies that may apply.

Arkansas law provides that, In order to avoid continuing child custody controversies from involving school personnel and to avoid disruptions to the educational atmosphere in the District's schools, the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation. The custodial or non-custodial parent may send to/drop off the student at school to be sent to/picked up by the other parent on predetermined days in accordance with any court order provided by the custodial parent or by a signed agreement between both the custodial and non-custodial parents that was witnessed by the student's building principal.¹ Unless a valid no-contact order has been filed with the student's principal or the principal's designee, district employees shall not become involved in disputes concerning whether or not that parent was supposed to pick up the student on any given day.

CONTACT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT, SOCIAL SERVICES, OR BY COURT ORDER

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, State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division 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 first obtaining a court order. Except as provided below, 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 if 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 identified on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, 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 state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child 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, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's 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.

CONTACT BY PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD INVESTIGATORS

Investigators for the Professional Licensure Standards Board may meet with students during the school day to carry out the investigation of an ethics complaint.

Note: ¹ This sentence is based on language in A.C.A. § 9-13-104 (b) and is **NOT** required. School administration should ALWAYS decline any involvement in the fight between parents over whose day it is to pick up the student. The school's interest is that A PARENT or an individual authorized by a PARENT checks the child out or picks the child up, not that the "right" parent checks the child out on the "right" day.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-513
 A.C.A. § 9-13-104

PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Parents should notify the school **immediately** if there is a change in their address, phone number or if there is a change in the person to contact in case of emergency. It is important to have correct information on file in the event of illness or injury.

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students' education records are available for inspection and copying by the parents of any his/her 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. A student's parent or the student, if over the age of 18, requesting to review the student's education records will be allowed to do so within no more than forty

five (45) days¹ of the request. The district forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

The district shall receive written permission before releasing education records to any agency or individual not authorized by law to receive and/or view the education records without prior parental permission. The District shall maintain a record of requests by such agencies or individuals for access to, and each disclosure of, personally identifiable information from the education records of each student. Disclosure of education records is authorized by law to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A personal record kept by a school staff member is **not** considered an education record if it meets the following tests.

- it is in the sole possession of the individual who made it;
- it is used only as a personal memory aid; and
- information contained in it has never been revealed or made available to any other person, except the maker's temporary substitute.

For the purposes of this policy a school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

For the purposes of this policy a school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility, contracted duty, or duty of elected office.

In addition to releasing PII to school officials without permission, the District may disclose PII from the education records of students in foster care placement to the student's caseworker or to the caseworker's representative without getting prior consent of the parent (or the student if the student is over eighteen (18)). For the District to release the student's PII without getting permission:

- The individual to whom the PII will be released must have legal access to the student's The student must be in foster care;
- case plan; and
- The Arkansas Department of Human Services, or a sub-agency of the Department, must be

legally responsible for the care and protection of the student.

The District discloses personally identifiable information from an education record to appropriate parties, including parents, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. The superintendent or designee shall determine who will have access to and the responsibility for disclosing information in emergency situations.

When deciding whether to release personally identifiable information in a health or safety emergency, the District may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. If the District determines that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, it may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.²

For purposes of this policy, the Beebe 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 exists 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. The school will make good-faith efforts to act in accordance with such court order, but the failure to do so does not impose legal liability upon the school. The actual responsibility for enforcement of such court orders rests with the parents or guardians, their attorneys and the court which issued the order.

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. The challenge shall clearly identify the part of the student's record the parent wants changed and specify why he/she believes it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school determines not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the requesting parent or student of the decision and inform them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amending the record. The parent or eligible student will be provided information regarding the hearing procedure when notified of the right to a hearing.³

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, military recruiters, post-secondary educational institutions, prospective employers of those students, as well as school publications such as annual yearbooks and graduation announcements. "Directory information" includes, but is not limited to, a student's name, address, telephone number, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, dates of attendance,⁴ 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 example, basketball, football, or other interscholastic activities), the publication of such information will be beyond the control of the District. "Directory information" also includes a student identification (ID) communicating in electronic systems and a student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student's ID badger, provided the ID cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

A student's name and photograph will only be displayed on the district or school's web page(s) after receiving the written permission from the student's parent or student over the age of 18.

The form for objecting to making directory information available 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 or the date the student is enrolled for school. Failure to file an objection by that time is considered a specific grant of permission. The district is required to continue to honor any signed-opt out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

The right to opt out of the disclosure of directory information under FERPA does not prevent the District from disclosing or requiring a student to disclose the student's name, identifier, or institutional email address in a class in which the student is enrolled.

Parents and students over the age of 18 who believe the district has failed to comply with the requirements for the lawful release of student records may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education at

Student Privacy Policy Compliance Office

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20202

The District shall ensure that all contracts that disclose or make available student personally identifiable information to vendors, including school service contract providers, school service on-demand providers, and other third parties, including without limitation subcontractors of contract providers, include express provisions that safeguard the privacy and security of student personally identifiable information that meet the requirements under A.C.A. § 6-18-2601 et seq. The District shall maintain a list of the school service contract providers that the District contracts with for school services that include or make available student personally identifiable information. The list shall be updated at least once at the beginning of each semester and provided to parents upon request.

Notes: With very few exceptions, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy requirements don't apply to public K-12 schools and, for that reason, ASBA has no model policy addressing HIPAA. An excellent explanation of the relation between FERPA and HIPAA is available at <https://arsba.org/policy-resources>.

Districts must annually notify parents or students if over the age of eighteen (18) of the provisions of this policy and "...shall effectively notify parents who have a primary or home language other than English." (34 CFR 99.7(b)(2))

Districts may release directory information (DI) (as presently defined by the district) of former students to the extent there is not a signed prohibition against such release. As the definition of DI changes over time (for example, the addition of email addresses to the definition of DI), districts may

release DI according to the current definition. It also applies to the release of information that is now defined as DI for students who left the district prior to 1974, when there was no such thing as DI.

As stated in this policy, once a student turns eighteen (18), the rights to his/her educational records transfers to the student. The release of educational records to a parent becomes permissive and not a right. At that point, the school gets to decide if it wants to release educational records to parents. The student, however, doesn't have the right to object one way or the other. If the parents don't establish dependency, once the student turns eighteen (18), the parents don't have an absolute **right** to see their student's educational records. "Dependency" in this regard is defined according to the IRS; if the student is claimed by either of their parents (regardless of custody issues, or filing jointly or separately) as a dependent, then the rights of the parent once the student turns eighteen (18) is as described. Without dependency, the parents have no right to see their student's educational records once the student turns eighteen (18).

There are several areas of permissible release of students' PII that are not mentioned in this policy (it's not required and would make the policy very long), but that are listed in 34 CFR § 99.31. One of the areas that has been greatly elaborated on in the DOE Rules, released 12/2/11, relates to the district's release of PII to an "authorized representative" for the purpose conducting an audit or evaluation of federal or state education programs. This new area is covered in 34 CFR 99.35. Both documents are available by calling the ASBA office and requesting a copy. They could come in handy when answering parents' questions regarding the release of PII.

The Arkansas Supreme Court, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and ASBA collaborated in the creation of a form in an effort to aid juvenile intake and probation officers in acquiring necessary information for the officer to make more knowledgeable decisions/recommendations on a course of action for each juvenile's case. The Form allows for parents to authorize the officer to access certain portions of the student's education records and the parent's ESchool PLUS Home Access Center. The form, when completed by the parent and probation officer, will be sent to the district by the officer. A copy of the form, along with a background letter, may be found at <https://arsba.org/policy-resources>.

¹ You may choose a lesser number of days, but you may not exceed forty-five (45) days.

² This paragraph along with the preceding paragraph are added (and permitted) due to the amendments in the Code of Federal Regulations resulting from the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007. The paragraph can also apply to the release of PII to state health officials during outbreaks of communicable diseases. This would apply, for example, to immunization records to determine which students need to be removed from the school. (See Policy 4.34).

³ The requirements for conducting a hearing are addressed in 34 CFR § 99.22. The district's obligations regarding the results of the hearing are covered in 34 CFR § 99.21. Both are available by calling the ASBA office and requesting a copy.

⁴ The 12/2/11 DOE Rules now provide districts with the option of greater specificity in choosing to whom it will release DI. ASBA has not amended the model policy to include this expanded option because we feel it can result in unintentional restrictions for desired release of DI. The following is the language from 34 CFR § 99.37 governing this option:

In its public notice to parents and eligible students in attendance, ... an educational agency or institution may specify that disclosure of directory information will be limited to specific parties, for specific purposes, or both. When an educational agency or institution specifies that disclosure of directory information will be limited to specific parties, for specific purposes, or both, the educational agency or institution must limit its directory information disclosures to those specified in its public notice.

⁵ Dates of attendance means the period of time during which a student attends or attended your district, e.g. an academic year or semester. It does not mean specific daily records of attendance.

⁶ This paragraph is language from the amended 34 CFR § 99.37 and is included to help eliminate the potential problem of a student (who is in a class where the student really doesn't want to be - for example JAG), who has opted out of release of DI, refusing to give the information necessary for the class.

Cross References: Policy 4.34—Communicable Diseases and Parasites

Policy 5.20—District Website

Policy 5.20.1—Web Site Privacy Policy

Policy 5.20F1—Permission to Display Photo of Student on Web Site

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-2601 et seq.
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(6)
20 U.S.C. § 1232g
20 U.S.C. § 7908
34 CFR §§ 99.3, 99.7, 99.21, 99.22, 99.30, 99.31, 99.32, 99.33, 99.34, 99.35, 99.36, 99.37, 99.63, 99.64

Date Adopted: 08-14-06

Last Revised: 7-13-2009, 7-18-2011, 6-11-2012, 7-13-2015, 2-25-2016, 6-4-2019,
4-20-2020,
3-15-21

STUDENT NAME, TITLE, OR PRONOUN

Unless a District employee has the written permission of the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student or the student if the student is an emancipated minor or over eighteen (18) years of age, a District employee shall not address a student with a:

1. Name other than that listed on the student's birth certificate, except for a derivative of the name; or
2. Pronoun or title that is inconsistent with the student's biological sex.

A student shall not be subject to discipline for declining to address a person using a:

- a. Name other than that listed on the student's birth certificate, except for a derivative of the name; or
- b. Pronoun or title that is inconsistent with the person's biological sex.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-1-108

Date Adopted:

Last Revised:

Closed Campus

Beebe Public Schools has a closed campus policy. Once a student arrives on campus, he/she may not leave the campus without checking out through the principal's office. Parents are encouraged to check out students only for emergency situations. If an emergency arises that would require a student to check out early, a parent must come by the office and sign for the student's dismissal. . **Students who leave without following the proper procedure will be considered truant.**

Teachers are not allowed to release students until they have been signed out in the office.

Inclement Weather Procedures/Early Dismissal

In the event of bad weather or hazardous conditions that originate overnight, an announcement regarding the closing of school will be on the radio or TV by 6:30 A.M. The radio and TV stations that will be contacted are:

Little Rock TV channels 4, 7 and 11 – Radio stations FM 100.7, FM 107.1, FM 99.9 and FM 99.1.

If the hazardous conditions are only temporary in the morning, then school may open one (1) hour later or at 9:00 A.M. Bus drivers should start their routes one (1) hour later.

Some conditions may call for the routes being adjusted to "snow and ice routes" due to specific roads being worse than others. These "snow and ice routes" will be published in the paper.

If the weather changes during the day and it becomes necessary to dismiss early, there will be at least a 45-minute warning to allow all of the bus drivers and parents to prepare. Again, the radio and TV stations will be contacted first if these conditions exist.

The district also uses The School Messenger System that will call the primary or designated number of the parent or guardian if there are changes in the school schedule. It is imperative that the school has the correct contact number in the system at all times. If parents have a cell phone, we suggest that this be given as the primary contact number because the messenger system would be more likely to make contact with you at any time of the day.

In case of severe weather (severe thunderstorms or tornado warnings)

Beebe administrators will monitor weather stations throughout the day if there is a threat of severe weather in our area. In the event that a warning is issued the students will be moved to the tornado shelter at once. Parents should not attempt to check students out if this procedure is already in

progress. Once all students are secured within the safety of the shelter, parents may check them out from the shelter. This will be done in a way that will not compromise the safety of any other student that is to remain in our care.

Student Going Home with Anyone Other Than Legal Guardian

A student will not be allowed to go home by school bus or any other means with another student or person other than the child's parent or guardian **unless** the school receives permission in **writing** from the child's guardian or parent or if the custodial parent gives permission over the telephone.

Emergency Drills

All schools in the district shall conduct fire drills at least monthly. Tornado drills shall also be conducted. All students shall also participate in emergency bus evacuation drills at least twice each school year. Students who only ride buses occasionally, such as to go to and/or from a field trip will also have to participate in evacuation drills. All pupils should read closely the directions posted by the teacher in each classroom. A warning bell will signal when it is safe. Each teacher will instruct the individual classes as to warning signals and actions to be taken in their classrooms.

Other types of drills may also be conducted. These may include, but are not limited to: Earthquake, Act of Terrorism, Chemical spill (A.C.A. 12-13-109, A.C.A. 6-10-121, and A.C.A. 6-15-1302).

Phone Calls

Parents are asked to let their child know after-school plans **before** school. The **school should be notified with a note if there is a change in transportation. We do not accept transportation changes over the phone unless there is an emergency. All changes must be made and acknowledged before 2:00.** Parents should only ask the school to give emergency messages. The office phone is for business and students will be allowed to make telephone calls in emergency situations only.

Attendance

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Every parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the child, or person standing in loco parentis of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the District shall enroll the child and ensure the attendance of the child at a District school with the following exceptions:

1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.
2. The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy (4.6—HOME SCHOOLING) have been met.
3. The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the child, or person standing in loco parentis of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Division of Elementary and Secondary 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
A.C.A. § 6-18-207

Date Adopted: June 13, 2005

Last Revised: 6-14-2010, 6-17-2019, 6-17-2021

Absences

If any student's Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan conflicts with this policy, the requirements of the student's IEP or 504 Plan take precedence.

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school, whether in person or digitally, 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 enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

Absences for students enrolled in synchronous digital courses shall be determined in the same manner as for District students attending courses in person.¹

Excused Absences

Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons:

1. The student's illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of six (6) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal.²
2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family; (not to exceed 2 days in state or 3 days out of state without administrative prior approval)³
3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student's faith;
4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency;
5. Attendance at a medical appointment;
6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal;
7. Participation in an FFA, FHA, or 4-H sanctioned activity;
8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.
9. Absences granted to allow a student 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. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.

10. Absences granted, at the Superintendent's discretion, to seventeen (17) year-old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in eleventh grade to complete basic combat training between grades eleven (11) and (12).
11. Absences for students excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak because the student has an immunization waiver or whose immunizations are not up to date.⁴⁵
12. Absences due to conditions related to pregnancy or parenting, including without limitation:
 - Labor, delivery, and recovery;
 - Prenatal and postnatal medical appointments and other medically necessary, pregnancy-related absences;
 - The illness or medical appointment of a child belonging to a parent who is enrolled at a District school;
 - A legal appointment related to pregnancy or parenting, including without limitation:
 - Adoption;
 - Custody; and
 - Visitation;
 - A reasonable amount of time to accommodate a lactating student's need to express breast milk or to breastfeed the student's child on the District's campus; and
 - At least ten (10) school days of absences for both a parenting mother and a parenting father after the birth of a child.⁶

Students who serve as pages for a member of the General Assembly shall be considered on instructional assignment and shall not be considered absent from school for the day the student is serving as a page.⁷

Up to one (1) time during each scheduled election, a student shall not be considered absent from school for the time the student accompanies the student's parent when the parent is exercising the parent's right to vote in a scheduled election.

In order for the absence to be considered excused, the student must:

- a. Bring a written statement to the principal or designee upon the student's return to school from the student's parent, legal guardian, or treating physician stating the reason for the student's absence;
- b. If the student is attending the District's courses digitally, upload a written statement from the student's parent, legal guardian, or treating physician stating the reason for the student's absence through the District's digital course management platform for review by the principal or designee; or
- c. Provide documentation as proof of a student's participation in an activity or program scheduled and approved by the 4-H program that is provided by a 4-H county extension agent, 4-H educator, or other appropriate entity associated with the 4-H activity or program.

A written statement presented or uploaded for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation or upload will not be accepted.

Unexcused Absences

Absences that are not defined above; do not have an accompanying note from the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, person standing in loco parentis, the student's

treating physician, or a 4-H county extension agent, 4-H educator, or other appropriate entity associated with the 4-H activity or program;

Students with (8)⁸ absences in a course in a semester may not receive credit for that course. 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 shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

When a student has (4)⁸ absences, his/her parents, legal guardians, persons with lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be notified⁹. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds (8)⁸ absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly's intention that students having excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Therefore, at any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, legal guardian, person with lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written 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, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis; and the school or district administrator or designee.¹⁰

Students who attend in-school suspension shall not be counted absent for those days.¹¹

Days missed due to out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be unexcused absences.¹¹

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student's operator's license unless he/she meets certain requirements specified in the statute.

Excused absences will only be used in maintaining credit and will not be considered for semester test exemption.

Notes: If your district's penalties for absences include an impact on the student's grades, it is important to note that A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f) prohibits the lowering of grades of foster children for absences due to 1) a change in the student's school enrollment; 2) the student's attendance at a court ordered dependency-neglect court proceeding; or 3) the student's attendance at court-ordered counseling or treatment.

¹ If you have asynchronous digital courses in addition to or in place of synchronous digital courses, you will need to add to or replace this paragraph with the manner you

will use to determine a student's attendance in such classes. The exact manner you use to determine the student's attendance will depend on the options within the digital course platform you are using. Be sure to note that a student who is taking an asynchronous course but who was assigned a class period during the school day for the course may be considered truant under your discipline policies for failure to be physically where they are assigned to be but would not be considered absent for the digital course itself if the student satisfied the attendance requirements for the asynchronous digital course.

² Limiting the number of excused absences for illness is an option which you can choose to include or not include. The number of absences can be changed as you feel appropriate.

³ Your board may want to define the meaning of "immediate family." One source for a definition is A.C.A. § 6-17-1202.

⁴ A.C.A. § 6-18-220 requires that a student be given an excused absence for attending a 4-H activity even if your district does not have a FFA or FHA program.

⁵ The law is silent on how to treat absences for students excluded from school in this manner. While you may elect to have such absences treated as unexcused absences, we do not recommend doing so due to the truancy requirements and the potential for a student to not be able to make up homework based on the language in Policy 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK.

⁶ A.C.A. § 6-18-234 exempts the student parent from being dropped from the district enrollment for being absent for more than ten (10) consecutive days when the absences are related to pregnancy or the birth of the student's child.

⁷ Statutorily, the day the student serves as a page cannot be counted as an absence, but the school may grant additional days (such as for travel time) in conjunction with the day as a page that would also not be counted as absences. The choice is up to the district.

⁸ A.C.A. § 6-18-222(a)(1)(A)(i) requires school boards to adopt an attendance policy that includes a "certain number" of excessive unexcused absences. The code leaves the specific number up to the individual board's discretion. The number your board chooses determines the number of absences that triggers the notices being sent to the student's parents.

⁹ If your district has a Community Truancy Board as defined in A.C.A. § 6-18-225 & 226, notification will also need to be sent to the chairman of the truancy board. The truancy board will then need to proceed as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-222(a)(4)(A).

¹⁰ Students are specifically permitted to initiate the agreement on their own; their parents may be unavailable or unwilling to meet with the administration.

¹¹ The statutes are silent on whether in-school-suspensions shall count as absences. You can choose to amend this sentence and make either or both forms of suspension count as unexcused absences. In making your decision, we suggest you consider the number of days of allowable unexcused absences you have chosen for this policy, the lower

the number, the greater the consequences for including an in-school-suspension as an unexcused absence. A.C.A. § 6-18-507(g) requires districts to note on each student's attendance record if the student's absence was due to an out-of-school suspension.

Cross References: 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK
4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS
5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES
5.29—WELLNESS POLICY

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302
A.C.A. § 6-18-209
A.C.A. § 6-18-213
A.C.A. § 6-18-220
A.C.A. § 6-18-222
A.C.A. § 6-18-229
A.C.A. § 6-18-231
A.C.A. § 6-18-234
A.C.A. § 6-18-235
A.C.A. § 6-18-507(g)
A.C.A. § 6-18-702
A.C.A. § 6-28-114
A.C.A. § 7-4-116
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f)
A.C.A. § 27-16-701
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing
Distance and Digital Learning

Date Adopted: Date Adopted: 7-18-2011

Last Revised: 06-11-2012, 7-11-2013, 7-13-2015, 7-11-2016, 6-17-2019, 6-17-2021

Procedures for Absences

Parents are to call before 9:00 a.m. to inform the school of their child's absence.
It is the responsibility of the parent and student to keep up with doctor's notes or any documentation for missed days.

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 under the following rules.¹

1. Students are responsible for asking the teachers of the classes they missed what assignments they need to make up.
2. Teachers are responsible for providing the missed assignments when asked by a returning student.²
3. Students are required to ask for their assignments on their first day back at school or their first class day after their return.³

4. Make-up tests are to be rescheduled at the discretion of the teacher, but must be aligned with the schedule of the missed work to be made up.
5. Students shall have one class day (unless specified by the teacher) to make up their work for each class day they are absent.³
6. Make-up work which is not turned in within the make-up schedule for that assignment shall receive a zero.⁴
7. Students are responsible for turning in their make-up work without the teacher having to ask for it.²
8. Students who are absent on the day their make-up work is due must turn in their work the day they return to school whether or not the class for which the work is due meets the day of their return.
9. As required/permitted by the student's Individual Education Plan or 504 Plan.

Work may not be made up for credit for unexcused absences unless the excused absences are part of a signed agreement as permitted by policy 4.7—ABSENCES.⁵

Work for students serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be in accordance with the District's programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during the student's period of suspension or expulsion.⁶

In lieu of the timeline above, assignments for students who are excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak are to be made up as set forth in Policy

Tardiness

Students should arrive at school and be in their class by 8:00 in order to not be counted tardy. Students who arrive at school between 8:00 and 8:20 will be considered tardy. In grades 5-12 students are considered absent from a class when they miss more than 15 min. of that class. A student in grades 5-12 who arrives late to a class after the first arrival on campus will be counted tardy.

Home School Law

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 home school. Notice shall be given:

1. at the beginning of each school year, but no later than August 15;
2. by December 15 for parents who decide to start homeschooling at the beginning of the spring semester; or
3. fourteen (14) calendar days prior to withdrawing the child (provided the student is not currently under disciplinary action for violation of any written school policy, including, but not limited to, excessive 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:

1. the name, date of birth, grade level, and the name and address of the school last attended, if any;
2. the location of the home school;
3. the basic core curriculum to be offered;
4. the proposed schedule of instruction; and
5. 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

Homeless Children and Youth

The Beebe School District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to homeless children as are afforded to non-homeless children. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational agency (LEA) liaison for homeless children and youth whose responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

- Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;
- coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services to homeless children and youths;
- Ensure that school personnel receive professional development and other support regarding their duties and responsibilities for homeless youths;
- Ensure that unaccompanied homeless youths:
 - o Are enrolled in school;
 - o Have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths; and
 - o Are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that they may obtain assistance from the LEA liaison to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid;
- Ensure that public notice of the educational rights of the homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such youth, and unaccompanied homeless youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form that is easily understandable.

To the extent possible, the LEA liaison and the building principal shall work together to ensure no homeless child or youth is harmed due to conflicts with District policies solely because of the homeless child or youth's living situation; this is especially true for District policies governing fees, fines, and absences.¹

Notwithstanding Policy 4.1, homeless students living in the district are entitled to enroll in the district's school that non-homeless students who live in the same attendance area are eligible to attend. If there is a question concerning the enrollment of a homeless child due to a conflict with Policy 4.1 or 4.2, the child shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought pending resolution of the dispute, including all appeals. It is the responsibility of the District's local educational LEA liaison for homeless children and youth to carry out the dispute resolution process.

For the purposes of this policy "school of origin" means:

- The school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including a preschool; and
- The designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools when the child completes the final grade provided by the school of origin.

The District shall do one of the following according to what is in the best interests of a homeless child.

1. Continue the child's or youth's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness:
 - In any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; and
 - For the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or
2. Enroll the child or youth in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

In determining the best interest of the child or youth, the District shall:

- o Presume that keeping the child or youth in the school of origin is in the child's or youth's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth;
- o Consider student-centered factors related to the child's or youth's best interest, including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth, giving priority to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth.

If the District determines that it is not in the child's or youth's best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth, the District shall provide the child's or youth's parent or guardian or the unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of the reasons for its determination, in a manner and form understandable to such parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth, including information regarding the right to appeal. For an unaccompanied youth, the District shall ensure that the LEA liaison assists in placement or enrollment decisions, gives priority to the views of such unaccompanied youth, and provides notice to such youth of the right to appeal.

The homeless child or youth must be immediately enrolled in the selected school regardless of whether application or enrollment deadlines were missed during the period of homelessness.

The District shall be responsible for providing transportation for a homeless child, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the LEA Liaison), to and from the child's school of origin.*²

A homeless student shall be immediately eligible to participate in interscholastic activities at the school in which the student is enrolled.

For the purposes of this policy, students shall be considered homeless if they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and:

- A. Are:
 - Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
 - Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;

- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
 - Abandoned in hospitals; or
 - Awaiting foster care placement;
- B. Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- C. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- D. Are migratory children who are living in circumstances described in clauses (a) through (c).

In accordance with Federal law, information on a homeless child or youth's living situation is part of the student's education record and shall not be considered, or added, to the list of directory information in Policy 4.13.³

Notes: LEA liaisons who receive appropriate training may now affirm that a child or youth who is eligible for and participating in a program provided by the LEA, or the immediate family of such a child or youth, is eligible for homeless assistance programs administered under Title IV of the McKinney – Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act without further determinations from other governmental entities.

A.C.A. § 9-25-106 includes additional rights for unaccompanied youth who are certified by the district LEA to be homeless.

¹ 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(I) requires that SEAs and LEAs demonstrate they have developed policies to remove barriers to the identification, enrollment, and retention of homeless children and youths, including barriers to enrollment and retention due to outstanding fees or fines, or absences. The policy language is designed to provide as much flexibility as possible to allow a homeless student to succeed while still holding the homeless student responsible for circumstances that are unrelated to the student's living situation.

² The District's liability for transportation is more fully covered by 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(iii)(I) and (II), which read as follows:

(I) If the child or youth continues to live in the area served by the local educational agency in which the school of origin is located, the child's or youth's transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided or arranged by the local educational agency in which the school of origin is located.

(II) If the child's or youth's living arrangements in the area served by the local educational agency of origin terminate and the child or youth, though continuing the child's or youth's education in the school of origin, begins living in an area served by another local educational agency, the local educational agency of origin and the local educational agency in which the child or youth is living shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child or youth with transportation to and from the school of origin. If the local educational agencies are unable to agree upon such method, the responsibility and costs for transportation shall be shared equally.

³ The prohibition on the release of a student's homeless status is from 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(G).

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-114
A.C.A. § 9-25-106
42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.
42 U.S.C. § 11431 (2)
42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(H)(I)
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(1)(J)(i), (ii), (iii), (iii)(I), (iii)(II)
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(A), (A)(i), (A)(i)(I), (A)(i)(II), (A)(ii)
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(B)(i), (ii), (iii)
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(C)(i), (ii), (iii)
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(E)(i), (ii), (iii)
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(G)
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(4) (A), (B), (C), (D), (E)
42 U.S.C. § 11434a
Commissioner's Memo COM-18-044

Date Adopted: 08-14-2006

Last Revised: 7/11/2016, 2-15-2018

OTHER INFORMATION

Visitors

For the welfare and safety of the students, all visitors must report to the office upon arrival at the school building. **Visitors will be required to present a photo I.D. and the visitor's information will be cleared through the Hall Pass security system. If the scan is clear, the visitor is given a badge to wear while in the school building. Visitors must exit through the office and leave the visitor badge upon departure from the building.** Parents are always welcome and may visit the instructional program provided prior arrangements are made with the principal or teacher. Parents may eat lunch with their children but are not allowed to accompany their students to the playground.

Student visitors in the classroom can be disruptive to the educational process. Student visitation is strongly discouraged. Any visitation to the classroom shall be allowed only with the permission of the school principal. Visitors failing to register with the principal may be considered as trespassing. ***Students from other schools will not be allowed to eat lunch with our students.**

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the parent shall present documentation to the principal or his/her designee establishing the parent's custody of the student or legal right of visitation. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any visitation restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of the file-marked court order. (ACA 6-18-513)

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING

The Board of Directors has a responsibility to maintain discipline, protect the safety, security, and welfare of its students, staff, and visitors while at the same time safeguarding district facilities, vehicles, and equipment. As part of fulfilling this responsibility, the board authorizes the use of video/audio surveillance cameras, automatic identification technology, data compilation devices, and technology capable of tracking the physical location of district equipment, students, and/or personnel.

The placement of video/audio surveillance cameras shall be based on the presumption and belief that students, staff and visitors have no reasonable expectation of privacy anywhere on or near school property, facilities, vehicles, or equipment, with the exception of places such as rest rooms or dressing areas where an expectation of bodily privacy is reasonable and customary.

Signs shall be posted on campus buildings and in district vehicles to notify students, staff, and visitors that video cameras may be in use. Parents and students shall also be notified through the student handbook that cameras may be in use in school buildings, on school grounds and in school vehicles. Students will be held responsible for any violations of school discipline rules caught by the cameras and other technologies authorized in this policy.

The district shall retain copies of video recordings until they are erased, which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording. Other than video recordings being retained under the provisions of this policy's following paragraph, the district's video recordings may be erased any time greater than 30 days after they were created.

Videos, automatic identification, or data compilations containing evidence of a violation of student conduct rules and/or state or federal law shall be retained until the issue of the misconduct is no longer subject to review or appeal as determined by board policy or student handbook;² any release or viewing of such records shall be in accordance with current law.

Students who vandalize, damage, disable, or render inoperable (temporarily or permanently) surveillance cameras and equipment, automatic identification, or data compilation devices shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities. (20USC 1232(g), 34CFR 99.3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 31)

School Resource Officer

Beebe School District and the City of Beebe cooperatively employ a uniformed police officer on the school campus. This officer is a resource for the school, the students, and the parents. The officer will work interactively with students and teachers in an effort to maintain a safe and wholesome environment that is conducive to learning. He will be involved in law enforcement, instruction, and counseling.

Returned Checks

The Beebe School Board of Education has entered into an agreement with CHECKredi for the collection of all returned checks issued to Beebe Public School District. **The Board requires that the following information be on all checks written: Full Name, Street Address, and Phone Number with Area Code.**

If your bank returns your check, it will be automatically forwarded by the Beebe Public School District's bank directly to CHECKredi after the first presentation. CHECKredi will contact you in order to collect the face amount of the returned check plus the state allowed collection fee. The amount of the collection fee is currently \$25.00 in our state; however this fee is subject to change as allowed by law. If you do not properly respond to CHECKredi or CHECKredi is unable to contact you, CHECKredi may resubmit your check to the bank electronically along with applicable collection fees.

Deliveries

NO flowers, balloons, candy, etc... should be delivered to the school. These deliveries tend to be disruptive and might create a problem in the classroom. Any other item must be delivered via the principal's office.

Textbooks and Library Books

Textbooks, workbooks and other materials are provided to students by the Beebe School District. It must be kept in mind that each of these books is purchased by the school with the expectation of using them for six years. Students who lose, destroy, or deface books issued to them will be charged for these items. Parents will be responsible for reimbursing the school for any materials that are lost, damaged, or destroyed.

Student Publications and Distribution of Literature

Students shall have the right to distribute and possess literature subject to individual building procedures in accordance with Board of Education policies. The district may prohibit a specific issue of a publication if there is a substantial basis to believe its distribution or possession will cause disruption of school activities.

All publications that are supported financially by the school or by use of the schools facilities, or are produced in conjunction with a class shall be considered school-sponsored publications. School publications do not provide a forum for public expression. Such publications, as well as the content of student expression in school-sponsored activities, shall be subject to the editorial control of the District's administration whose actions shall be reasonable related to legitimate pedagogical concerns and adhere to the following limitations:

- Advertising may be accepted for publications that do not condone or promote products that are inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience or that endorse such things as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
- Publications may be regulated to prohibit writings, which are, in the opinion of the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, ungrammatical, poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced, vulgar or profane, or unsuitable for an immature audience.
- Publications may be regulated to refuse to publish material which might reasonably be perceived to advocate drug or alcohol use, irresponsible sex, or conduct otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order, or to associate the school with any position other than neutrality on matters of political controversy.

Prohibited publications include:

- Those that are obscene as to minors;
- Those that are libelous or slanderous, including material containing defamatory falsehoods about public figures or government officials, which are made with knowledge of their falsity or reckless disregard for the truth;
- Those that constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy as defined by state law;
- Publications that suggest or urge the commission of unlawful acts on the school premises;
- Publications which suggest or urge the violation of lawful school regulations;
- Hate literature that scurrilously attacks ethics, religion, or racial groups.

Student Publications on the School Web

Pages shall follow the same guidelines as listed as above. In addition they shall:

- Not contain any non-educational advertisements. Additionally, student web publications shall;

- Not contain any personally identifying information, without the written permission of the parent of the students or the student if over eighteen (18)
- State the views expressed are not necessarily those of the School Board or the employees of the district.

The school principal or designee shall establish reasonable regulations governing the time, place, and manner of student distribution of non-school materials (A.C.A. 6-18-1202, 1203, 1204).

Student Participation In Surveys (ACT 1100 – 2003)

No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation which is administered or distributed by the Beebe School District, 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: political affiliations, mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his family, sex behavior, and attitudes, illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, demeaning behavior, critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers; religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or income (other than required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program). No survey will be administered without prior approval of the school principal. Any survey will be available for inspection by the parent within ten (10) days (regular school days when school is in session) after notice of intent to administer the survey is sent. The parent will have the right to deny their child to participate in the taking of the survey.

Surveys will be in the administrative office where they will be available for inspection by the parents/guardians for a period of 10 days prior to being sent. Information will be given on how the survey will be conducted, where the surveys shall be available for inspection, how they will be utilized, and the persons or entities that will have access to the results.

Parents may refuse to allow their students to participate before or after reviewing the survey or questionnaire. Prior written permission is required before any survey or questionnaire is administered.

This does not apply to students in accordance with the IDEA. This does not include mandated tests by state or federal law or regulation and standardized scholastic achievement tests.

Food Service Program

Beebe Public Schools' cafeterias provide a nutritious breakfast and lunch for the students. These are provided at a minimal charge. Parents may apply for free or reduced price meals by completing an application and returning it to the school office, cafeteria or district central office.

Payment Procedures

Parents are encouraged to pay for student meals at least one week in advance, but may be paid daily, weekly or monthly. Payments may be given to the classroom teacher, the school office or paid in the cafeteria at breakfast and/or lunch time or paid online at www.EZSchoolPay.com (with a small transaction fee). Parents may call or email the cafeteria manager or child nutrition director to check a student's account balance at any time. EZSchoolPay.com may also be used to keep track of a student's account balance and account history with no fee to the parent.

STUDENT MEAL CHARGES

POLICY: The district does not provide credit for students to charge for meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items available for purchase in the school food service areas. Meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items may be purchased by either providing payment for the items at the time of receipt or by having a prepaid account with the district that may be charged for the items. Parents, or students choosing to do so, may pay in advance for meals, a la carte, or other food and beverages through any of the following methods:

- Submitting cash or check payment in the cafeteria, school office or classroom.
- Depositing funds through the district's online service at www.EZSchoolPay.com

PROCEDURES:

1. In accordance with Arkansas law, the district allows students whose accounts do not have enough funds to purchase a meal to receive an unpaid reimbursable meal at no charge.
2. At the beginning of each school year, each student will be provided a printed copy of the district's meal policy as well as printed information regarding the procedures and various options for meal payment at their particular school site, one of which is an online option. All students will also be provided with an application for free and reduced price meals. These documents may be included as part of the student handbook and in a separate information packet.
3. Once per week, automated phone calls will be made to the parent/guardian of each student who owes lunch charges in any amount.
4. Once per week balance reminders will be sent via email to parents with a valid email address on file.
5. Refunds of positive account balances may be processed at the end of each school year, when/if a student is approved for free meals or upon student withdrawal from the district. A request for a refund form signed by the parent/guardian must be submitted to the Child Nutrition Department for any refunds. Unclaimed funds for students leaving the district must be requested within 30 calendar days after the end of the school year during which the student left. Unclaimed funds will then become the property of the Beebe Public Schools Child Nutrition Program.
6. Meal charge collection will be included in the office checklist for any student who transfers out of the district or graduates, and requests for payment of outstanding meal charges will be made at the time of withdrawal.

Grades Pre K – 8:

1. Once per week, on a day chosen by the individual school's Child Nutrition Manager in conjunction with office personnel, meal charge notices will be printed and sent home with all students who owe any amount. A list of charges will be provided to each building principal prior to parent/teacher conferences. Charge slips will also be made available to parents at this time.
2. Charging of individual / a la carte items such as bottled beverages and other "extra" items will not be permitted unless a written or emailed note from the parent is on file and there is a consistent history of prepayment.

Grades 9-12

1. Once per month, on a day chosen by the individual school's Child Nutrition Manager in conjunction with office personnel, meal charge notices will be printed and sent home with all students who owe any amount. A list of charges will be provided to each building principal prior to parent/teacher conferences. Charge slips will also be made available to parents at this time.
2. Charging of individual / a la carte items such as bottled beverages, snacks and other "extra" items will not be permitted in any situation.

Revised - June 2019

Rules Governing Nutrition in Arkansas Public Schools

Parents Rights – This policy does not restrict what parents may provide for their own child's lunch or snacks. Parents may provide Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value or candy items for their own child's consumption, but they may not provide restricted items for other children at school.

School Events – Students may be given food and/or beverage items during the school day during up to nine different events each school year to be determined and approved by school officials, not determined by individual teachers. These items may not be given during meals in the areas where school meals are being served or consumed.

No food or beverage shall be used as a reward for academic, classroom or sport performance and/or activities.

Arkansas Food Code: 3-201.11 - All foods brought to school must be prepared in a Commercial food service establishment (no homemade foods).

Energy Drinks

Energy drinks shall not be brought or consumed at school

Lost and Found

All of the children's belongings (coats, sweaters, gloves, lunch boxes, backpacks, etc.) should be labeled with their names. The school is not responsible for returning lost items. Parents are encouraged to check the lost and found for their child's personal belongings. Articles that are not claimed by the end of the nine-weeks will be distributed to needy families or organizations that help those in need.

Toys

Toys from home are not to be brought to school. This includes footballs and basketballs or any other sports equipment. Teachers have classroom sets for students to use at recess. Students are not allowed

to bring trading/character cards Yugio, Pokémon, latex balloons, gloves etc.)

Volunteers

Beebe Schools have parent volunteer programs which includes the following: BADGER Volunteers, Hallway Heroes-Elementary, WatchDOGS (Dads of Great Students) Early Childhood, and other volunteer programs. Through this program, parents and interested citizens have an opportunity to contribute their time in a variety of ways and make significant contributions to the educational program of the school. Applications for those who want to be a volunteer can be obtained through the school office or by contacting the Family Center, 882-8420.

All volunteers, including Hallway Heroes and Watch DOGS, must submit to a background check. For the purposes of this policy, “clear background check” shall mean that a background check was performed as authorized by A.C.A. §§12-12-1601 et seq. and that a potential school volunteer has not committed any of the crimes or offenses contained in A.C.A. §§6-17-410, 6-17-411 or 6-17-414, as amended, with regard to both the Arkansas and national background checks, and whose name is not found on the Child Abuse Central Registry.

Before and After School Care

For parents who need after school child care, the Beebe School District offers a Before and After School Day Care Program for school aged children up through the ninth grade. The hours for operation are before school beginning at 6:30 a.m. and after school until 6:00 p.m. Children enjoy a variety of recreational, educational, and developmental activities. All activities are designed to complement without duplicating the traditional school day experience. Registration forms for these programs may be obtained from the school office.

Animals and Pets

For health and safety reasons, no animal may be brought to school without permission from the teacher and school administrator.

Parties

In accordance with the Health and Nutrition Act, Beebe Early Childhood, Beebe Elementary Schools may have **9 occasions** during the school year when “party foods” may be served. Homemade products **may not** be brought for consumption by the students. All food brought to the classrooms on party day must be commercially prepared. Teachers and the building administrators will determine the days on which these parties may occur. **Parents may not bring cookies, cupcakes, etc... to celebrate birthdays.**

Extracurricular Activities and Functions

Beebe Public Schools provide various extracurricular activities for the students such as music programs, plays, and other educational opportunities in which the majority of all students participate. Interruption of regular classroom instruction is kept to a minimum. Each special activity is given consideration for the educational purpose it serves and the amount of time students will be away from class.

The principal and superintendent will consider and approve all activities and the rules regarding these functions. The sponsors will pass on these rules to students involved.

1. All student discipline policies are in effect at home and away activities.

2. Students leaving a school activity will not be readmitted.
3. Students who have received an out-of-school suspension or who have demonstrated a lack of self-control by excessive misbehavior at school will not be allowed to attend off-campus activities.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

No club will restrict membership on the basis of race, sex, or national origin.

Dress Code

Students are expected to wear appropriate clothing and present a neat clean appearance at all times. The principal will address clothing/dress that he/she considers to be inappropriate.

Students will not be permitted to attend school when their cleanliness, clothing or hairstyles are determined to be extreme, bizarre, or in any other way distracting to the normal and reasonable atmosphere of school. Examples of prohibited clothing:

1. Caps, hats, hoods (inside a building), or other headgear; (except on approved days)
2. Clothing with questionable advertising or endorsing such things as alcohol, drugs, tobacco
3. Clothing with vulgar, obscene or suggestive pictures, emblems, insignias, badges or other symbols which distract students, promote disruptive conduct, show disrespect for the beliefs of others or that are deemed contrary to the educational mission of the school.
4. Gang apparel (bandanas) No gang signs, symbols, or attire will be allowed. Failure to comply will lead to disciplinary action.
5. Baggy pants not secured at the waistline by a belt;
6. See through or excessively tight clothing
7. Shirts not covering students' midriff when in any position
8. Shorts, skirts, or dresses where length may be questionable, depending on the age level.
9. No Heelies (shoes with skate heels), or cleats.
10. No sleeveless dresses or shirts (Middle School)
11. Clothing with excessive exposure at neck, back or sides or that exposes undergarments
12. Gym shorts, boxer shorts or any shorts or pants that are excessively frayed.
13. Pajamas (top or bottom) or sleeping apparel of any sort, including house shoes.
14. No spikes, safety pins, or chains
15. Hair and facial paint; (except on approved days)
16. No trenchcoats

*No undergarments can be visible

Apparel that has excessive exposure at the neck, back, sides, or that exposes undergarments is unacceptable for boys or girls. The wearing of shorts at school is a privilege and students that cannot follow the regulations will lose their privilege. The length of skirts and shorts must be mid-thigh. For Beebe Middle School students only shorts/skirts/holes in jeans must be fingertip length. Leggings cannot be worn without an over garment that meets the requirements of this dress code.

A student shall not be disciplined or discriminated against based upon the student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle. A student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle includes without limitation afros, dreadlocks, twists, locs, braids, cornrow braids, Bantu knots, curls, and hair styled to protect hair texture or for cultural significance.

THE FINAL DECISION CONCERNING THE APPROPRIATENESS OF ANY WEARING APPAREL WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRINCIPAL OR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL.

Failure to adhere to the provisions of the dress code will result in the following:

· First Offense – Students cannot attend class and will be counted absent from class until provisions are made to attain proper clothing. A letter will be sent home to the parents or guardian notifying them of the dress code violation of their son/daughter, along with a copy of the dress code policy.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: In-School Suspension

Hall Rules

Students must always walk in the hall and use quiet voices. When students are in the hall (changing classes, recess, lunch, etc.) they should be considerate of others.

Playground Rules

The students' safety at recess makes the following rules necessary:

1. Students are not allowed to play tackle football, contact sports, or karate.
2. Students are not allowed to strike another student.
3. Students are not allowed to throw any object except a ball.
4. Students are not allowed to leave the playground without permission.
5. Students must use all playground equipment in an appropriate manner.

*** Parents and/or Visitors are not allowed on the playground

Rollerblades and Skateboards

Rollerblading and skateboarding are not permitted during the school day and are never allowed on the sidewalks or in areas next to buildings.

Campus Restrictions

Anyone using school buildings must be accompanied by an employee of the district at all times. Any unauthorized use of school buildings or property may result in being ticketed by the city police.

Discipline Policy

The Board believes good discipline is essential to good instruction. The Board supports the Administration's efforts to maintain a learning environment in the classroom. The Board realizes as should each student and parent, that it would be impossible to prescribe rules and punishments for every situation that may arise. However, some specific rules are set forth in this and subsequent sections which warrant special attention. Students are expected to be honest, polite, punctual, and obedient. They are expected not to violate state and federal laws and to conduct themselves in such a manner that the educational system and process is not hindered or thwarted.

Teachers are expected to maintain classroom discipline in accordance with the building policy. The building principal is responsible for the general discipline at each school.

The District's personnel policy committees shall annually review the District's student discipline policies, including State and District student discipline data, and may recommend changes in the

policies to the Beebe School Board. The Board has the responsibility of determining whether to approve any recommended changes to student discipline policies.

The staff and administration of Beebe Early Childhood, Elementary Schools and Middle School recognize the importance of established discipline policies which students, parents, teachers, and the administration follow. Discipline in public schools can only be maintained through the cooperative efforts of the school community — students, parents, teachers and the administration. Each has a right to expect a wholesome atmosphere where respect and consideration of the rights of others prevail. To maintain that climate, administrators and teachers must take measures to prohibit and prevent conduct that is disruptive and destructive to the educational program. Fighting, disrespect toward others, obscene language, and destruction of school property will not be tolerated. Every faculty member has a direct, personal, and active responsibility to see that the established guidelines and regulations are firmly and consistently enforced throughout the school system. The following outlines are the procedures that will be used to ensure maximum use of school time. Students who choose to obey the rules will be positively rewarded with the following:

- Positive Notes Home
- Praise
- Class Parties
- Special Activities
- Award Ceremonies
- Free Time

Penalties for an infraction of student discipline policies:

- Reprimand
- Loss of privileges (recess, field trips, class parties, etc.)
- Student/Parent/Teacher/Parent/Principal Conference
- Corporal Punishment
- In-School Suspension
- Saturday School
- Suspension
- Expulsion

Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs: at any time, whether the conduct takes place on the school grounds, off the school grounds at a school supervised activity, function or event, or en route to and from school. All school rules apply at bus stops.

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 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 and classroom student discipline policies shall be distributed to each student during the first week of school each year and to new students upon enrollment. Each student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

The District shall develop and provide programs, measures, or alternative means and methods for continued student engagement and educational access during periods of suspension or expulsion.

The superintendent is authorized to modify the penalties set forth in the District's student discipline policies on a case-by-case basis.

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that 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. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident. Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement (A.C.A. 6-18-502, A.C.A. 6-17-113).

The superintendent shall make a report annually to the Board of Directors on student discipline data, which shall include, without limitation: the number of incidents of bullying reported and the actions taken regarding the reported incidents of bullying.

Note: ¹ To satisfy a student's due process rights, for events both on and off campus, make sure that all special education requirements are met when those requirements apply.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502
 A.C.A. § 6-17-113

Discipline of Handicapped

Handicapped students who engage in misbehavior and disciplinary infractions are subject to normal school disciplinary rules and procedures so long as such treatment does not abridge the right to free, appropriate public education. When the IEP team for a handicapped student adopts a particular procedure for the student and includes in the IEP, that procedure shall be followed. State and Federal guidelines will be followed to maintain compliance and protect the rights of handicapped students to a free appropriate public education

Corporal Punishment

The Beebe School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment to be administered in accordance with this policy by the Superintendent or the superintendent's designated staff members who are required to have a state-issued license as a condition of their employment.¹

Prior to the administration of corporal punishment, the student receiving the corporal punishment shall be given an explanation of the reasons for the punishment and be given an opportunity to refute the charges.

All corporal punishment shall be administered privately, i.e. out of the sight and hearing of other students, shall not be excessive, or administered with malice, and shall be administered in the presence of another school administrator or designee who shall be a licensed staff member employed by the District.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a form of discipline for a student who is intellectually disabled, non-ambulatory, non-verbal, or autistic.²

1. Refusal to take corporal punishment may result in suspension.
2. The employee administering the corporal punishment shall prepare a written report stating the reason for the punishment and the name of the witness.
3. The parent shall be informed in writing of the reasons for the punishment and the name of the witness.

Saturday School

A student may be assigned Saturday School by the principal depending on the infraction. The Saturday School would be housed at the Elementary in a designated area from 8:00 – 12:00 pm. Students will not be permitted to come late or leave early from Saturday School. Students are required to follow all classroom rules and regulations. Students are also required to bring necessary writing materials and paper. Any breach of these rules may result in more drastic measures, such as suspension or additional Saturday Schools. The school will not be responsible for transporting the students to or from Saturday School. It will be the responsibility of the student and his/her parent. Because of unavoidable conflicts with family schedules, students are allowed to postpone one (1) Saturday School assignment each school year. Failure to attend Saturday School after using the one postponement will result in a 2 day out of school suspension. Saturday School dates are tentative and may be changed by the principal due to unavoidable conflicts.

Suspension

Students who are 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,¹ 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:

1. At any time on the school grounds;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored function, activity, or event; and
3. Going to and from school or a school activity.

A student may be suspended for behavior including, but not limited to, that:

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
4. Is insubordinate, incorrigible, violent, or involves moral turpitude.

Out-of-school suspension (OSS) shall not be used to discipline a student in kindergarten through fifth (5th) grade unless the student's behavior:

- a. Poses a physical risk to himself or herself or to others;
- b. Causes a serious disruption that cannot be addressed through other means; or
- c. Is the act of bringing a firearm on school campus.

OSS shall not be used to discipline a student for skipping class, excessive absences, or other forms of truancy.

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; and
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), legal guardian(s), person(s) with lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older prior to the suspension. Such notice shall be handed to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) having lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older or mailed to the last address reflected in the records of the school district.

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.

It is the responsibility of a student's parents², legal guardians², person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to provide current contact information to the district, which the school shall use to immediately notify the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis upon the suspension of a student. The notification shall be by one of the following means, listed in order of priority:²

- A primary call number;
 - The contact may be by voice, voice mail, or text message.
- An email address;
- A regular first class letter to the last known mailing address.

The district shall keep a log of contacts attempted and made to the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis.

The District shall establish programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during a student's period of OSS.

During the period of their suspension, students serving OSS are not permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference or when necessary as part of the District's engagement or access to education program.³

During the period of their suspension, students serving in-school suspension shall not attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities during the imposed suspension.³

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

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

Notes: To satisfy a student's due process rights, make sure that all the IDEA requirements are met for students receiving special education services.

¹ The ten (10) school days are on a traditional school calendar. If your district uses a 4x4 block schedule, the number of days of suspension will need to be modified accordingly.

² A.C.A. § 6-18-507(f)(3) requires attempts at contacting parents be made first by phone. If such contact fails, then contact may be by email, and if that is unsuccessful, contact may be by regular first class mail.

³ Your final language needs to match the language you have chosen for suspensions in policy 4.7.

Cross Reference: 4.7—ABSENCES

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-507
Goss v Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975)

EMERGENCY SUSPENSION

Students may be suspended indefinitely without notice, hearing, and the other rights provided herein being first given where the school is undergoing a violent upheaval or where orderly educational processes have otherwise been substantially disrupted. This would apply in rare instances taking place and where emergency circumstances make it unreasonable for the administration and Board to consider the case under their usual time. In all such cases, accordance with the normal provisions of suspension or expulsions shall be provided at the earliest practical date that the restoration of order permits.

Expulsion

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (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;
- 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.

Expulsion shall not be used to discipline a student in kindergarten through fifth (5th) grade unless the student's behavior:

- a. Poses a physical risk to himself or herself or to others;
- b. Causes a serious disruption that cannot be addressed through other means; or
- c. Is the act of bringing a firearm on school campus.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis (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 reasons 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 later 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, Board attorney, 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, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, person standing in loco parentis, or student if age eighteen (18) or older, 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.

Except as permitted by policy 4.22, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of one (1) year for the possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The superintendent shall, however, have the discretion modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, or persons standing in loco parentis 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.² The parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understood 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.

The District shall establish programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during a student's period of expulsion.

Notes: To satisfy a student's due process rights, make sure that all the IDEA requirements are met for students receiving special education services.

¹The ten (10) school days are on a traditional school calendar. If your district uses a 4x4 block schedule, the number of days of suspension will need to be modified accordingly.

² The current law governing parental responsibility is A.C.A. § 5-27-210. -
Parental responsibility for student's firearm possession.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Firearm" means:

(A) Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use, including such a device that is not loaded or lacks a clip or other component to render it immediately operable; or

(B) Components that can readily be assembled into a device described in subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section; and

(2) "Parent" means a parent, stepparent, legal guardian, or person in loco parentis or who has legal custody of a student pursuant to a court order and with whom the student resides.

(b) A parent of a minor is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor if:

(1) The parent knows that the minor is in illegal possession of a firearm in or upon:

(A) The premises of a public or private school;

(B) A public or private school's athletic stadium or other facility or building in which school-sponsored events are conducted; or

(C) A public park, playground, or civic center; and

(2) The parent fails to:

(A) Prevent the illegal possession; or

(B) Report the illegal possession to an appropriate school or law enforcement official.

History. Acts 1999, No. 1149, §§ 1, 2.

Cross Reference: Policy 4.22—WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-502

A.C.A. § 6-18-507

DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: 08-14-06

Last Revised: 7-13-2009, 6-19-2017, 6-17-2019, 6-16-2020, 2-6-2023

Definitions

1. **Corporal Punishment:** Use of a paddle to a child as a means of discipline. State law provides for and the United States Supreme Court has ruled that corporal punishment is permissible with or without parents' permission in the public schools.
2. **Detention Study Hall:** Supervised study conducted for one hour after school (Middle School).
3. **In-School Suspension:** Students will be placed in isolation and will not be allowed to attend classes or school activities.
4. **Suspension:** Prohibition of a student from entering the school or school grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator) for a period of time set by the principal of the school or superintendent. Students will not be allowed to attend school-sponsored activities during this suspension.
5. **Expulsion:** Prohibition of a student from entering the school or school grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator) until the end of the semester with loss of academic credit.
6. **Saturday School:** Supervised study conducted from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on a Saturday at the Elementary building for K-6 students.

STUDENT USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY ROOM

Definitions

"Multiple occupancy room" means an area in a District building that is designed or designated to be used by one (1) or more individuals at the same time and in which one (1) or more individuals may be in various stages of undress in the presence of other individuals, which includes, without limitation, a restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room.

"Sex" means the physical condition of being male or female based on genetics and physiology, which may be demonstrated by the sex identified on a student's original birth certificate.

Each multiple occupancy room in a District building shall be designated as either male or female. Except as permitted by this policy, a student shall not enter a multiple occupancy room that does not correspond to the student's sex.

An individual who is unwilling or unable to use a multiple occupancy room designated for the individual's sex shall be granted a reasonable accommodation, which may include, without limitation, access to a single-occupancy restroom or changing area. A reasonable accommodation shall not include access to a restroom or changing area that is designated for use by members of the opposite sex to an individual while members of the opposite sex of the individual are present or may be present in the restroom or changing area.

The prohibitions in this policy do not apply to an individual who enters a multiple occupancy room designated for use by the opposite sex when the individual enters for any of the following reasons:

- custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes;
- To render emergency medical assistance;
- To address an ongoing emergency, including without limitation a physical altercation;
- To accommodate individuals protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act; or
- To assist young children who are in need of physical assistance when using a restroom or changing facility that is located in the District.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-21-120

Date Adopted:

Last Revised:

Equal Educational Opportunity

STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION

The Beebe School District Board of Directors does not allow the discrimination against a student based on a student's voluntary religious expression, if any. At the same time, the District shall provide a process to eliminate any actual or perceived sponsorship or attribution to the District of a student's public voluntary expression of a religious viewpoint, if any.

Student Assignments

Student assignments include, but are not limited to:

- Homework;
- Classwork;
- Artwork; and

- Other written or oral assignments.

A student may express the student's religious viewpoint, if any, in the student's assignments without discrimination based on the religious content, if any. A student's assignments shall:

1. Be graded and judged:
 - By ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance; and
 - Against other conventional, pedagogical topics as identified by the District curriculum; and
2. Not be penalized or rewarded based on the religious content, if any, of the student's assignments.

Student Presenters

A student's expression of a religious viewpoint, if any, on an otherwise permissible subject shall not be excluded from a forum, whether oral or in writing, where students are allowed to speak.

The District has the right to restrict student speech that is inappropriate in the school setting by being obscene, vulgar, offensively lewd, or indecent.

Review of written student forums shall be handled in accordance with Policy 4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE.

If the forum is a scheduled event with designated student speakers, the building principal shall have an opportunity to review pre-written remarks prior to the student's presentation at the scheduled forum. The principal may require the student to amend the student's remarks to the extent necessary to address any portions that are determined to be inappropriate. A student's refusal to amend the remarks that were determined to be inappropriate may be prohibited from participation in the forum. A student who diverts from the approved pre-written remarks during a speech in such a manner that is determined to be inappropriate by the building principal or another present District staff member may be asked to return to the approved remarks. If a student refuses to return to the approved remarks or continues to divert from the approved remarks in a manner that is determined to be inappropriate may be escorted from the forum and disciplined in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct.

If the timing or format of the forum does not provide for pre-written remarks to be reviewed, then the building principal or other District staff shall have the authority to address a student whose remarks are determined to be inappropriate. The building principal or District staff member shall initially ask the student to cease the inappropriate remarks. If the student refuses or makes additional inappropriate remarks after being directed to cease such remarks, Then the building principal or District staff member may escort the student from the forum and the student may be disciplined in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct

There shall be a disclaimer that a student speaker's speech does not reflect the endorsement, sponsorship, position, or expression of the District. The disclaimer shall be provided at all forums where students speak and at all graduation ceremonies. The disclaimer shall be provided orally or in writing as most appropriately fits the format of the forum.

Information on how to participate in a student forum shall be provided to all students via email.¹

In addition to the salutatorian and valedictorian selection process in Policy 5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES, the following students may speak during the District's graduation ceremony:²

Any student deemed appropriate by the high school principal and guidance counselor.

Notes: ¹ Insert the process your district will use to notify students of upcoming forums, such as a student newsletter, posting to bulletin boards, or distribution to student emails.

² Insert the students in addition to the salutatorian and valedictorian that traditionally speak at your graduation ceremony. Be sure to include the process for how those students are designated if it is not due to that student's position, such as class president. If you have opted not to have salutatorians and valedictorians, you may remove them from this policy.

Cross References: 4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-10-138
A.C.A. § 6-18-101
A.C.A. § 6-18-1201 et seq.

Date Adopted:

Last Revised:

STUDENT DUE PROCESS

The Board of Education recognizes due process, through a basically flexible and imprecise concept, to be defined as fair and reasonable approaches to all areas of student governance and discipline on the part of all school officials. The Board also realizes that observance of applicable substantive due process entails two basic considerations: (1) any objective sought relative to student governance must

be legally defensible, e.g., based upon a rational or compelling state interest; and (2) the means taken to accomplish such objective must be within the constitutional limitations applicable to the **in loco parentis** position of school officials with the school district. To assure compliance with these two substantive aspects, the Board has endorsed the following applicable to all policies, rules, and regulations.

1. Each local school policy, rule or regulation shall spell out its purpose as it relates to accomplishment of a legally defensible objective.
2. Each local regulation shall be based on a board policy.
3. All policies, rules and regulations at any level shall be consistent with local, country, or city ordinances, statutes of the State of Arkansas, administrative regulations of duly authorized agencies; e.g., State Board or State Department of Education; U.S. Department of Education.
4. Both policies of the Board and regulations designated by local school administrators shall be specific and precise.
5. No Board policies or local school codes of conduct shall deny any student his constitutional right.
6. Discharge of administrative responsibilities and exercise of authority shall recognize applicable legal parameters placed upon the **in loco parentis** position of school officials.
7. To be fair and reasonable in a legal sense, all exercise of administrative authority or that of other school officials, i.e., classroom teachers shall be capable of withstanding close judicial scrutiny relative to freedom from arbitrary, capricious, discriminatory or otherwise illegal practices.
8. Students, parents, citizens, teachers, and administrators should be participants in drawing up local school codes of conduct.

The area of procedural due process within the school district shall relate primarily to the area of discipline and disciplinary measures, e.g., corporal punishment, short-term suspension, long-term suspension and expulsion.

The degree of procedural due process afforded in each of the above situations shall be dependent upon two vital factors: (1) the gravity of the offense a student is alleged to have committed; and (2) the severity of the contemplated penalty. For example, a much greater degree of procedural due process shall be applicable in an expulsion situation than in one where the penalty is a short-term suspension.

Under due process, each student shall be guaranteed a fair hearing, a fair judgment, and a written record of the decision and a notice of his right to appeal. This is applicable to the serious penalties such as suspension.

The full panoply of procedural due process shall be afforded any student facing possible long-term suspension or expulsion. In both of these situations, the Board of Education shall follow an adversary-type procedure with legal counsel permitted, transcribed record of the hearing, and related safeguards.

STUDENT CONDUCT

THE FOLLOWING STUDENT CONDUCT IS NOT PERMITTED. VIOLATION OF THESE RULES OF CONDUCT SHALL RESULT IN A MINIMUM PENALTY OF VERBAL REPRIMAND UP TO A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF EXPULSION FROM SCHOOL. PENALTY WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE NATURE OF THE OFFENSE COMMITTED. THE PRINCIPAL MAY BY-PASS STEPS AND GO DIRECTLY TO A MORE SEVERE PENALTY. THE OPTIONS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIORS ARE LISTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE PRINCIPAL, NOT THE STUDENT.

Rule #1: Disregard of Directions or Commands

(Insubordination) A student shall comply with reasonable directions or commands from a teacher, instructional assistants, substitute teacher, principal, school bus driver, administrative personnel, or any other authorized personnel.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #2: Disruption and Interference with School

- A. No student shall occupy any school building or properties with the intent to deprive others of its use.
- B. No student shall prevent the consenting or continued function of any class activity, or lawful meeting or assembly on the school campus.
- C. No student shall continuously and intentionally make noise or act in any other manner so as to interfere seriously with his or her teacher's ability to conduct the class or any other activity.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #3: Physical Abuse or Assault of School Staff or Other Students

A Student shall not cause, attempt to cause or threaten to cause physical injury or behave in such a way, as could reasonably cause physical injury to a school employee, fellow student, or any other individuals. **(ACT 1243 OF 1997)**

ACT 1520 requires school principals to report all threats of violence or acts of violence on school property to the school superintendent and to the appropriate local law enforcement agency.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #4: Profanity

ACT 1565 of 2001 states that it is unlawful for any person to use profane, violent, vulgar, abusive, or insulting language toward any public school teacher during the course of his or her duties. The use of profanity, either written, spoken or inappropriate gestures, made by a student will warrant disciplinary action. Furthermore, profanity will not be tolerated on school property, in school vehicles, on school buses, at designated school bus stops, or at any school sponsored activity.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #5: Disorderly Conduct and Verbal Attacks

A student shall not engage in behavior that produces a situation in which instruction or activities of other students are adversely affected. Students will not be allowed to make racial slurs or verbal put-downs. Inappropriate statements about physically or mentally challenged children will not be tolerated.

If a student tells another student: "I'm going to kill you", "I'm going to bring a gun to school", "I'm going to shoot you"; this will be disorderly conduct unless identified otherwise through our Threat Assessment Protocol.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #6: Bullying

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors. Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops. 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.

Definitions

“Attribute” means an actual or perceived personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, health condition, or sexual orientation;

“Bullying” means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that may address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated and that causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable:

- Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;
- Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education;
- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

Examples of "Bullying" include, but are not limited to, a pattern of behavior involving one or more of the following:

1. Cyberbullying;
2. Sarcastic comments "compliments" about another student's personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes,
3. Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate,
4. Mocking, taunting or belittling,
5. Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as “fronting” or “chesting” a person,
6. Demeaning humor relating to a student's actual or perceived attributes,
7. Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans,
8. Blocking access to school property or facilities,
9. Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property,
10. Stealing or hiding books or belongings,
11. Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others,
12. Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 4.27, is also a form of bullying, and/or
13. Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether the student self-identifies as homosexual or transgender (Examples: “Slut”, “You are so gay.”, “Fag”, “Queer”).

"Cyberbullying" means any form of communication by electronic act that is sent with the purpose to:

- Harass, intimidate, humiliate, ridicule, defame, or threaten a student, school employee, or person with whom the other student or school employee is associated; or

- Incite violence towards a student, school employee, or person with whom the other student or school employee is associated.

Cyberbullying of School Employees includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Building a fake profile or website of the employee;
- b. Posting or encouraging others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a school employee;
- c. Posting an original or edited image of the school employee on the Internet;
- d. Accessing, altering, or erasing any computer network, computer data program, or computer software, including breaking into a password-protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords of a school employee;
- e. Making repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or transmission, to a school employee;
- f. Making, or causing to be made, and disseminating an unauthorized copy of data pertaining to a school employee in any form, including without limitation the printed or electronic form of computer data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network;
- g. Signing up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site; or
- h. Without authorization of the school employee, signing up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages.

Cyberbullying is prohibited whether or not the cyberbullying originated on school property or with school equipment, if the cyberbullying results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment or is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

“Harassment” means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment; and

“Substantial disruption” means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors. Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the building principal, or designee, as soon as possible. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the building principal, or designee.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

A building principal, or designee, who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall:

1. As soon as reasonably practicable, but by no later than the end of the school day following the receipt of the credible report of bullying:
 - a. Report to a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student that their student is the victim in a credible report of bullying; and
 - b. Prepare a written report of the alleged incident of bullying;
2. Promptly investigate the credible report or complaint of bullying, which shall be completed by no later than the fifth (5th) school day following the completion of the written report.
3. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who was the alleged victim in a credible report of bullying whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of bullying to be true and the availability of counseling and other intervention services.
4. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person acting in loco parentis of the student who is alleged to have been the perpetrator of the incident of bullying:
 - a. That a credible report or complaint of bullying against their student exists;
 - b. Whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of bullying to be true;
 - c. Whether action was taken against their student upon the conclusion of the investigation of the alleged incident of bullying; and
 - d. Information regarding the reporting of another alleged incident of bullying, including potential consequences of continued incidents of bullying;
5. Make a written record of the investigation, which shall include:
 - a. A detailed description of the alleged incident of bullying, including without limitation a detailed summary of the statements from all material witnesses to the alleged incident of bullying;
 - b. Any action taken as a result of the investigation; and
6. Discuss, as appropriate, the availability of counseling and other intervention services with students involved in the incident of bullying.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred.¹ In addition to any disciplinary actions, the District shall take appropriate steps to remedy the effects resulting from bullying.

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District's prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus.² Parents, legal guardians, person having lawful control of a student, persons standing in loco parentis, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice annually.³

The superintendent shall make a report annually to the Board of Directors on student discipline data, which shall include, without limitation, the number of incidents of bullying reported and the actions taken regarding the reported incidents of bullying.

Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.⁴

Notes: Different consequences are permitted depending on the age or grade of the bullying student.

¹ Example: a student might be disciplined both for bullying and sexual harassment, in an appropriate situation, or bullying and assault.

² Suggestion for the posted notice: Create a circle with a line through it over the word Bullying (similar to a non-smoking logo). Beside the logo write: Mean talk or hurting other people is called bullying. Bullying is against the rules and can get you in trouble, suspended, or expelled. If someone bullies you, or you see someone being bullied, get help by telling an adult.

³ Copies of the notices are required to be published in any district Publication that sets forth the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards of conduct for the schools within the district as well as the student handbook.

⁴ There should be a statement in the Student Handbook to this effect.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 5-71-217
 A.C.A. § 6-18-514

Rule #7: Terroristic Threatening

If a student threatens to cause death, serious injury, or substantial property damage with the intent to scare or intensely frighten another person, this will be considered terroristic threatening. If a student tells another student: “I’m going to kill you”, “I’m going to bring a gun to school”, “I’m going to shoot you”; this could be disorderly conduct unless identified otherwise through our Threat Assessment Protocol. Terroristic threatening is a Class D Felony, but if the threat is to cause physical harm or property damage, then it is a Class C Felony (ACA 5-13-301).

Act 1520 requires school principals to report all threats of violence or acts of violence on school property to the school superintendent and to the appropriate local law enforcement agency.

Any student that threatens to commit or commits a violent act against any other student or staff will be taken seriously. **Such acts may result in a ten (10) day out of school suspension and a recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the school year and the local authorities will be notified.**

Any serious threat to a school employee or student or any serious threat of damage to a school structure will be considered a **Class C felony** as required by **Act 1046**.

Students are expected to report knowledge or suspicion of terroristic threats immediately to school authorities. Any student who fails to do so will be considered an accessory to the threat and will be disciplined accordingly.

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that 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. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident. Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement.

Minimum Penalty: Parental Contact
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #8: Fighting

The use of physical violence upon another student by a student will result in punishment.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #9: Indecent Exposure and Sexual Advances

A student will not deliberately commit indecent exposure in school or on school grounds, nor will a student make improper sexual advances toward another person, nor will a student make crude comments to another person.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #10: 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 property. Students should walk on sidewalks and paved areas. Stay off of the grass unless it is a designated area. Students are not allowed to lean on, push against, or otherwise damage fences surrounding grassy areas

The Beebe School District will recover damages of the destroyed property from the student. Parents of minor students (under 18) will be liable for damages caused by said minor.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand/Restitution

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion/Restitution

Rule #11: Theft and Extortion

A student shall not cause, or attempt to cause damage, steal, or attempt to obtain something (of value) from another person either by physical force or threat (illegal acts). It is recommended that all items brought to school be marked for identification, names, etc.

1. A student shall not steal or attempt to steal property belonging to the school or public or private property while under the jurisdiction of the school.
2. Students shall make restitution of any property stolen by them and shall be subject to other disciplinary measures. Local authorities will be involved.
3. Parents of students will be liable for any loss caused by said student.

Minimum Penalty: Parental Contact/Restitution

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion/Restitution

Rule #12: Gambling

A student shall not participate in any activity, which may be termed gambling or wagering (ie...dice, cards, coin pitching, etc.), where the stakes are money or any other object of value. A parent conference will be required for re-admittance to school.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #13: Smoking or Smokeless Tobacco

No tobacco products will be allowed at school (**including electronic cigarettes**) or at school sponsored events. Any such items will be confiscated and not returned. If a student forgets, or through

mistake brings tobacco products to school, he/she may turn them in to the office **without penalty**. The penalty for having tobacco products at school:

1st Offense = Three (3) days in-school-suspension & 1.5 hours cessation program

2nd Offense = Five (5) days in-school-suspension & citation

3rd Offense = Three (3) days out-of-school suspension & citation.

ACT 1555 of 1999 states any person violating this rule shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction therefore, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Rule #14: Using, Offering for Sale or Selling Beer, Alcoholic Beverages and/or Controlled Substances

REASON FOR POLICY

Because the use of drugs, alcohol, and other chemicals among young people has become a major problem in our country and because the use and availability of these substances to students interfere with the educational process, this policy was adopted. The policy is designed to help eliminate the influence of drugs, alcohol, and other chemicals with the school environment. It is designed to act as punishment and deterrent as well as protection for the students.

WHEN AND WHERE APPLICABLE

This policy applies to any student who is on school property, who is in attendance at school or at a school activity (including any student who has left the campus for any reason and who returns to the campus or school-sponsored activity), or whose conduct at any time or in any place interferes with or obstructs the educational process of operation of the school district.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Upon verification by local law enforcement or school authorities or admission by the student or substantiated evidence, any student possessing or under the influence (legal intoxication not required), or using alcohol or drugs or illegal paraphernalia on school grounds or at school-sponsored events will be in violation of this policy.

Upon verification by local law enforcement or school authorities or admission by the student or substantiated evidence, any student purchasing or attempting to purchase drugs or alcohol on school grounds or at school-sponsored events will be in violation of this policy.

If through observation, the principal suspects a student of using drugs or alcohol, the student may be required to be examined by a medical doctor. The student can only re-enter school with a doctor's statement dated that day stating that the student was not under the influence (legal intoxication not required) of alcohol or drugs as revealed by appropriate medical tests.

PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND PARAPHERNALIA

Prohibited substances shall include any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or other controlled substance as defined in Act 590 of 1971 of the State of Arkansas, as amended, or any beverage containing alcohol or an intoxicant of any kind. Any amount of alcohol or drugs consumed or in possession by a student will be a violation of drug and alcohol policy. The possession or use of drug paraphernalia, i.e., clips, pipes, containers, etc., used in connection with drugs will be a violation of this policy. Any item intended to be representative of a drug or any item designed as a counterfeit and/or look-alike drug will be considered an illegal drug, and any student using or possessing such substances will be in violation of the drug and alcohol policy.

PENALTIES

Any student engaging in any of the situations listed above will be subject to one of the following penalties:

1. **The student will be expelled for one semester with a provision to re-enter school after ten (10) days if enrolled in a compulsory counseling/rehabilitation program. The counseling/rehabilitation services will be at the student's own expense and must be approved by the school superintendent. Upon readmission, continued enrollment in school shall be contingent upon completion of the alcohol/drug-counseling program. The student will be restricted from attending or participating in any extracurricular activities during the semester. A list of resources for counseling/rehabilitation programs is available in the counselor's office.**
2. **The student will be expelled for one semester.**
3. **Any student in violation of the alcohol/drug policy a second time during fifth through twelfth grades will be expelled for one semester.**

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE

Compliance with the standards of conduct stated in this policy is mandatory of all students. Students are also expected to report knowledge or suspicion of drug and alcohol violations to school authorities immediately. Any student who fails to do so will be considered an accessory to the fact and be disciplined accordingly.

All violations of the drug and alcohol policy may be subject to referral to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

AUTHORIZED USE

All medications, prescription and/or non-prescription, are to be checked into the building principal's office before school. This includes all items such as aspirin, sinus and/or cold medicine, stomach remedies, pep pills, depressants, diet pills, etc. All prescription medication must have a written doctor's statement specifying the type of medication and instructions for usage or be contained in the original container.

UNAUTHORIZED USE

Any unauthorized use or distribution of any medication, prescription or non-prescription is strictly prohibited at school or school sponsored activities. Any student participating in this type activity will receive the following penalties:

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #15: Hand-Held Laser Pointers

ACT 1408 of 1999 prohibits the possession of hand-held laser pointers by minors. School personnel will deliver to local authorities any hand-held laser confiscated from a student.

Minimum Penalty: Parental Contact
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #16: Fireworks

The possession or use of any form of fireworks on school property is prohibited.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #17: Firearms or other Weapons

A student shall not possess, handle or transmit a knife, razor blade, ice pick, explosive, pistol,

ammunition rifle, shotgun, pellet gun, taser or other instrument that uses electrical current to cause neuromuscular incapacitation or any other object that might reasonably be considered a weapon or dangerous instrument.

Penalty---ACT 567 of 1995 requires that students who bring firearms, or other weapons upon a school campus shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) year. The superintendent shall have discretion to modify such expulsion requirements for a student on a case-by-case basis.

ACT 1282 of 1999 prohibits firearms on school property, school buses, or at school bus stops.

Parental Responsibility for Minors in Possession of a Firearm

ACT 1149 of 1999 – When a parent of a minor knows that the minor is in illegal possession of a firearm or upon the premises of a public or private school, in or on the school's athletic stadium or other facility, or building where school sponsored events are conducted, or public park, playground or, center, and the parent or guardian fails to prevent the possession or fails to report the possession to the appropriate school or law enforcement officials, the parent shall be guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

ACT 1150 of 1999 requires parents to sign a statement acknowledging that the parents have read and understand current laws regarding parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. This statement will be signed when the student is re-admitted in any school following the expiration of the expulsion. The principal shall report, within a week, to the Department of Education the name, current address and social security number of any student that has been expelled for possessing a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property or committing other acts of violence. The expulsion shall be noted on the student's permanent school record. A registry of these expelled students will be kept by the Department of Education and shall be available to any school principal in the state.

Rule #18: Communicating a False Alarm

Act 567 makes the act of communicating a false alarm to or about an educational institution a **Class D Felony**.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #19: Conspirators or Persons Having Knowledge of Misconduct by Other Students

Any student who had knowledge of, conspired with, or was an accomplice in the perpetration of any misconduct will be punished. Students will also be punished in the event they dare or encourage other students to violate any student code of conduct.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand

Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule # 20: Pornography, Inappropriate Language, Slurs and Gestures

Pornography is not allowed on school property. Students who have possession of such material at school or school sponsored events will receive in-school suspension. Second offenses will result in an out-of-school suspension.

A student shall not use, possess or distribute profane, violent, vulgar, abusive or insulting communication at any time. This includes any type of racial or ethnic slur directed toward a student or

adult. A student shall not use physical gestures that convey a connotation of obscene or highly disrespectful acts, infringe upon the rights of others, or cause or being an overt and immediate disruption of the educational process. A student shall not possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form.

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule# 21: Public Display of Affection

Public display of affection is not appropriate behavior at school or at school sponsored activities. Public display of affection is defined as any affectionate physical contact including but not limited to “holding hands, hugging and kissing”. Failure to comply with reasonable expectation will result in the following disciplinary action:

Minimum Penalty: Reprimand
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #22: Possession and Use of Cell Phones and other Electronic Devices

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Possession and use of any electronic device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment does not respect the rights of others and is expressly forbidden.

To protect the security of statewide assessments, no electronic device, as defined in this policy, shall be accessible by a student at any time during assessment administration unless specifically permitted by a student's individualized education program (IEP) or individual health plan, this means that when a student is taking an AESAA assessment, the student shall not have his/her electronic device in his/her possession. Any student violating this provision shall be subject to this policy's disciplinary provisions.

As used in this policy, “electronic devices” means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

Misuse of electronic devices includes, but is not limited to:

1. Using electronic devices during class time in any manner other than specifically permitted by the classroom instructor;
2. Permitting any audible sound to come from the device when not being used for reason #1 above;
3. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores;
4. Using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms;
5. Creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person.
6. “Personal electronics are not permitted to be used during school hours.”

Use of an electronic device is permitted to the extent it is approved in a student’s (IEP) or it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Before and after normal school hours, possession of electronic devices is permitted on the school campus. 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.

The student and/or the student's parents or guardians expressly assume any risk associated with students owning or possessing electronic devices. Students misusing electronic devices shall have them confiscated. Confiscated devices may be picked up at the school's administration office by the student's parents or guardians.² Students have no right of privacy as to the content contained on any electronic devices that have been confiscated.³ A search of a confiscated device shall meet the reasonable individualized suspicion requirements of Policy 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS.

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. Students are forbidden from using school issued cell phones while driving any vehicle at any time. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Confiscated cell phones and other devices may be picked up at the school's administration office by the student's parents or guardians. Students have no right of privacy as to content contained on any cell phones and other electronic communication devices that have been confiscated. Students will not possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form (4.18).

The student and/or the student's parents or guardians expressly assume any risk associated with students owning or possessing technology equipment.

ACT 447 states that electronic communication devices will be allowed only after normal school hours. 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 (A.C.A. 6-18-502 (b)(3)(D)(ii)).

Minimum Penalty: Parental Contact
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Rule #23 Behavior Not Covered and/or Repeated Violations

Beebe Schools reserves the right to pursue disciplinary or legal action for behavior which is subversive to good order and discipline in the school, even though such behavior is not specific in the preceding written rules. Students who have repeated violations of policies will be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.

Minimum Penalty: Parental Contact
Maximum Penalty: Expulsion

Sexual Harassment

The Beebe 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 can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of

adverse consequences. The information will take into account and be appropriate to the age of the students.

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

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 conditions:

- Submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's education;
- Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual; and/or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic 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 ability to participate in, or benefit from, an educational program or activity.

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 or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether or not the student self-identifies as homosexual; and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities.

Students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment, or parents of a student who believes their child has been subjected to sexual harassment, are encouraged to file a complaint by contacting a counselor, teacher, Title IX coordinator, or administrator who will assist them in the complaint process. Under no circumstances shall a student 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. Students who file a complaint of sexual harassment will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

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

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 expulsion. *Legal References: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 1681, et seq., A.C.A. § 6-15-1005 (b) (1)*

Search, Seizure and Interrogations

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 and individualized suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community.¹ 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.

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division 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 first 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 if 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, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, ~~eustodian~~ person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, 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 state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child 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, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's 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.

Note: ¹ Staff are strongly cautioned and advised that to search a student requires **individualized** suspicion, which requires the staff member(s) involved to have:

1. A good reason to believe that a specific student likely possesses an illegal or forbidden item in violation of Board policy; and

2. The belief that the student possesses the item exists both prior to and at the time of the search.

Searches lacking such good faith belief about a particular student are not permitted; this includes routine suspicionless personal searches of all students and random suspicionless personal searches of students or groups of students. (This is distinct and different from random, suspicionless drug testing of students who participate in extracurricular or athletic events, which the United States Supreme Court permits.) Using a metal detector or “wandering” a student constitutes a search. Extraordinary circumstances must exist for a large group of students to be justifiably subjected to a personal or electronic search, such as a credible belief that any one of a number of students might possess something very dangerous (e.g. a gun or a knife). Searching all students to ensure that non-lethal contraband, such as an electronic device, is not possessed would certainly not pass legal muster; this is true regardless of whether or not testing is occurring. Failure to meet these constitutional requirements could lead to serious legal liability on the part of the district.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-513
 A.C.A. § 9-13-104
 A.C.A. § 12-18-609, 610, 613
 A.C.A. § 12-18-1001, 1005

SEARCHES – STUDENT’S PERSON

The Board authorizes teachers and administrative personnel who have reasonable belief that a student or students are in possession of weapons, illegal drugs or other items harmful to the student or students or the welfare of the student body to search the student(s) under following conditions:

1. No action shall be taken unless there is a reasonable belief, which can be substantiated if necessary.
2. Any such action shall not be deliberately intended to embarrass, harass, or intimidate the student(s).

The above shall be with the knowledge, and under the supervision, of the principal or the assistant principal. Any search of a student’s person shall be done privately by a teacher or administrator of the same sex as the student to be searched. At least one witness, who is an administrator or teacher, also of the same sex as the student, shall be present throughout the search. Detailed documentation shall be made of all searches. Students shall be given a receipt for all items impounded.

Reasonable belief on the part of a teacher, principal, or administrator may be based upon information from such sources as faculty members, reliable students, a law enforcement officer, visual evidence or any of these factors. A metal detector may be used to conduct a search at any time.

Transportation

Beebe students may ride a school bus to school, walk, ride a bicycle, or be privately transported. To ride the bus is a privilege, and proper behavior on the bus is required. Students are under the supervision of the bus drivers and they are responsible to the driver for their conduct. To provide maximum safety, the individual drivers will assign students a seat on the bus. Each student is expected to follow the bus rules so that all may have safe transportation. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. Bus drivers are to report student disrespect or misbehavior to principals. Students thus reported by the bus driver will be subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the bus for indefinite periods.

Any student who does not ride a bus to his/her own home must bring a note signed by a

parent/guardian, giving permission for the student to ride another bus. This applies to students who are changing from a bus rider to car pick-up. Please indicate on the note where the student will be going, the bus number, and the bus driver (if you know his/her name). Also please send a **note** if the student is riding his/her own bus, but will be getting off the bus somewhere other than his/her home. These bus transfers should be kept to a minimum and only when **very necessary**. **Transportation changes cannot be made over the phone unless there is an emergency.**

POLICIES FOR STUDENTS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES

Students riding a school bus are under the supervision of the bus drivers and responsible to the driver for their conduct. Students riding buses will have assigned seats.

Bus drivers are to report student disrespect or misbehavior to an administrator. Students thus reported by the bus driver will be subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the bus for indefinite periods. Bus regulations are as follows:

1. Be at the bus stop at the scheduled time. Riders should stand back about ten feet from the bus stop and wait until the door is opened before moving closer to the bus. Do not play on highway or road. If you miss the bus, do not hitchhike a ride or walk to or from school.
2. While loading or unloading at home, students should enter or leave the bus orderly and quickly. When loading at school in the afternoon, students are to load on their bus directly. No loitering or visiting between or around buses will be allowed.
3. While riding the bus, students are under the supervision of the driver and must obey the driver at all times.
4. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that will not distract the attention of their driver or disturb other riders on the bus (which includes keeping your hands to yourself; attend to your own matters; leave other pupils alone, and be reasonably quiet).
5. No knives, sharp objects of any kind, or firearms are allowed. Pets or other living animals are not allowed.
6. Students are to remain seated any time the bus is in motion. Students are to sit in their assigned seats while the bus is in motion. Students are to change seats only with the permission of the bus driver.
7. All hard materials must be covered and properly secured and located so as not to block the aisles or exits.
8. You are not to tamper with any of the safety devices, such as door latches and fire extinguishers.
9. Bus students may not ride home with other students without a note from the parent or guardian, signed by the building principal. Permission may not be granted if proper seating is not available.
10. Pupils are not to put their hands, arms, heads, or bodies out of the window. Do not yell at anyone outside the bus.
11. Students are not to deface the bus or any school property. Do not write on the bus or damage seats. Do not throw paper, food, or any other object on the floor of the bus. Do not eat on the bus. No smoking, dipping, or chewing while riding a school bus. Keep the aisle of the bus clear of books, lunches, and coats.
12. Do not ask the driver to let you off the bus any place except at your regular stop,
13. If a pupil must cross the highway to enter the bus, wait until the bus has come to a complete stop and the driver has signaled you to cross the highway.
14. Pupils crossing the road after leaving the bus in the afternoon must go to a point on the shoulder of the road ten feet in front of the bus. Cross the highway only in front after the driver has signaled you to do so.
15. Do not damage road signs or warning signals placed on the highway by the Highway Department.
16. Tobacco products are prohibited on all school property, including school buses.
17. It is unlawful for any person to threaten, curse, or use abusive language toward a school bus driver in the presence of students.
18. This is not intended to cover all of the “dos” and “don’ts”, but it is a very specific guide.

The following penalties will be applied according to the severity of the offense committed:

- A. Warning
 - B. Parent Conference/Notification: option of detention, corporal punishment, or one day of Saturday School (Elementary and Middle School)
 - C. Suspension from riding the bus for three (3) days.
 - D. Suspension from riding the bus for five (5) days.
 - E. Suspension from riding the bus for ten (10) days/remainder of semester or school year.
- Suspension from riding the bus cannot be appealed to the school board.

*** Bus suspension does not give permission for an absence to take place. DHS reports may be filed for excessive absences. The transportation to and from school of student who has lost their bus transportation privileges is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian.**

*** If any act is serious enough, the principal may bypass steps A-C and go immediately to an appropriate penalty (suspension and/or expulsion)**

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Curriculum Development

The District shall not purchase curriculum for the District's reading program that is not from the list of curricula approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.³

No curriculum or classroom instruction shall be provided on the following topics before grade five (5):

- Sexually explicit materials;
- Sexual reproduction;
- Sexual intercourse;
- Gender identity; or
- Sexual orientation.

Notes: ¹ A.C.A. § 6-15-101 requires school boards to adopt and implement the academic standards and expected outcomes that have been defined by the State Board; which should be indicated by the adoption being noted in the district's board minutes.

² A.C.A. § 6-15-1505(b) requires each district's superintendent to submit a letter of assurance to DESE by October 1 of each year that the content of each class and subject area is aligned to the academic standards and curriculum frameworks developed by the state board under its plan developed pursuant to A.C.A. § 6-15-1502(a).

³ While districts have the option to use a curriculum that is not on the list of curriculum approved by DESE for the District's reading program, Districts who choose to do so are required to receive prior approval of the curriculum from DESE. In order to receive approval of the curriculum from DESE, the District must submit to DESE the District's rationale for choosing the alternative curriculum program and evidence-based research regarding the alternative curriculum program. Districts that are using a curriculum that is not on the DESE approved list must inform all parents in writing and post on the district's website the curriculum what the district uses and that it is not on the DESE approved list.

A.C.A. § 6-17-429(i)(3) prohibits the use of a program of instruction or intervention for students in kindergarten through grade two (K-2) that utilizes:

- The three-cueing system model of reading;
- Visual memory as the primary basis for teaching word recognition; or
- The three-cueing system model of reading based on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual (MSV)

Legal References: Standards of Accreditation 1-A.1, 1-A.4
 A.C.A. § 6-15-101
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1505(a)
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2906
 A.C.A. § 6-16-157
 A.C.A. § 6-17-429

Date Adopted: 08-14-2006, 6-17-2019

Last Revised: 7-18-2011, 6-6-2017, 6-28-2018, 4-20-2020, 6-17-2021

ARKANSAS COURSE CHOICE PROGRAM

District students are eligible to take courses through the Arkansas Course Choice Program (ACCP) if the student is:

- Seeking to take a course not offered by the District; or
- Attending a District school that received a school letter grade of C, D, or F.¹

The ACCP course catalog shall be made available to all students during student course selection.² The District shall not actively discourage, intimidate, or threaten a student during course selection to not take a course through the ACCP.

A student attending courses through the ACCP shall enroll in at least one (1) course at the District, which may be either in person or a digital course offered by the District.

A District student attending courses through the ACCP is entitled to the following services as if the student were attending courses at the District:

1. Required assessments, including without limitation:
 - a. Statewide assessments;
 - b. Advanced Placement; and
 - c. International Baccalaureate,
2. Participation in extracurricular or co curricular activities; and
3. Special education services pursuant to the student's individualized education program.

Credits earned through the ACCP shall appear on a student's official transcript and count fully towards the student's graduation requirements.

Notes: ¹ This language matches that in the definition of “eligible student” from A.C.A. § 6-16-1702.

² The State Board has until 2025 to establish the official ACCP course catalog.

Cross Reference: 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-15-1701 et seq.

Date Adopted :

Last Revised :

SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2026

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are eighteen (18) years of age or older, sign a *Smart Core Waiver Form* to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, a *Smart Core Information Sheet* and a *Smart Core Waiver Form*¹ will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7th) grade, or when a seventh (7th) through twelfth (12th) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time and there is not a signed waiver form in the student’s permanent record. This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades six (6) through twelve (12) and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when required by their IEP to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the deadline for them to sign and return the waiver form.

While there are similarities between the two curriculums, following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. Students initially choosing the Core curriculum may subsequently change to the Smart Core curriculum **providing** they would be able to complete the required course of study by the end of their senior year.² Students wishing to change their choice of curriculums must consult with their counselor to determine the feasibility of changing paths.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents as part of the annual school district support plan development process³ to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district’s students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district’s graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each; tThis shall be accomplished through holding an informational meeting for parents, legal guardians, or persons

standing in loco parentis to students enrolled in grades six through twelve (6-12) with the school counselor and may be accomplished through any or all of the additional following means:⁴

- Inclusion in the student handbook of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements;
- Discussion of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter; and/or
- Distribution of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's students.

Administrators, or their designees, shall train newly hired employees, required to be licensed as a condition of their employment, regarding this policy. The district's annual professional development shall include the training required by this paragraph.⁵

To the best of its ability, the District shall follow the requirements covering the transfer of course credit and graduation set forth in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and the Arkansas Military Child School Transitions Act of 2021 for all students who meet the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS including the waiving of specific courses that are required for graduation if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district.⁶ There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements. Career education courses that are determined by DESE to be eligible for use in the place of a listed course may be substituted for the course as designated by DESE.

All students must receive a passing score on the Arkansas Civics Exam in order to graduate.

Students shall be trained in quality psychomotor skill bases in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automated external defibrillators in order to graduate.

Personal and Family Finance

All students shall receive credit in a course covering the Personal and Family Finance Standards in order to graduate.

Computer Science

All students shall earn one (1) unit of credit in a computer science or computer science related career and technical education course in order to graduate.

SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

- 1) Algebra I or Algebra A & B* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9;
- 2) Geometry or Geometry A & B* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10;

* A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the **graduation** requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the **Smart Core** requirement.

- 3) Algebra II; and
- 4) The fourth unit may be either:
 - A math unit approved by DESE beyond Algebra II; or
 - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a fourth math credit.

Natural Science: three (3) units

- a. DESE approved biology – 1 credit;
- b. DESE approved physical science – 1 credit; and
- c. A third unit that is either:
 - An additional science credit approved by DESE; or
 - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics - one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit
- Other social studies – one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) Unit

Physical Education: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Note: While one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Economics – one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁸

Fine Arts: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

A student who completes at least seventy-five (75) clock hours of documented community service in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at any certified service agency or a part of a service-learning school program shall receive one (1) Career Focus credit.⁹

CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)
- A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry

* A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- a. DESE approved biology – 1 credit;
- b. DESE approved physical science – 1 credit; and
- c. A third unit that is either:

- An additional science credit approved by DESE; or
- A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit
- Other social studies – one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Physical Education: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Note: While one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Economics – one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁸

Fine Arts: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

A student who completes at least seventy-five (75) clock hours of documented community service in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at any certified service agency or a part of a service-learning school program shall receive one (1) Career Focus credit⁸

Notes: ¹ The Smart Core Information Sheet and the Smart Core Waiver Form are available on the ADE website at

<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/learning-services/curriculum-support/arkansas-graduation-requirements> under the "Related Links" heading.

² The DESE's Guidelines stipulate completion by the end of the senior year. We believe this is not in agreement with A.C.A. § 6-18-202(b)(1), which requires public schools to be open through the

completion of the secondary program to students between the ages of five (5) and twenty-one (21). Therefore, we suggest that students be allowed to switch from Core to Smart Core if they could successfully complete its requirements by the time they attained their twenty first (21st) birthday. Acceptance of a diploma negates a student's right to switch programs.

³ We recommend including the review of this policy in the school district support plan process so that the resources intended to be provided from the district level are in alignment with your graduation requirements (including any changes to the state level graduation requirements).

⁴ Schools are required to retain documentation procedures and methods used.

⁵ The Guidelines require the policy to include the training "procedure." If you prefer a different procedure than inclusion in your district's annual professional development process, change this sentence accordingly.

⁶ This sentence is necessary if your district requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate; without the sentence and you substitute a number greater than twenty-two (22), it appears that the DESE requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate. If you have specific requirements for the additional units, change the sentence's wording to reflect those requirements.

⁷ The Rules specify the option is dependent upon the licensure of the teacher. Specifically, if the course is taught by a licensed social studies teacher, both options exist. If the course is taught by a licensed business education teacher, the credit must be applied toward the career focus requirement.

⁸ In order for students to receive the community service learning (CLS) credit, the district must have completed and submitted a CLS plan to DESE. In addition, a partner site application must be approved by both the district's board of directors and by the State Board if an organization the District has partnered with, rather than a District employee, is responsible for certifying a student's hours of service. Districts who do not intend to submit a CLS plan should not include this language.

Cross References: 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION
 5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT
 5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND INDEPENDENT
 STUDIES
 5.16—COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE PREREQUISITES AND
 PROGRESSION

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-C.2, 1-C.2.1, 1-C.2.2, 1-C.2.3
 DESE Guidelines for the Development of Smart Core Curriculum Policy
 DESE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning
 Smart Core Information Sheet
 Smart Core Waiver Form
 Commissioner's Memo LS-18-082
 A.C.A. § 6-4-302
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2906
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2911
 A.C.A. § 6-16-122
 A.C.A. § 6-16-143
 A.C.A. § 6-16-149
 A.C.A. § 6-16-150

Date Adopted: 6-17-2021

SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2027 AND THEREAFTER

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are eighteen (18) years of age or older, sign a *Smart Core Waiver Form* to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, a *Smart Core Information Sheet* and a *Smart Core Waiver Form*¹ will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7th) grade, or when a seventh (7th) through twelfth (12th) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time and there is not a signed waiver form in the student's permanent record. This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades six (6) through twelve (12) and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when required by their IEP to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the deadline for them to sign and return the waiver form.

While there are similarities between the two curriculums, following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. Students initially choosing the Core curriculum may subsequently change to the Smart Core curriculum **providing** they would be able to complete the required course of study by the end of their senior year.² Students wishing to change their choice of curriculums must consult with their counselor to determine the feasibility of changing paths.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents as part of the annual school district support plan development process³ to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each; this shall be accomplished through holding an informational meeting for parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to students enrolled in grades six through twelve (6-12) with the school counselor and may be accomplished through any or all of the additional following means:⁴

- Inclusion in the student handbook of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements;

- Discussion of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter; and/or
- Distribution of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's students.

Administrators, or their designees, shall train newly hired employees, required to be licensed as a condition of their employment, regarding this policy. The district's annual professional development shall include the training required by this paragraph.⁵

To the best of its ability, the District shall follow the requirements covering the transfer of course credit and graduation set forth in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and the Arkansas Military Child School Transitions Act of 2021 for all students who meet the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS including the waiving of specific courses that are required for graduation if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. ⁶ There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements. Career education courses that are determined by DESE to be eligible for use in the place of a listed course may be substituted for the course as designated by DESE.

All students must receive a passing score on the Arkansas Civics Exam in order to graduate.

Students shall be trained in quality psychomotor skill bases in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automated external defibrillators in order to graduate.

Personal and Family Finance

All students shall receive credit in a course covering the Personal and Family Finance Standards in order to graduate.

Computer Science

All students shall earn one (1) unit of credit in a computer science or computer science related career and technical education course in order to graduate.

Community Service

Each student must receive seventy-five (75) clock hours of community service that is certified by the service agency or organization where the student volunteers.

The community service must be in programs or activities, either in Arkansas or outside of Arkansas, that meet the requirements established by the State Board and the District Board of Directors and include preparation, action, and reflection components. Except as provided by

this policy, a student must receive at least the following documented clock hours of community service each year:

- Fifteen (15) hours for students in grade nine (9);
- Twenty (20) hours for students in grade ten (10);
- Twenty (20) hours for students in grade eleven (11); and
- Twenty (20) hours for students in grade twelve (12).

Students transferring into the District after grade nine (9) or students who are graduating early may receive a diploma provided that the minimum requirement for each year the student attends the District is met. The District Board of Directors may grant a waiver of the community service requirement for extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis, which may include without limitation:

- A major illness associated with a student or a family member of a student;
- Student homelessness or housing insecurity; and
- Notice to the public school district board of directors if the student is a major contributor to family income.

SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

- 1) Algebra I or Algebra A & B* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9;
- 2) Geometry or Geometry A & B* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10;

* A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the **graduation** requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the **Smart Core** requirement.

- 3) Algebra II; and
- 4) The fourth unit may be either:
 - A math unit approved by DESE beyond Algebra II; or
 - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a fourth math credit.

Natural Science: three (3) units

- a. DESE approved biology – 1 credit;
- b. DESE approved physical science – 1 credit; and
- c. A third unit that is either:
 - An additional science credit approved by DESE; or
 - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics - one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit
- Other social studies – one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) Unit

Physical Education: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Note: While one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Economics – one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁷

Fine Arts: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)
- A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry

* A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- a. DESE approved biology – 1 credit;
- b. DESE approved physical science – 1 credit; and
- c. A third unit that is either:
 - An additional science credit approved by DESE; or
 - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit
- Other social studies – one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Physical Education: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Note: While one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

Economics – one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁷

Fine Arts: one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

Notes: ¹ The Smart Core Information Sheet and the Smart Core Waiver Form are available on the ADE website at

<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/learning-services/curriculum-support/arkansas-graduation-requirements> under the “Related Links” heading.

² The DESE’s Guidelines stipulate completion by the end of the senior year. We believe this is not in agreement with A.C.A. § 6-18-202(b)(1), which requires public schools to be open through the completion of the secondary program to students between the ages of five (5) and twenty-one (21). Therefore, we suggest that students be allowed to switch from Core to Smart Core if they could successfully complete its requirements by the time they attained their twenty first (21st) birthday. Acceptance of a diploma negates a student’s right to switch programs.

³ We recommend including the review of this policy in the school district support plan process so that the resources intended to be provided from the district level are in alignment with your graduation requirements (including any changes to the state level graduation requirements).

⁴ Schools are required to retain documentation procedures and methods used.

⁵ The Guidelines require the policy to include the training “procedure.” If you prefer a different procedure than inclusion in your district’s annual professional development process, change this sentence accordingly.

⁶ This sentence is necessary if your district requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate; without the sentence and you substitute a number greater than twenty-two (22), it appears that the DESE requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate. If you have specific requirements for the additional units, change the sentence’s wording to reflect those requirements.

⁷ The Rules specify the option is dependent upon the licensure of the teacher. Specifically, if the course is taught by a licensed social studies teacher, both options exist. If the course is taught by a licensed business education teacher, the credit must be applied toward the career focus requirement.

Cross References: 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION
 5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT
 5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND
 INDEPENDENT STUDIES
 5.16—COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE PREREQUISITES AND
 PROGRESSION

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-C.2, 1-C.2.1, 1-C.2.2, 1-C.2.3
DESE Guidelines for the Development of Smart Core Curriculum Policy

DESE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning

Smart Core Information Sheet

Smart Core Waiver Form

Commissioner's Memo LS-18-082

A.C.A. § 6-4-302

A.C.A. § 6-15-2906

A.C.A. § 2911

A.C.A. § 6-16-122

A.C.A. § 6-16-143

A.C.A. § 6-16-149

A.C.A. § 6-16-150

A.C.A. § 6-16-152

A.C.A. § 6-16-1901 et seq.

A.C.A. § 6-28-115

Date Adopted:

Last Revised:

Grading / Reporting System

Beebe School District has four nine-week grading periods. Beebe Schools recognize the value of teachers communicating personally to parents the progress of students. Therefore, two parent-teacher conferences are held during the school year. During conferences, parents will discuss with the teacher the student's progress. Teachers will try to make contact with parents who cannot attend the conference either by telephone or other means. At the midpoint of each of the four nine weeks, progress reports will be sent home with students. Please sign and return the progress reports to the teacher.

Parents should be aware of the grading periods and assume the responsibility of checking their child's progress. **Grades shall reflect only the achievement of academic objectives.**

Students will be graded using the following criteria in **The Beebe Early Childhood School:**

GRADING SCALE

meets or exceeds grade level expectations – 3
approaching grade level expectations – 2
below grade level expectations -- 1

Students will be graded using the following criteria in the Elementary and Middle Schools:

GRADING SCALE

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
59 & below	F

The final grades of students who transfer in for part of a semester will be determined by blending the grades earned in the district with those earned outside the district. Each final grade will be the sum of the percentage of days in the grading period transferred from outside the district times the transferred grade from outside the district plus the percentage of days in the grading period while in the district times the grade earned in the district.

For example: The grading period had 40 days. A student transferred in with a grade of 83% earned in 10 days at the previous school. The student had a grade of 75% in our district's school earned in the remaining 30 days of the grading period. 10 days is 25% of 40 days while 30 days is 75% of 40 days. Thus the final grade would be $.25 (83) + .75 (73) = 75.5\%$. (A.C.A. 6-15-902, State Board of Education: Standards of Accreditation 12.02)

Homework Policy

The Beebe School District recognizes that homework is a beneficial addition to the in-school instructional program. For most students, additional study directly related to academic work-in-progress can make the difference between mastery and non-mastery, between satisfactory and exemplary achievement. Homework tells students that learning is more than just a classroom activity, which expectations go beyond minimum effort, and that independent learning is valued. Through a well-formulated homework system, students will acquire academic content while also developing self-discipline, responsibility, and good study/work habits. Students who possess these characteristics will be prepared for both academic and/or vocational careers.

Because of the individual differences and needs of students, it is unsound to require or expect all students to experience the same kind of homework in connection with their school instruction. Purposeful homework varies from day to day and the professional discretion of the teacher should determine when homework is assigned.

Basically homework can be classified into three categories: practice, preparation, and extension. When homework is given as an assigned responsibility for the students, such homework will be based on one or more of the following purposes:

1. Drill and additional practice to strengthen new skills introduced in the classroom;
2. Work on projects of short-term or long-term nature;
3. Participation in research activities in locating facts and data;
4. Expanding reading for pleasure and enjoyment

MAKE-UP WORK

It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with his/her teacher to complete missed work. The student may pick up an assignment sheet the day they return or have someone pick one up the days they are absent so they can keep up with the lessons. All work missed because of absences, which are due to being under a doctor's care will be counted if the student presents a doctor's excuse to the teacher within five (5) days of the absence. If the absence is due to a school related activity, the work should be made up prior to the absence or on the day the student returns to school.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Incomplete grades are the responsibility of the student. A student must see to it that he/she completes the work necessary for a permanent grade. After two weeks from the end of the grading period, the grade automatically becomes an "F" if the student has not contacted the teacher about making up missed work.

Promotion/Retention Guidelines

A disservice is done to students through social promotion and is prohibited by state law. The District shall, at a minimum, evaluate each student annually in an effort to help each student who is not performing at grade level. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student(s). Notice of a student's possible retention or required retaking of a course shall be included with the student's grades sent home to each parent/guardian or the student if 18 or older. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be held as necessary in an effort to improve a student's academic success.

Each time a student is assessed by use of a high-quality literacy screener, with results at least once each semester, the Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis, and teacher(s) of a student in kindergarten through eighth (8th) grade shall be notified in writing of the student's independent grade-level-equivalency in reading and, in a parent friendly manner, the student's reading progress.

Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities.

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following criteria.¹ -

- A student who has not met the third-grade reading standard as defined by the state board shall not be promoted to fourth(4th) grade unless the student has a good cause waiver. The following students may receive a good cause waiver:
 - Limited English Proficiency students who have had less than three (3) years of instruction in an English language learner program;
 - Students with a disability who are not eligible for the alternate assessment and who have an individualized education program or a 504 plan that reflects that the individual student:
 - Has received an intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading for more than two (2) years; and
 - Still demonstrates a need in reading proficiency or previously was retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3);
- Students who:
 - Have received an intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading for two (2) or more years;
 - Still demonstrate a need in reading proficiency and who previously were retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3);
 - Have received a special education referral and a full comprehensive evaluation; and
 - Have not met exceptional education criteria;
- Students who have already been retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3) for one (1) year;
- Students who can demonstrate that they are successful and independent readers and can perform at or above grade level by use of subsequent student assessments or alternative assessments; or

Other students with necessary, justifiable good-cause exemptions identified as appropriate by the state board, in consultation with reading experts.

If there is doubt concerning the promotion or retention of a student or his/her required retaking of a course, a conference shall be held before a final decision is made that includes the following individuals:

- a. The building principal or designee;
- b. The student's teacher(s);
- c. School counselor;
- d. A 504/special education representative (if applicable); and
- e. The student's parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis.

The conference shall be held at a time and place that best accommodates those participating in the conference. The school shall document participation or non-participation in required conferences. If the conference attendees fail to agree concerning the student's placement or receipt of course credit, the final decision shall rest with the principal or the principal's designee.

Each student² shall have a student success plan (SSP) developed by school personnel in collaboration with the student's parents and the student that is reviewed and updated annually. A student's SSP shall use multiple academic measures to personalize learning in order for students to achieve their grade-level expectations and individual growth. The SSP will identify if the student is in need of additional support or acceleration. Academic measures to be used in creating and updating a student's SSP shall include, but are not limited to:

- Statewide student assessment results;
- Subject grades;
- Student work samples; and
- Local assessment scores.

The SSP for a student in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who does not meet the reading standard As set by the state board and determined by a high-quality literacy screener or the statewide assessment shall include an individual reading plan for each student. An individual reading plan shall include:

1. The student's specific, diagnosed reading skill needs, including without limitation:
 - Phonemic awareness;
 - Phonics decoding;
 - Text reading fluency;
 - Vocabulary-building strategies; and
 - Self-regulated use of reading comprehension strategies, as identified by high-quality literacy screener data;
2. The goals and benchmarks for the student's growth;
3. How the student's progress will be monitored and evaluated;
4. The type of additional instructional services and interventions the student may receive;
5. The intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading the student's teacher will use to address the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension;

6. The strategies the student's parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to the student are encouraged to use in assisting the student to achieve the student's reading goal; and
7. Any additional services the student's teacher determines are available and appropriate to accelerate the student's reading skill development.

All parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be notified in writing:

- a. Of the content of their child's independent reading plan and progress on the independent reading plan throughout the year; and
- b. By no later than October 1 of each year, or as soon as practicable if a student's reading need is identified after October 1:
 - Of their student's eligibility to participate in the literacy tutoring grant program;
 - The process for applying for the literacy tutoring grant program; and
 - Other information provided by DESE.

For each student who does not meet the reading standard established by the state board by the end of third (3rd) grade, including students who are promoted to the fourth (4th) grade under a good cause waiver, the District, during the subsequent summer and school year, shall :

- a. Provide at least ninety (90) minutes of evidence-based literacy instruction aligned to the science of reading during each school day;
- b. Assign the student to:
 - If the District has a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years, a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years; or
 - If the District is unable to identify a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years, a teacher:
 - With a highly-effective rating according to the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
 - Deemed to be a high-performing teacher as defined by a Master Professional Educator designation.
- c. Provide parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to students with a "read-at-home" plan to support student early literacy growth, which shall include evidence-based science of reading strategies and tools that are aligned to a student's individual reading plan for parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to use with their student;
- d. Notify parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to a student regarding their student's eligibility for a literacy tutoring grant;
- e. Be given priority to receive a literacy tutoring grant; and
- f. Be given the option to participate in additional intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention programs aligned to the science of reading.

The SSP of a student in kindergarten through grade eight (K-8) who is not performing at or above grade level on the state assessment, as defined by the State Board of Education shall include a math intervention plan. The math intervention plan may include the:

1. Provision of each student with access to high-dosage, targeted math tutoring in the subsequent school year, which shall include three (3) or more tutoring sessions a week in a one-on-one or small-group setting;
2. Assignment to:
 - if the District has a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years, a teacher, with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years; or
 - if the District is unable to find a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years, a teacher:
 - With a highly-effective rating in the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
 - Deemed to be a high-performing teacher as defined by a Master Professional Educator designation; and
3. Provision of each student with extended time on math instruction during or after school.

All parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis shall receive written notification of their student's math intervention plan and progress on the student's math intervention plan throughout the school year.

By the end of grade eight (8), the student's SSP shall:³

- o Guide the student along pathways to graduation;
- o Address accelerated learning opportunities;
- o Address academic deficits and interventions; and
- o Include college and career planning components.

Based on a student's score on the college and career assessment:

- The student's SSP will be updated in order to assist the student with college and career readiness skills, course selection in high school, and improved academic achievement; and
- Provide a basis for counseling concerning postsecondary preparatory programs.

A student's SSP shall include the recommended sequence of courses for successful completion of the diploma pathway selected by the student but be sufficiently flexible to allow the student to change the student's selected diploma pathway. The school counselor shall meet with the student's parent, legal guardian, or persons standing in loco parentis and the student to review the student's SSP annually and to revise the student's SSP as necessary to identify the courses to be taken each year until all required core courses are completed. Part of the review shall include an explanation of the possible impacts the revisions to the plan might have on the student's graduation requirements and postsecondary education goals. Any change made to a student's SSP as part of the review that amends the student's diploma pathway shall be structured to ensure that the student will meet the high school graduation requirements for the student's chosen diploma pathway and be qualified for admission to a postsecondary educational institution or to enter the workforce. After each review, the student's SSP shall be signed by the student; student's parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis to the student; and the school counselor.

An SSP shall be created:

1. By no later than the end of the school year for a student in grade eight (8) or below² who enrolls in the District during the school year; or
2. As soon as reasonably possible for a student in grade nine (9) or above who enrolls in the District at the beginning or during the school year.

A student's individualized education program (IEP) may act in the place of the student's SSP if the IEP addresses academic deficits and interventions for the student's failure to meet standards-based academic goals at an expected rate or level and includes a transition plan that addresses college and career planning components. Promotion or retention of students with an IEP shall be based on their successful attainment of the goals set forth in their IEP.

Students who either refuse to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempt to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are originally administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity, including school dances, prom, homecoming, senior events, and may be prevented from walking or participating in graduation exercises. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following Statewide assessment, as applicable. The Superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.⁴ Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.⁵

Notes: ¹ Insert the criteria your district uses for promotion/retention. The criteria must include the following for students in kindergarten through grade four (k-4):

- A student who has not met the third-grade reading standard as defined by the state board shall not be promoted to fourth(4th) grade unless the student has a good cause waiver. The following students may receive a good cause waiver:
 - Limited English Proficiency students who have had less than three (3) years of instruction in an English language learner program;
 - Students with a disability who are not eligible for the alternate assessment and who have an individualized education program or a 504 plan that reflects that the individual student:
 - Has received an intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading for more than two (2) years; and
 - Still demonstrates a need in reading proficiency or previously was retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3);
- Students who:
 - Have received an intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading for two (2) or more years;
 - Still demonstrate a need in reading proficiency and who previously were retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3);
 - Have received a special education referral and a full comprehensive evaluation; and
 - Have not met exceptional education criteria;

- Students who have already been retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3) for one (1) year;
- Students who can demonstrate that they are successful and independent readers and can perform at or above grade level by use of subsequent student assessments or alternative assessments; or
- Other students with necessary, justifiable good-cause exemptions identified as appropriate by the state board, in consultation with reading experts.

² The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act only requires that an SSP be created for students in eighth (8th) grade and beyond and ADE will only cite a district if a student does not have an SSP by the end of eighth (8th) grade and beyond. We have opted to have the default language in the policy be for an SSP to be created for every student, with additional information reviewed and added starting in eighth (8th) grade, for a couple of reasons:

First, we believe requiring an SSP for all grades allows for improved communication between parents, teachers, and students. The creation and existence of an SSP at all levels allows for the use of common terminology (such as a parent who has more than one student simultaneously enrolled at a district would not have to know to ask to review and discuss the SSP for the student in eighth (8th) grade or above and also have to know to ask for the Response to Intervention plan for the student who is below the eighth (8th) grade.) In addition, requiring teachers, parents, and the student (when appropriate) to meet to create an SSP at all grades will help to foster channels of communications between parents and teachers, increase parental engagement, and help prepare parents for the more formal planning process when the student is in eighth (8th) grade and beyond.

Second, the creation, evaluation, and updating of the SSP at the lower levels should help to establish a student focused learning system by helping to insure each student is receiving the educational support(s) necessary for his/her individual educational development, whether the supports are through a Response to Intervention system, the Gifted and Talented program, or anywhere in between.

³ While students in kindergarten through grade three (k-3) are not required to have an SSP, students who are not reading at grade level are required to have an individual reading plan and students in kindergarten through grade eight (K-8) are required to have a math intervention plan. You are required to report to DESE the types of interventions used and the number of students receiving each type of intervention.

⁴ Subsections 6.05.1 through 6.05.4 of the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act rules include additional recommendations for consideration when creating and updating a student's SSP on each of the items in this list.

⁵ This paragraph is optional. The paragraph originated with the movement for students to opt out of state assessments. A.C.A. § 6-15-2907(e) requires all students participate in the statewide assessments and this paragraph is intended to add local incentive for students to participate. While the entire paragraph is optional, the last sentence is important as it would keep the policy from having "zero tolerance" (which we do not support) and give you latitude to accommodate instances beyond the student's control such as a car accident, serious illness, or other acts of God. If you choose to include the sentence, you may change "Superintendent" to "Principal" if that would work better for your district. Keep in mind that the decision on who is responsible for deciding whether or not to grant an exception for extraordinary circumstances is a different and separate issue than deciding whether or

not to promote or retain a student, which is left in the hands of the school principal earlier in the policy. Be sure to align your decision for this footnote with the decision you made concerning footnote #5.

⁶This paragraph is optional. Participation in graduation or extracurricular activities is not a right, and districts may legally place conditions on a public school student's eligibility for participation (such as testing compliance), but districts cannot deny a diploma to an otherwise qualified student or deny a student the ability to attend school. If you choose to include the paragraph, the third to the last sentence may be amended to apply to a timeline of your choice. Be sure to align the staff position responsible for deciding whether or not to grant an exception with the decision you made for footnote #4.

Cross References: 3.30—PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION
 4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - SECONDARY SCHOOLS
 4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - ELEMENTARY
 5.13—STUDENT INTERVENTION SERVICES AND SUMMER SCHOOL

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-2001
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2005
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2006
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2907
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2911
 A.C.A. § 6-17-429
 A.C.A. § 6-17-431
 A.C.A. § 9-28-205
 DESE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act
 DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit
 Murphy v. State of Ark., 852 F.2d 1039 (8th Cir. 1988)

Date Adopted: 7-14-2014

Last Revised: 7-13-2015, 6-19-2017, 6-28-2018, 2-18-2019, 4-20-2020, 6-16-2020

HONOR ROLL REQUIREMENTS

For a student to be eligible for each nine weeks honor roll, all grades must be A's. All students who maintain these grades for three nine weeks' periods will receive an honor certificate. A student who makes all B's or better will receive recognition for his/her work. Non-academic courses (Band, Choir, PE, Art, Music, Library and Computer Lab, etc.) are not included in figuring the honor rolls.

STUDENT ACCELERATION

The Board believes that acceleration is an effective and research-based intervention for the academic growth of students who are ready for an advanced or faster-paced curriculum. It can allow a student to move through the traditional educational setting more rapidly, based on assessed readiness, capability and motivation. At the same time, the Board understands that acceleration is not a replacement for gifted education services or programs.

Generally, acceleration can occur through one of two broad categories: content based and grade based. Grade based acceleration shortens the number of years a student would otherwise spend in K-12 education, while content based acceleration occurs within the normal K-12 time span. Either form of acceleration can be triggered by a parent/guardian, student, or community member's request or by the referral of school personnel. In either case, the process of determining the appropriateness of the request shall be under the direction of the district Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator who shall convene the individuals necessary to make an informed decision which shall include the student's parents or guardians.

While the needs of the student should dictate when acceleration decisions are considered, the Board believes the optimal time for referrals is in the spring which gives adequate time for working through the determination process and for preparing those concerned for a smooth transition to the acceleration beginning in the following school-year.

The District's Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator will create a written format to govern the referral and determination process which shall be made available to any parent or staff member upon request. The parents/guardians of any student whose request for acceleration has been denied may appeal the decision, in writing to the district's GT Coordinator. The GT Coordinator and the Acceleration Placement Committee will again thoroughly review the case study that was completed on the student. Upon completion of the review, the Committee will either request additional new testing be conducted to help the Committee make its determination or it will uphold the initial decision. The Committee's decision may not be further appealed

Special Academic Programs

Our students are provided special services in the following areas:

1. Resource Room – academic assistance, learning disabilities
2. School Wide Title I – assistance in reading or math
3. Speech Therapy
4. Counseling
5. Gifted and Talented
6. Occupational/Physical Therapy
7. Response to Intervention
8. Academic Language Therapy
9. Tutoring

Selection of Instructional and Library/Media Center Materials

The purpose of the schools' libraries/media centers is to supplement and enrich the curriculum and instruction offered by the District. To promote the dialogue characteristic of a healthy democracy necessitates the maintenance of a broad range of materials and information representing varied points of view on current and historical issues.

In the selection of the materials and resources to be available in each library/media center consideration will be given to their age appropriateness. Materials should be available to challenge the different interests, learning styles, and reading levels of the schools' students that will help them attain the District's educational goals.

All books taken from the library/media center must be checked out to the student. Students are responsible for books checked out until they are returned to the circulation desk and have been placed under the counter. Fines will be charged for lost books. Students who lose books should consult the media specialist.

School library media professionals cooperate with other individuals in building collections of resources appropriate to the developmental and maturity levels of students. These collections provide resources that support the curriculum and are consistent with the philosophy, goals, and objectives of the school district. Resources in school library media collections represent diverse points of view on current as well as historical issues. School media professional's work closely with teachers to integrate instructional activities in classroom units designed to equip students to locate, evaluate, and use a broad range of ideas effectively.

The school board adopts policies that guarantee students' access to a broad range of ideas. These include policies on collection development and procedures for the review of resources about which concerns have been raised. Such policies developed by persons in the school community, provide for a timely and fair hearing and assure that procedures are applied equitably to all expressions of concern. School library media professionals implement district policies and procedures in the school. (Act 1786 of 2003) The Media Center is open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

Electronic Device Policy

The Beebe 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. Use of district computers is for educational and/or instructional purposes only. It is the policy of this school district to equip each computer with Internet filtering software designed to prevent users from accessing material that is harmful to minors.

No student will be granted Internet access until and unless a computer-use agreement, 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 Internet Safety and Electronic Device Policy is located in the front of this handbook. The current version of the computer use agreement is incorporated by reference 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 student handbook² and/or computer use agreement.

Technology Security Policy

Beebe Early Childhood/Elementary Schools provide access to computers in the classroom setting. Students use educational software purchased by the school, which supports the learning curriculum in the classroom. Teachers are responsible for preparing and managing the software use on a daily basis. Students do not have access to e-mail or the Internet.

Teachers may choose to use the Internet to access teaching sites, which supports their instruction, but it

is only to be used by the teacher during her/his direct instruction. Any computer related activities other than these mentioned are strictly prohibited for students. Any student who uses the computer for purposes other than mentioned above will lose computer privileges for one week. A second offense will result in loss of computer privileges for the remainder of the semester. A third offense will result in loss of computer privileges for the remainder of the school year.

INTERNET SAFETY AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

The Beebe School District agrees to allow the student identified above (“Student”) to use the district’s technology to access the Internet under the following terms and conditions which apply whether the access is through a District or student owned electronic device: (as used in this agreement electronic device means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sounds or data.)

This policy document has been developed to meet the Beebe School Board’s responsibility for securing its network and computing systems in a reasonable and economically feasible manner. The intent of the policy includes the prevention of unauthorized user access and/or abuse, while making the systems accessible for authorized users. Users are hereby informed of the district’s standards of conduct and the consequences for not adhering to them. Violation of certain provisions of this policy will result in the temporary or permanent suspension of user accounts. The Beebe School Board hereby makes it known that it will use its authority to assist state and federal authorities in enforcing copyright, intellectual, property rights, and network abuse laws.

In concert with the release of the Network User Policy, school patrons should be aware that the Beebe School District is making on-line information and communications services accessible to students and staff.

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.

SECTION I: General Principles

The Internet is an unregulated communications environment. The district intends to make only school district Pre-K – 12 curriculum-related educational resources available to authorized users. This shall be accomplished in the following manner:

1. All connections to the Internet, commercial on-line resources or community access informational networks, will be through the district’s APSCN server or other Board approved WAN providers.
2. It is the district’s intent that encountering questionable materials occurs only as a result of a conscious choice on the part of the user.
3. All computers from which remote electronic information resources can be accessed will be in supervised areas.
4. School district staff shall monitor student computer use, providing assistance – or taking corrective action when necessary.
5. Designated district staff shall assist in providing:
 - a. Training for students and other staff in the appropriate and safe use of remote electronic information resources.
 - b. Instructions to students and staff on the responsible use of on-line resources.
 - c. Direction to on-line resources that relate to curriculum, teaching, and learning, related communications, priority activities, and applications.
 - d. Parents and staff with the opportunity to become aware of the district’s policy and make available the Network User Policy for review.

SECTION II: User Responsibilities

1. The user recognizes use of network resources as a privilege.
2. The user will cooperate with the certified or designated non-certified professional staff member that is present to monitor the student use of e-mail and electronic on-line resources.
3. The user is responsible for following local, state, federal and international copyright, intellectual property rights, and adhering to acceptable network use.
4. The user is responsible for protecting his own network accounts and is solely responsible for all actions taken while accessing and using information resources.
5. The user will work in a moral and ethical fashion that supports district educational goals.
6. The user will be responsible for adhering to the policies of other networks accessed.
7. The user will not violate the integrity of a network or computer system, change its performance or intentionally make it malfunction, or add or delete any programs or information resources unless acting upon approved authorization.
8. Non-local and local e-mail activities must be conducted by the user in a manner consistent with guidelines approved by the district's designated curriculum coordinator. In the absence of such guidelines, it is recognized that authorized district personnel reserve the right to occasionally access student email accounts to monitor activity.
9. In general, a user is not authorized to transfer programs to or from the district's local area network. All such transfers shall be completed or directed by users that are authorized network supervisors or operators.
10. A user's privilege of access to remote electronic information resources shall be temporarily revoked for inappropriate use or violation of the district's policy. In each specific case, the professional staff monitoring such activities must initiate such action. Violations shall be documented. Documented violations and repeated violations by a user shall be presented to the school administrator, for appropriate action, following the guidelines of general school disciplinary policy or guidelines developed by the administration and approved by the School Board specifically with regard to the district's Network User Policy.

SECTION III: Proper Respect for Copyright

In an effort to encourage the proper respect for copyright on the Internet, the following guide for staff and student users is provided.

1. If the user did not create a non-public domain written piece of art, photograph, or music, or obtain distribution rights to it, the user does not own it.
2. If the user does not own the non-public domain material, the user may not copy or distribute it to others.
3. The author or owner of a document or other type of information must explicitly be given rights in order to place work on the "public domain" and thereby make copying/distribution without specific authorization possible.
4. Fair use allows the user to copy small portions of a work the user does not own without permission but only for criticism, education, news reporting, and the like.
5. When in doubt, the user should ask the creator or owner of material for permission to use the work.
6. The user understands that Freeware is free; however, before downloading and using the Freeware, the user must honor any statements that place restrictions upon the use of the Freeware and limitations on changes in the program code.
7. The user understands that Shareware may be used on a trial basis. However, the use of Shareware (including the sharing with others) carries with it the obligation to pay the specified price by some specified time in the future. Likewise, before downloading and using the Shareware, the user must honor any statements that place restrictions upon the use of the Shareware and limitations on changes in the program code.

SECTION IV: Internet and Computer System Service Account

The Internet Account Assignment Form shall be used to provide a record of the assignments of user account names and ID numbers. This applies to all users regardless of their individual current Internet use status.

SECTION V:

With regard to all matters described or implied within the Beebe School District's Network User Policy document, the Board shall follow its current general policies for due process relative to students and staff. The primary purpose of enforcing these policies shall be to maintain a wholesome learning environment for both students and staff and to promote personal responsibility and professionalism. The Board recognizes and hereby acts responsibly relative to existing federal and state laws that apply to the areas addressed in this policy document.

Penalties: Any student who does not abide by the above policy will be subject to one or more of the following penalties:

1. Computer privileges will be revoked.
2. Detention.
3. In-school suspension assigned.
4. Out-of-school suspension.

No student, faculty, staff, or parent is permitted to video another person on school property without their consent. If the consenting person is below the age of 18, parent or guardian permission is to be obtained prior to videoing. If a video is made of a behavior and the behavior is not reported immediately to school personnel, the person who videoed the behavior will also be disciplined as deemed by school personnel. A student shall not engage in behavior that produces situations in which instruction or activities of other students and/or staff members are adversely affected. This may include social media posts created on or off campus that are related to school activities, students, and/or staff. In addition, students using a camera, videotape, photo-optical, photoelectric, or any other image recording device for the purpose of malicious intent is prohibited.

District Website beebeschools.org

The Beebe School District shall maintain a web page to provide information about its schools, students, and activities to the community. This policy is adopted to promote continuity between the different pages on the district web site by establishing guidelines for their construction and operation.

The Beebe School District web site shall be used for educational purposes only. It shall not create either a public or a limited public forum. Any link from any page on the District's site may only be to another educational site.¹ The web site shall not use "cookies" to collect or retain identifying information about visitors to its web site nor shall any such information be given to "third parties." Any data collected shall be used solely for the purpose of monitoring site activity to help the district improve the usefulness of the site to its visitors.²

Each school's web page and the District's web site shall be under the supervision of the District's Web Master. He/She shall have the responsibility for ensuring that web pages meet appropriate levels of academic standards and are in compliance with these guidelines and any additional administrative regulations. To this end the District and School Web Master shall have the authority to review and edit any proposed changes to web pages to ensure their compliance with this policy. All such editing shall be viewpoint neutral.

Cross References: 3.26—LICENSED PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT
4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

5.3—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

8.20—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Legal References:

A.C.A. § 6-11-129

A.C.A. § 6-15-1402

A.C.A. § 6-15-2006

A.C.A. § 6-15-2101

A.C.A. § 6-15-2914

A.C.A. § 6-17-429

A.C.A. § 6-17-2403

A.C.A. § 6-17-1901

A.C.A. § 6-18-702

A.C.A. § 6-18-2001 et seq.

A.C.A. § 6-41-606

A.C.A. § 6-41-611

DESE Rules Governing How to Meet the Needs of Children With Dyslexia

DESE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act

DESE Rules Governing Act 1240 Waivers

DESE Rules Governing Documents Posted to School District and Education Service Cooperative Websites

Standards for Accreditation 12.02.1, 1-B.2, 2-B.1, 2-H.2, 3-A.1, 3-A.2, 3-A.9, 3-B.1, 3-B.2.1, 5-A.1

20 U.S.C. § 1232 g

15 U.S.C. § 6501 (COPPA)

34 C.F.R. § 106.8

34 C.F.R. § 106.45

Date Adopted: 08-14-2006

Last Revised: 07-18-2011, 6-8-2015, 6-19-2017, 6-28-2018, 6-17-2019, 7-20-2020, 6-17-2021

Health Services

A safe and healthy school environment positively impacts the physical and mental health of students. While the primary responsibility for the provision of ongoing health care remains with the parents/guardians, the family physician and other health professionals, the District will provide

supportive health services and a coordinated health service program. School nurses have the primary responsibility for the delivery of the school health program. This includes educating students on health issues, working with staff and students to ensure a safe and healthy school environment and providing direct health care.

The school nurse will maintain student health records. Health records are confidential and written parent/guardian permission will be obtained before information is released. In connection with an emergency, personal identifiable information from a student's health record may be disclosed to appropriate parties to protect the health and safety of the student or other individuals.

It is important that working parents provide the school with **current telephone numbers** of their place of employment in case their child becomes ill at school. If a parent cannot be reached and the child needs medical attention, the school will first contact the person listed on the student registration form as the person to contact in case of emergency. Parents or guardians choosing to opt out of Medicaid billing for hearing and vision testing, may contact their building principal.

A School Based Health Center is located onsite and is available to all students for medical services through ARCare. For additional information, please contact the building nurse for assistance and paperwork.

Student Illness/Accident

If a student becomes too ill to remain in class and/or could be contagious to other students, the nurse 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. Students who have recovered from a communicable disease should have a doctor's certificate when they return to 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 (4.36).

Student Insurance

Student accident insurance forms may be obtained from the first period teacher. The cost of the insurance varies with the plan selected. This insurance covers students while at school, on school bus trips, and coming to and from school. Around the clock coverage is also available.

The school policy is only secondary insurance. It picks up, subject to limitations, where the primary policies end. The Beebe Public School District does not have insurance to cover accidents at school. Parents are responsible for covering these costs for their children.

Immunizations

The state law requires that no child shall be admitted to a public school or private school in this state that has not been immunized for the listed childhood diseases as evidenced by a certificate by a licensed physician or public health department acknowledging the same.

- Poliomyelitis (polio) – 3 doses (the last one must be given after the 4th birthday)
- DTP – diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough)– 3 doses (the last one must be given after the 4th birthday)
- MMR – rubella (red measles), rubella (German measles), mumps – 2 doses (after the 1st birthday)
- Hepatitis A -- 2 doses
- Hepatitis B – 3 doses
- Chicken Pox vaccine or a disease history

Personal Illness

In order to provide students with a healthy environment in which to learn, these guidelines should be followed:

1. If a child complains before school, take his/her temperature and keep the child home if the temperature exceeds 100 degrees, without medication.
2. If a child complains with stomach disorders such as nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, he/she should not be sent to school. Stomach viruses are contagious.
3. If a child has a rash of unknown origin or has a suspected condition (such as chicken pox), which may be contagious, do not send him/her to school until a physician has diagnosed the condition.
4. If a student is sent home from school with fever, he/she should not return to school the next day. **A child should be fever free for twenty-four (24) hours without medication before returning to school.**

Many times children become ill at school, and it is necessary for the school to notify the parents. The following criteria will be used as a guide before notifying parents:

1. Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher;
2. Vomiting and/or diarrhea;
3. Symptoms of contagious conjunctivitis/pink eyes (students may return to school after being on medication for 24 hours);
4. Symptoms of a contagious disease;
5. Serious injuries (deemed such by the teacher, principal or school nurse);
6. Symptoms of head lice; or
7. Symptoms that the teacher, principal or school nurse deems as a possible health risk to the student and/or to the other students in this school.

Administration of Medication

Prior to the administration of any medication, including any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US food and Drug Administration, 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. All signed medication consent forms are to be maintained by the school nurse.

Unless authorized to self-administer or otherwise authorized by this policy, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter (OTC) medications or any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student's medication to the school nurse. The

student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity of the medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify, in the presence of the student the quantity of the medication(s). Each person present shall sign a form verifying the quantity of the medication(s).

Medications, including those for self-medication, 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 dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings. Schedule II medications that are permitted by this policy to be brought to school shall be stored in a double locked cabinet.

Students with an individualized health plan (IHP) may be given over-the-counter medications to the extent giving such medications are included in the student's IHP.

The district's supervising registered nurse is responsible for creating procedures for the administration of medications on and off campus.

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medications 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 disposed of by the school nurse in accordance with current law and rules.¹

"First dose of a new medication must be given at home and student remain with guardian for monitoring. If no adverse reaction is experienced, student may attend school the following day and medication may be administered by school nurse if needed."

Schedule II Medications²

The only Schedule II medications that shall be allowed to be brought to the school are methylphenidate (e.g. Ritalin or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), and amphetamine sulfate (e.g. Adderall or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse).¹

For the student's safety, no student will be allowed to attend school if the student is currently taking any other Schedule II medication than permitted by this policy. Students who are taking Schedule II medications which are not allowed to be brought to school shall be eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP or 504 plans.⁴

Self-Administration of Medication

Students who have written permission from their parent or guardian and a licensed health care practitioner on file with the District may:

- 1) Self-administer either a rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine;
- 2) Perform his/her own blood glucose checks;
- 3) Administer insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
- 4) Treat the student's own hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia; or
- 5) Possess on his or her person:
 - a) A rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine; or
 - b) the necessary supplies and equipment to perform his/her own diabetes monitoring and treatment functions.

A student may be authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication to treat the student's adrenal insufficiency with:

1. The written authorization of the student's parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis; and
2. A written order from the student's treating physician stating that the student:
 - a. Is capable of completing the proper method of self-administration of the stress dose medication; and
 - b. Has been instructed on the details of the student's medical condition and the events that may lead to an adrenal crisis.

The parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who is authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication shall sign an IHP developed by the school nurse for the school where the student is enrolled. The IHP shall include a requirement for the notification of appropriate staff following the self-administration of a stress dose medication, which shall include the school nurse, teacher of the classroom where the stress dose medication was administered, and a school administrator.

Students who have a current consent form on file shall be allowed to carry and self-administer such medication while:

- In school;
- At an on-site school sponsored activity;
- While traveling to or from school; or
- At an off-site school sponsored activity.

A student is prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any way diverting his/her medications to any other person. The fact that a student with a completed consent form on file is allowed to carry a rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, diabetes medication, stress dose medication, , or combination does not require the student to have such on the student's person. The parent or guardian of a student who qualifies under this policy to self-carry a rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, diabetes medication, stress dose medication, or any combination on the student's person shall provide the school with the appropriate medication, which shall be immediately available to the student in an emergency.

Students may possess and use a topical sunscreen that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for OTC use to avoid overexposure to the sun without written authorization from a parent, legal guardian, or healthcare professional while the student is on school property or at a school-related event or activity. The parent or guardian of a student may provide written documentation authorizing specifically named District employee(s), in addition to the school nurse, to assist a student in the application of sunscreen. The District employee(s) named in the parent or legal guardian's written authorization shall not be required to assist the student in the application of sunscreen.

Emergency Administration of Glucagon and Insulin

Students may be administered Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations by the school nurse or, in the absence of the school nurse, a trained volunteer school employee designated as a care provider, provided the student has:

1. an IHP that provides for the administration of Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations;
and
2. a current, valid consent form on file from their parent or guardian.

When the nurse is unavailable, the trained volunteer school employee who is responsible for a student shall be released from other duties during:

- A. The time scheduled for a dose of insulin in the student's IHP; and
- B. Glucagon or non-scheduled insulin administration once other staff have relieved him/her from other duties until a parent, guardian, other responsible adult, or medical personnel has arrived.

A student shall have access to a private area to perform diabetes monitoring and treatment functions as outlined in the student's IHP.

Emergency Administration of Epinephrine

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained⁶ and certified by a licensed physician may administer an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee(s) certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine to administer auto-injector epinephrine to the student when the employee believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

Students with an order from and a licensed health care provider to self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine and who have written permission from their parent or guardian shall provide the school nurse an epinephrine auto-injector. This epinephrine will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction and the student is either not self-carrying his/her /epinephrine auto-injector or the nurse is unable to locate it.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep epinephrine auto-injectors on hand that are suitable for the students the school serves. The school nurse or other school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained¹ and certified by a licensed physician may administer auto-injector epinephrine to those students who the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

Emergency Administration of Albuterol

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained⁶ and certified by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may administer albuterol in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of albuterol in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee(s) certified to administer albuterol to administer albuterol to the student when the employee believes the student is in perceived respiratory distress.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep albuterol on hand. The school nurse or other school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained⁶ and certified by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may administer albuterol to those students who the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer albuterol, in good faith professionally believes is in perceived respiratory distress.

Emergency Administration of Anti-opioid

The school nurse for each District school shall keep anti-opioid injectors on hand and the school nurse and school resource officer shall possess an anti-opioid at all times when on duty. The school nurse, other school employee, volunteer, or student may administer anti-opioid in accordance with the District's procedures to a student who the school nurse, or other observer, in good faith believes is having an opioid overdose.

An opioid overdose rescue kit shall be placed within all storage locations in the District high school buildings that currently contain an automated external defibrillator for public use. The opioid overdose rescue kits shall be located where it is readily available to the public, be visually free of advertisement, and contain an anti-opioid.

Emergency Administration of Emergency Adrenal Insufficiency Medication

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained⁶ and certified by a licensed physician may administer an injectable emergency dose medication in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of an injectable emergency dose medication in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse

authorizing the nurse or other school employee(s) certified to administer an injectable emergency dose medication to administer an injectable emergency dose medication to the student when the employee believes the student is having an adrenal crisis due to adrenal insufficiency.

Students who have met the requirements to be authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication under this policy shall provide the school nurse an emergency injectable dose of the student's medication. This emergency injectable dose will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer an injectable emergency dose medication, in good faith professionally believes the student is having an adrenal crisis due to adrenal insufficiency.

Seizure Disorder Medications

Students who have been diagnosed with a seizure disorder shall have a seizure action plan that shall be a written IHP designed to acknowledge and prepare for the healthcare needs of the student. The student's seizure action plan shall be created in collaboration between District staff and the student's Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis or the student if over eighteen (18). As part of the creation of the student's seizure action plan, the student's Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis shall:

1. Provide the school with written authorization to administer the seizure medication at school;
2. Provide a written statement from the student's healthcare provider that shall contain the following information:
 - The student's name;
 - The name and purpose of the medication;
 - The prescribed dosage;
 - The route of administration;
 - The frequency that the medication should be administered; and
 - The circumstances under which the medication should be administered;
1. Provide the prescribed medication to the school in its unopened, sealed package with the label affixed by the dispensing pharmacy intact, which shall be stored in a safe and secure location accessible only by District personnel or volunteers with training to administer seizure medication.

The written authorization, written statement, and seizure action plan shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse or school administrator and distributed to any school personnel or volunteers responsible for the supervision or care of the student.

Notes: A.C.A. § 17-87-103 (11), as amended by Act 1232 833 of 2013 2015, provides for the administration of Glucagon, insulin, or both to students suffering from diabetes.

Districts are not under any obligation to "recruit" volunteers and 4.06 of the Rules explicitly states that no employee shall be pressured into volunteering.

¹ The time frame in this paragraph is not statutorily mandated and may be changed to better suit your district and the employment contract of the school nurse. Any changes you make, however, need to address the need for students to have their medications through the last day of school and the reality of parent's work schedules.

²This policy offers two different options regarding permissibility of students attending and participating in classes while taking Schedule II medications. Be sure only one option is included in the adopted policy and delete the heading "Option One" or "Option Two" language after your selection along with the language for the unchosen option in the final version. Be sure to consult with your school nurse when selecting an option.

³ Here is a helpful, but not all-inclusive, list of prohibited Schedule II medications:
Opium, morphine, codeine, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), methadone, meperidine (Demerol), cocaine, oxycodone (Percodan), amobarbital, pentobarbital, sufentanil, etorphine hydrochloride, phenylactone, dronabinol, secobarbital, and fentanyl.

⁴ A student who has surgery or is in an accident resulting in the student may be taking a Schedule II medication outside of those a student may take and be permitted to attend classes under Option 1 or may have been told by his/her doctor to not attend class during the time the student is taking the Schedule II medication. In such cases, a 504 plan can be developed to cover the duration of the student's recovery, which could include homebound instruction.

⁵ The specific authorization should be provided on the doctor's letterhead along with the completed Medication Administration Consent Form (4.35F) .

⁶ The certification may be received through training that is provided by a nationally recognized organization experienced in training laypersons in emergency health treatment or other persons approved by the Department of Health. Examples of National programs are those provided by the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross.

Legal References: Ark. State Board of Nursing: School Nurse Roles and Responsibilities
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules
Governing the Administration of Insulin, and Glucagon, and Medication for Adrenal Insufficiency or
Adrenal Crisis to Arkansas Public School Students with Diabetes

A.C.A. § 6-18-701

A.C.A. § 6-18-707

A.C.A. § 6-18-711

A.C.A. § 6-18-714

A.C.A. § 6-18-717

A.C.A. § 6-18-720

A.C.A. § 6-18-721

A.C.A. § 17-87-103 (11) and (14)

A.C.A. § 20-13-405

Date Adopted: 6-11-2012

Last Revised: 2-18-2019, 6-17-2019, 6-20-2022

Stock Medications:

The following medications are kept in the school nurse's office: **Acetaminophen (Tylenol), Ibuprofen, cough drops, sore throat spray, antibiotic ointment, antacids (Tums),**

diphenhydramine (Benadryl), and Benadryl cream, and hydrocortisone cream. These medications will only be administered at the discretion of the school nurse. Tylenol and Ibuprofen may be given according to the following guidelines:

- Health care provider's order Tylenol and/or Ibuprofen will not be administered before 10:00 am or after 2:00 pm.

A Student Medication Administration Release form is located in the front of this handbook. The form should be completed, signed, and returned to your child's school nurse in order for your child to receive any stock medications supplied by the school nurse.

Physical Examinations or Screenings Performed by the School Nurse

The district conducts routine health screenings such as hearing, vision, BMI and scoliosis due to the importance these health factors play in the ability of a student to succeed in school. The intent of the exams or screenings is to detect defects in hearing, vision, or other elements of health that would adversely affect the student's ability to achieve his/her full potential.

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

Except in instances where a student is suspected of having a contagious or infectious disease, parents shall have the right to opt their student out of the exams or screenings by using form 4.41F which may be obtained from the nurse's office or by providing certification from a physician that he/she has recently examined the student.

The school nurse performs screenings every year on students **as required by Arkansas State Law.**

- A vision and hearing screening is performed on all. Pre-K, K, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and all transfer students.
- A Body Mass Index (BMI) screening is performed on all students in kindergarten, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, and 10th grades.

If a parent would like to opt out of any of the mandated screenings a form may be picked up and must be filled out, signed and returned to the nurse prior to the time screenings-take place.

The screenings will be billed to Medicaid at no charge to the parents or guardians.

Health Concerns

Students who return to school after an illness may be allowed to remain in the building during recess for no more than two days. **If extended time is needed, parents must send a doctor's excuse to indicate the amount of time to miss recess or physical activity.** Please make sure your child is ready to return to school after an illness so he/she may participate in all daily activities.

School Lunch Substitutions/Food Allergies

The district only provides substitute meal components on menus to accommodate students with handicapping conditions meeting the definition of a disability as defined in USDA regulations. A parent/guardian wishing to request such a dietary accommodation must submit to the district's Director of Child Nutrition¹ a Certification of Disability for Special Dietary Needs Form completed by a:

- Physicians, including those licensed by:
 - The Arkansas State Medical Board;
 - The Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Chiropractors);

- The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine (Podiatrists);
- Nurse Practitioners (APRNs in family or pediatric practice with prescriptive authority);
- Physician Assistants (PAs who work in collaborative practice with a physician); and
- Dentists.

The district will not prepare meals outside the normal menu to accommodate a family's religious or personal health beliefs.

If your child has food allergies that affect what he/she eats in the cafeteria, please have your child's doctor complete the "Allergy Action Plan." This form is available from the school nurse.

Infectious/Communicable Diseases Policy

The Beebe Public School District will work cooperatively with the Arkansas Department of Education and other public agencies to enforce and adhere to Arkansas Public Health Policies for the prevention, control, and containment of infectious/communicable diseases in school.

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell or unfit for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up by their parents. Specific examples include, but are not limited to: Varicella (chicken pox), measles, scabies, head lice, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo, Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis B or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 degrees). A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the discretion of the school nurse, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

A. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

- The evidence is overwhelming that the risk of transmitting HIV is extremely low in school settings. The presence of people living with HIV or diagnosed with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) poses no significant risks to others in school, day care, or school athletic settings.
- When the Beebe School District has a student with HIV enrolled, the following procedures will be followed:
 1. The school superintendent will notify the director of the Arkansas Department of Education before any action is taken by the local school district.
 2. The director of the Arkansas Department of Education will notify the chair of the Arkansas AIDS Advisory Board. The director will give all pertinent information to the chair.
 3. The chair of the AIDS Advisory Board will convene the board, which consists of members from the Arkansas Department of Education, the Arkansas Department of Health, and medical representatives.
 4. Irrespective of disease presence, routine procedures shall be posed and used. Adequate sanitation facilities and supplies will be available for handling blood and body fluids within the school setting and all school buses. All school personnel will be trained in the proper procedures for handling blood and body fluids.
 5. The district protects the privacy rights of learners of all ages. Knowledge that a student has a communicable disease but does not pose a risk to other

students or the educational staff in the school setting (such as being infected with the AIDS virus) will be confined to those persons with a direct need to know (e.g. principal, school nurse, primary teacher).

B. Immunizations

- The District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunizations in the student's education record as defined in policy 4.13. This policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.
- A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated. The student may not return to school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

Refer to student personal policy 4.57 in regard to immunization requirements.

Arkansas State Board of Health states a child shall be age appropriately immunized or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health. State law requires no child shall be admitted to a public or private school of this state who has not been immunized against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, red (rubeola) measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis B, hepatitis A, meningococcal disease, and varicella (chickenpox) (See requirements - Arkansas State Board of Health - Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Immunization Requirements), as evidenced by an immunization record from a licensed physician or a public health department acknowledging the immunization. The District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records.

C. Head Lice

The following procedures will be used with students to address head lice:

- Screening for lice may occur when a student shows signs of itching and scratching, when a student has had exposure to a sibling or another child with head lice, or when parents or their child make a self-referral.
- Three (3) non-related cases of head lice in a classroom within ten (10) consecutive days will require all students in the classroom be screened by the following school day.
- The parent or guardian of a student found with head lice will be asked to pick up their child. The parent or guardian will be given information concerning the eradication and control of head lice. **A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined the student no longer has live head lice.**
- Parents who identify head lice on their child at home are to complete treatment prior to coming to school. Parents should notify the school of their child's condition so that appropriate action can be taken at school.
- The day of initial treatment for head lice will be an excused absence. After the first day, other absences will be covered under the regular attendance policy. **Parents whose child accumulates excessive absences for head lice may be reported to the White County truancy officer or DHS.**
- Each school may conduct screenings of students for head lice as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

Wellness Policy

The health and physical well-being of 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 of Directors 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 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), but with the community and its residents, organizations and agencies. Therefore, the District shall enlist the support of the larger community to find solutions that improve the health and physical activity of our students.

Building Guidance Counselors

The counselor is available to assist students in developing their social, emotional, physical, and academic skills so that they may reach their full potential.

Students are encouraged to visit with the counselor if they have any questions or need any assistance with problems. The counselor assists all students in educational planning by discussing test scores, giving interest inventories, etc. Parents are welcome to visit with the counselor to see their child's test scores, discuss educational plans, or to discuss other problems that their child might be experiencing. The faculty and staff at your child's school wants to provide each student with the support to make every day a good day for learning. There are days that students face challenges that affect them mentally, emotionally and socially, which can interfere with their school work. The Beebe School District is fortunate to be staffed with guidance counselors who are prepared to assist students when support is needed in one of these areas. In addition to our school counselors, mental health agencies sometimes provide counselors for students during the school day. These counselors work with the building administrators and counselors to assist students in addressing behaviors that interfere with learning.

You are always welcome to contact your child's building counselor at any time during the school day. Parent involvement is a key ingredient for student success, and we appreciate your efforts in making your child's days at Beebe Schools a positive experience. You may call us at 882-5463 and wait for the prompt to be directed to the extension for the person you are trying to contact.

BEEBE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

The superintendent and administrative staff shall annually review various student assessment data to evaluate the progress the District is making toward attaining goals and objectives identified in this

plan. They shall make and submit a report to the Board of their findings, along with the proposal for addressing problem areas. The report shall also be part of the District's annual report to the public and will include an evaluation of student achievement data for students participating in programs funded with specific categorical funding.

The plan shall be reviewed annually and altered to reflect changes in State standards, as well as changes within the District, such as; attendance, growth, or discipline; funding; or school climate or alignment considerations.

Beebe School District 2023-2024 School Calendar

Tuesday	August 8	First Day for Faculty/Staff - Policies and Procedures (8:30-3:30)
Wednesday	August 9	Faculty/Staff Professional Development (8:30-3:30)
Thursday	August 10	Faculty/Staff (12:00-7:00) ; Open House (1:30-7:00)
Monday	August 14	First Day of School
Monday	September 4	No School - Labor Day
Friday	October 13	<u>End of First Quarter - 44 Days</u>
Thursday	October 19	P/T Conferences - Grades PreK-12 (4:00 - 8:00; PreK: 3:00 - 7:00)
Friday	October 20	No School - Possible Weather Make Up Day
Monday	October 23	No School - Possible Weather Make Up Day
Mon. - Fri.	November 20-24	No School - Fall Break
Tuesday	December 19	<u>End of Second Quarter - 40 Days</u>
Wed. - Tues.	Dec 20 - Jan 2	No School - Winter Break
Wednesday	January 3	First Day of 2nd Semester
Monday	January 15	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Possible Weather Make Up Day)
Thursday	February 15	P/T Conferences - Grades PreK-12 (4:00 - 8:00; PreK: 3:00 - 7:00)
Friday	February 16	No School - Possible Weather Make Up Day
Monday	February 19	No School - Presidents Day (Possible Weather Make Up Day)
Friday	March 8	<u>End of Third Quarter - 45 Days</u>
Mon. - Fri.	March 18-22	No School - Spring Break
Friday	April 19	No School - Possible Weather Make Up Day
Friday	May 24	<u>End of Fourth Quarter - 49 Days (Last Day of School)</u>

190 Day Teacher Contract

Student/Teacher Instruction	178 Days
Professional Development	7 Days
Parent / Teacher Conference	2 Days
Teacher Work Days.....	2 Days
Open House	1 Day

Total Contract Days190 Days

Professional Development Requirements – Total of 42 Hours (PreK – 12th Grade Teachers)

Four Teacher PD Days Prior to August 8, 2023.....	24 Hours
One Teacher PD Day August 9, 2023.....	6 Hours
Two Days Teacher Job Embedded District PD (August 21, 2023-May 10, 2024).....	12 Hours
Total Professional Development Hours.....	42 Hours