

# **Gallatin County Junior High Student Handbook 2021-2022**

## **GRADES 5th-8th**

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### ***\_ MISSION STATEMENT***

Gallatin County Unit District #7 is committed to providing an environment, which fosters those elements necessary to maximize the potential of all our children. The focus is the acquisition of the essential skills needed to function in a society that will require our students to compete academically, to interact successfully on an interpersonal level and to remain self-directed, problem solving, lifelong learners who will positively impact their world.

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#### **Students and Parents:**

Welcome to another school year! We trust that you have had a great summer and are ready for a good year. This handbook has been put together in an effort to help our students and parents have a better understanding of what to expect, and what is expected of students of Gallatin County Junior High and High School.

We are happy to provide several ways to stay connected with school and district information. There is a Gallatin County School app for smartphone users. It can be found in your App Store/Google Play Store. Our school website is a valuable resource. The web site address is [www.gallatincusd7.com](http://www.gallatincusd7.com). You may visit the site throughout the year for current school and district information. TeacherEase is our new online portal system, where you can register your student, view their schedules, daily grades, along with pay any fees and you will find a link to it on our website. You can keep up with daily announcements and current school happenings by following our school Facebook page. As always, you can call the office for any information.

We have to consider federal, state, local and board law (policies) when putting a handbook of this type together. We have also sought the input of current students, former students, directors, teachers, administrators, support staff, state legal representatives, and concerned patrons in the process of assembling this material. If you have any questions, please contact us at school. Thank you.

Chris Fromm  
Junior High Principal

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## **DISCLAIMER**

Gallatin County Schools are not responsible for any lost or stolen items while they are at school. Anything of value brought to school by a student should be kept with the student or securely locked in their locker. If an item does not belong at school and the student decides to carry it with them instead of securing it in their locker, they do so at the risk of having the item confiscated.

## **PHILOSOPHY**

The Board of Education and the school staff recognize that instruction is the most important single activity of the school. The primary function of all other departments of the school is to support the instructional program and to maintain a quality program of education for the school system.

It is the desire of the board and the administration that the school have highly qualified personnel for all positions at our school. Employees are expected to devote themselves to the education and welfare of the students, to fulfill their job descriptions to the best of their abilities, and to implement within the scope of their positions, the district policies.

The Board of Education and the school staff accept the responsibility for generating and understanding of American freedom and for the preservation of these freedoms through the development of informed and responsible citizens.

Each teacher in the Gallatin County School should strive to maintain a classroom in which pupils are comfortable, and in which each student is learning.

We believe that the most important teaching starts in the home and at a very early age. The home and school must work together to provide the very best possible for the student as he/she grows. Students usually feel that education, work ethic, responsibility, respect, following rules and guidelines, and being sensitive to the needs of others are important if their parents do. Each student is regarded as being a unique individual and is important to the staff at Gallatin County Schools.

Educators as well as students should be made aware of and be respectful to each individual in his or her daily life and develop a sincere appreciation for the different ethnic, economic, religious and social backgrounds of groups and nations.

The dignity of individuals should be protected with proper consideration for their personal feelings, which may be associated with race, color, creed, and intellectual characteristics. The recognition by the pupil and the teacher of their responsibilities to each other in this connection might well establish a mutual respect, which should stimulate a sound basis for developing high morale and for carrying out school procedures.

Education cannot proceed effectively without good, consistent discipline. Good discipline is best thought of as being positive, not negative, of helping a student to adjust, rather than punishment. Discipline is training to act in accordance with rules to obtain certain goals.

Gallatin County Unit #7 feels it is the responsibility of the school to help the student maintain and further develop his or her self-discipline so that the exercise of individual rights does not infringe upon the rights of others.

To enjoy the benefits of school citizenship, rules and guidelines for student behavior in Gallatin County Schools have been established and adopted to insure standards of conduct which will promote knowledge and learning as mandated by the Gallatin County Unit #7 School Board and the Illinois School Code.

We take pride in the fact that our policies were developed and have been modified periodically by committees of parents, community, and staff members. It continues to be our goal for students to develop "self discipline so that the exercise of individual rights does not infringe upon the rights of others". It is expected that the staff will apply the discipline policies evenhandedly and that they will modify the application of discipline (including handicapped students) in accordance with federal and state laws as well as current court decisions.

## **JUNIOR HIGH FACULTY**

Chris Fromm Principal

Lane Wenzel Secretary

Amanda Austin Math/Technology  
Ben Austin, Band & Choir  
Michelle Bosaw 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Language  
Sheyann Broadway 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math  
Kelly Brockett 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade Special Education  
Kelly Crider 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies  
Mariah Dennison Athletic Director  
Kelly Doyle 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading, Enrichment  
Amanda Drone 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Enrichment, 8th Grade Language  
Kaitlyn Etienne, Nurse  
Jeff Herrmann 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math  
Danielle Lowery 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science  
Matt Martin 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies  
Zach McGuire Physical Education  
Becky Newton 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language & 8th Grade Math  
Jackie Ramsey, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading, Enrichment  
Karen Wargel 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading  
Whitney Westbrook, Assistant Nurse  
Courtney Wood 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Special Education  
Andrea Woods 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

August 11 Teachers Workshop (No School)  
August 12 Teachers Workshop (No School)  
August 13 Half Day In-Service (11:15 a.m. dismissal)  
August 16 First full day of student attendance  
August 27 Half Day In-Service (11:15 a.m. dismissal)  
September 6 Labor Day (No School)  
September 17 Half Day In-Service (11:15 a.m. dismissal)  
October 8 Full Day School Improvement Program (No School)  
October 11 Columbus Day (No School)  
October 15 Half Day In-Service (11:15 a.m. dismissal)  
November 11 Veterans Day (No School)  
November 19 Half Day School Improvement Program (11:15 a.m. Dismissal)  
November 24 Full Day Parent-Teacher Conference (No School)  
November 25-26 Thanksgiving Break (No School)  
December 10 Half Day In-Service (11:15 a.m. dismissal)  
December 20-January 2 Christmas Break (No School)  
January 14 Half Day In-Service (11:15 a.m. dismissal)  
January 17 Martin Luther King's Birthday (No School)  
February 4 Half Day In-Service (11:15 a.m. dismissal)  
February 18 Full Day Parent-Teacher Conference (No School)  
February 21 President's Day (No School)  
March 25 Half Day School Improvement Program (11:15 a.m. Dismissal)  
March 28-April 1st Spring Break  
April 15 Good Friday- No School  
May 6 Half Day School Improvement Program (11:15 a.m. Dismissal)  
May 19 Teacher Institute (if no emergency days are used) (No School)  
May 20 Half Day School Improvement Program (11:15 a.m. Dismissal) & Last Day of School (if no emergency days are used)

\*\* Junior High Graduation to be announced at a later date.

1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks ends Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> - Report cards Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks ends Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> - Report cards Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>.

3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks ends Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> - Report cards Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>.

4<sup>th</sup> 9 weeks ending date will be announced later. Report cards will be distributed on the last day of school

## **COVID-19**

Per the Governor's orders, during the COVID-19 pandemic, all students are required to wear face coverings during the school day. A lack of cooperation could result in disciplinary action.

## **EARLY DROP OFF FOR WORKING PARENTS**

Students may arrive at school before the start of the school day. Early arrival drop off begins at 7:30 a.m. Parents are to drop off their child at the Junior-Senior High entrance at the front of the building. School Personnel will supervise early arrival students. Do not leave students before 7:30 a.m. as the doors will be locked.

## **ALCOHOL ABUSE**

The consumption, possession, or distribution of alcoholic beverages is not permitted on school buses, in school buildings, or on all other school property. This policy extends to all school sponsored and related activities. Students shall not be permitted to attend school when they are under the influence of alcohol. Students who are under such influence shall be treated in the same manner as though they had alcohol in their possession. If a student is found to be under the influence of, using, possessing, or distributing alcoholic beverages in violation of this policy, the student may be suspended and/or expelled according to the District's discipline policy.

## **ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

All athletic rules and regulations are outlined in the athletic handbook.

## **ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION FEE**

Students will be charged a \$52 (max of \$104 per family) athletic/activity participation fee for sports & Scholar Bowl participation. The fee revenue will help fund the school's activity programs.

- The participation fee will be levied only when team rosters have been set after tryouts.
- The participation fee is charged per student/athlete, per year.
- The participation fee does not guarantee playing time.
- The participation fee does not guarantee a full complement of contests.
- Families with two or more siblings participating in the district sports will be charged \$52 per participant, up to a family limit of \$104 per school year.
- Refunds of participation fees will not be given if a student/athlete quits a team, is removed from a team, withdraws from the school, or is injured during a practice and/or contest and cannot play. Refunds in other circumstances beyond district control will be decided on a case-by-case basis.
- *Exception: A student athlete who pays the participation fee in a sport that is cancelled prior to the first contest will receive a refund.*

Outlining the waiver criteria:

- Students who have been approved for free/reduced price meals are eligible to receive a waiver of participation fees. Other extenuating circumstances may also apply.

Waiver process:

- Parents will need to complete the application for waiver of athletic/activity participation fee and return it to the school principal.
- A separate application for waiver must be filled out for each student/athlete for whom a waiver is requested.

## **CONSUMABLE/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL FEE**

A consumable/instructional material fee of \$37 per student (max of \$74 per family). Students who qualify for

free/reduced lunches may have this fee waived. The waiver must be signed by a parent or guardian and on file in the office within ten (10) days of the first semester. Individuals who are issued books must pay for books that are lost, stolen or damaged; therefore, every student should care for his/her books. When available, students will be given a used book price for the replacement of their lost or damaged book.

### **FINES, FEES, & CHARGES; WAIVER OF STUDENT FEES**

The school establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Some students may be unable to pay these fees. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parent or guardian is unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver does not exempt a student from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and/or equipment.

Applications for fee waivers may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. As student is eligible for a fee waiver if at least one of the following prerequisites is met:

1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the free lunch or breakfast eligibility guidelines established by the federal government pursuant to the National School Lunch Act; or
2. The student or the student's family is currently receiving aid under Article IV of the Illinois Public Aid Code (Aid to Families of Dependent Children).

The building administration will give additional consideration where one or more of the following factors are present:

- An illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Unemployment;
- Emergency situations; or
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

The building principal will notify the parent/guardian promptly as to whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied. Questions regarding the fee waiver application process should be addressed to the building principal.

#### **Waiver for School Fees:**

**A child who is "directly certified "or "categorically eligible" (i.e., is homeless, migrant or runaway) would automatically receive school fee waivers subject to the federal verification limitations. Proof of income will determine school fee waiver eligibility. A School Fee Waiver Application is included in the appendix of this handbook. The School Fee Waiver Application must include a copy of verified proof of yearly family income and be submitted to the child's office secretary by Friday, August 27, 2021.**

### **BULLYING**

No student should be subject in school to bullying, aggression and violence. Accordingly, aggressive student behavior including student bullying in all forms is prohibited.

When an incident of bullying is reported, the following steps will be taken by school personnel in order to understand and rectify the disruptive aggressive behavior:

1. A prompt, thorough investigation of the alleged bullying incident
2. Provide appropriate consequences and remedial action to aggressor
3. Protect the victim against retaliation for reporting the incident.

Aggressive behavior is defined as assertive words and/or actions intended to threaten, injure, harass, provoke or incite another person, or as hostile words and/or actions toward the property of another. Bullying is defined as student behavior which hurts, frightens, threatens, or tyrannizes students who are either physically or psychologically smaller or weaker than the person engaging in bullying. Examples of bullying may include, but are

not limited to:

Physical Bullying: may include punching, shoving, poking, hair-pulling, or other similar behaviors.

Verbal Bullying: may include name calling, teasing, gossip, humiliation, intimidation, or other similar behaviors.

The administration is directed to provide District school and parents education materials designed to assist in preventing bullying and to minimize the risk of being bullied. Students who engage in acts of bullying may be subject to discipline in accordance with the Board's general student behavior policy. Such discipline may include verbal or written reprimand, in-school suspension; change of placement and/or out of school suspension, expulsion, or involvement of local law enforcement at the administration's discretion.

Students who are victims of bullying may also be referred for counseling or other supportive services from school or community agencies. In addition, school personnel shall monitor and identify students who exhibit behaviors that indicate a tendency toward aggressive behavior, including bullying. Upon receipt of the referral, we shall monitor the student, review any non-school, community-based interventions for the student and consider necessary school based interventions including, but not limited to, referral for an evaluation to determine special education eligibility. If the student is currently a student with a disability, the student's IEP or Section 504 team may, when appropriate, assume the functions of the building's student support team.

\*State law (105 ILCS5/10-20.14) requires a school district to notify the parent or guardian of a child who uses aggressive behavior, including bullying, at school. Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act 9LEHCPA): An incident motivated by the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, or disability of the victim.

## **Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment**

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important district and school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is **prohibited** in each of the following situations:

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school district or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school.

*Bullying* includes cyber-bullying and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;

3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. Cyberbullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyberbullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the building principal, nondiscrimination coordinator, district complaint manager or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. All school staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the district complaint manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing.

#### **Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

**Mercedes Lands**

618-272-3821 ext 1305

[mlands@gallatincusd7.com](mailto:mlands@gallatincusd7.com)

### **CHEERLEADER ELECTION AND POLICIES**

Policies and procedures are available upon request.

### **CLASS PARTIES**

There will be no school sponsored parties during the school day. All parties connected with the school must be approved by the principal a week in advance of the event. No food or drink will be taken to a classroom during the school day unless approved by the principal.

### **CLASS TRIP – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

1. Sponsors and the principal will determine the place, time, and details of the trip.
2. Eligibility for the trip will be as follows:
  - A. **Students must pass ALL classes in the third and fourth quarters by mid-term of each quarter.** An average of the two quarters will not be accepted as passing. i.e. You may not have received an F grade at the end or mid-term of 3rd or 4th quarter
  - B. Students must pass ALL classes for the entire year. i.e. You may have received an F grade first or second quarter, but your average for the year must be passing.
  - C. Students must have passed the Illinois and the U.S. Constitution test if it has been given prior to the trip.



- D. Ten or more tardies = exclusion from trip.
- E. Third ACR full day assignment = automatic exclusion from trip.
- F. One Suspension = automatic exclusion from trip.
- G. 10% or more absences from school that includes all unexcused absences = automatic exclusion from trip.
- H. The principal makes the final decision on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip attendance.

### **5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th GRADE CLOCK/BELL SCHEDULE**

8:10-8:56 First Period

8:59-9:45 Second Period

9:48-10:34 Third Period

10:37-11:25 Fourth Period (Homeroom)

11:30-12:00 Lunch

12:05-12:49 Fifth Period

12:51-1:36 Sixth Period

1:38-2:13 Seventh Period

2:15-3:00 Eighth Period

\*Lunches may be staggered and Period times will adjusted to accommodate capacity restrictions due to COVID-19

### **CLOSED CAMPUS**

This means that after students arrive at school they are not to leave the campus unless permission is obtained from the principal. The campus is also closed to anyone except registered students in good standing, employees, and those parents and visitors who have specific and approved business at the school. All visitors are to report to the office immediately upon entering the campus. Anyone entering the campus who does not fit in one of the above categories may be considered a trespasser.

### **CLOSED LUNCH POLICY**

The Gallatin County School District has a closed lunch policy that prohibits students from leaving the building for lunch. Students who leave the building for lunch or who have not received permission to report to other areas of the building will be considered truant.

### **CONDITIONS WHICH FAVOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD SCHOOL DISCIPLINE**

A. An adequate home which:

1. Assumes the primary responsibility for the discipline of the child.
2. Is aware of the child's responsibilities and obligations in the school as well as in the community and establishes home conditions, which are favorable to his or her success in school.
3. Recognizes that school personnel must necessarily concern themselves primarily with group training and group behavior.
4. Cooperates with school authorities and participates in conferences regarding the behavior, health, and academic progress of the child.

B. A responsible student who:

1. Respects constituted authority, which includes not only obedience to school rules and regulations, but also conforms to the laws of the community, state, and nation.
2. Reflects respect and consideration for the personal and property rights of others and has an understanding of the need for cooperation with all members of the school community.

C. A responsible school in which the professional staff:

1. Encourages the use of good guidance procedures.
2. Maintains an atmosphere conducive to good behavior.
3. Exhibits an attitude of respect for students that has a positive influence in helping students develop good citizenship traits.
4. Plans a flexible curriculum to meet the needs of all students.
5. Promotes effective training or discipline based upon fair and impartial treatment of all students.
6. Develops a good rapport among the teaching staff, and between the administration and the teaching staff.

7. Endeavors to involve the entire community in order to improve the quality of life in that community.

## **DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION**

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important goals of the school district.

The school district maintains student and parent resources on suicide and depression awareness and prevention. Much of this information, including a copy of the school district's policy, is posted on the school district website. Information can also be obtained from the school social worker.

## **DISASTER DRILLS**

### ***SAFE ENVIRONMENT DRILL***

When the announcement is made over the intercom system that includes a code word(s), teachers are to lock their

classroom doors, turn out the lights, and make sure all students are away from any windows or doors. They are to stay in this position until the "**ALL CLEAR**" has been announced over the intercom system.

### ***EARTHQUAKE DRILL***

At teacher command students are to drop and cover. In the event of an earthquake or other such emergencies, sit under your desk until the all clear announcement has been made.

### ***FIRE DRILL***

WARNING SIGNAL: Siren Alarm

Elementary School Section: Jr. High School Section: Rooms 100-107 Use exit by elementary office Rooms

400-407 Use exit by Jr. High office 108-111 Use west elementary exit 408-419 Use east Jr. High Exit 201 Use west exit by art room

303-311 Use exit by Jr. High office Gym & Vocational Section: High School Section: Rooms 700 Use northeast exit by JH gym Rooms 500-507 Use exit by Jr. High gym 705 & 712 Use ag exit 508-519 Use east high school exit 708

& 710 Use auto exit 601-606 Use west exit by art room 714 & 716 Use west exit by drafting room 800 Use west gym exit 900 Use north gym exit Individual classes with their respective teacher should assemble outside the building for roll call.

### ***TORNADO DRILL***

WARNING SIGNAL: Pulsating Bell

ALL CLEAR SIGNAL: Announcement over the intercom

Rooms 100-119, 201, 300-322, 400-419, 501-519, & 601-604:

Stay in room and go to wall next to hallway

Rooms 606 (art) Go to Art storage room

600 (library) Go to high school hallway

700 (junior high gym) Go to dressing room

702 Stay in room

708-716 Go to north/south vocational hallway

800 (Multi-purpose) Go to storage room #804

900 (high school gym) Go to dressing room

NOTE: During a tornado drill or emergency, students are to sit on the floor with their faces to the wall. All fire doors should be closed. All windows and classroom doors should be closed.

## **DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Any employee, citizen or student who believes he has been discriminated against by any administrator, supervisor, or employee of the district may seek redress of the grievance as follows:

1. Whenever possible the aggrieved should attempt to resolve the matter through an informal conference with the administrator, supervisor, or employee charged with the discrimination.
2. If step 1 fails, the grievant should lodge an official, written complaint with the district coordinator of Section 504, ADA or IDEA. Following consultation with grievant (the individual accused of discrimination and/or other knowledgeable individuals) the District Coordinator will issue written findings regarding the matter. Such written findings shall be issued within 15 calendar days of the filing of the grievance.
3. Appeal of the step 2 finding may be made by the aggrieved or the individual accused of the discrimination. The written appeal must be filed with the District Superintendent within seven calendar days of the issuance of the step 2 findings. Following appropriate consultation the superintendent shall issue his written findings within 15 calendar days of his receipt of the appeal.
4. Appeal of the step 3 finding may be made by the aggrieved or the individual charged with the discrimination. The written appeal must be to the Board of Education through the Board President within seven calendar days of the issuance of the step 3 findings. The Board of Education shall conduct a hearing on the issue within 15

calendar days of the receipt of the written appeal. Findings shall be by a majority vote of members present at the hearing.

Nothing shall prevent either party or the Board of Education from being represented in step 1-4 by an attorney or other spokesperson. Furthermore, this grievance procedure shall not prevent a party from seeking redress in a court of law.

## **DISPENSING MEDICINE POLICY**

Only those medications which are necessary to maintain the child in school and must be given during school hours shall be administered.

Medication may be administered by school personnel if the following regulations are met: A.

The medication is to be given by the principal's designee and is to be kept in a secure place. B.

Written instructions (\*) signed by both parent and physician are required and shall include: 1.

Child's name

2. Name and purpose of medications

3. Time to administer and the dosage

4. Possible side effects

5. Termination date for administering medication

6. All permission for long-term medication shall be renewed at least annually by the licensed physician. .

Sample form is attached at the end of this handbook. Please see the school nurse to obtain this form. C. The medication must be brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. D. The parents of the child must assume responsibility for notifying the school of any change in medication and for providing the school with written instructions from the physician.

E. The school district retains the discretion to reject requests for the administration of medication. F. The advisory committee shall meet annually to review and/or revise the medication dispensing policy. (\*) These instructions are to be placed in the pupil's temporary file and a copy of the instructions is to be sent to the proper designee.

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child by completing a "School Medication Authorization Form."

No school or district employee is allowed to administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any

prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure.

#### Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector (e.g., EpiPen®) and/or an asthma inhaler or medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

Students who are diabetic may possess and self-administer diabetic testing supplies and insulin if authorized by the student's diabetes care plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students with epilepsy may possess and self-administer supplies, equipment and medication, if authorized by the student's seizure action plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students may self-administer (but not possess on their person) other medications required under a qualified plan, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

The school district shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication, including asthma medication or epinephrine injectors, or medication required under a qualifying plan. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine injector, asthma medication, and/or a medication required under a qualifying plan.

#### Undesignated Medications

The school wellness center may maintain the following undesignated prescription medications for emergency use: (1) Asthma medication; (2) Epinephrine injectors; (3) Opioid antagonists; and (4) Glucagon. No one, including without limitation, parents/guardians of students, should rely on the school or district for the availability of undesignated medication. This procedure does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these medication(s).

#### Emergency Aid to Students

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

### **DRUG ABUSE**

The Board of Education has adopted a Drug Abuse Policy. The illicit use, possession or distribution of drugs or look alike drugs and drug paraphernalia is not permitted on school buses, in school building, or on school grounds at any time. This policy extends to all school sponsored and related activities. Students shall not be permitted to attend school when they are under the influence of illicit drugs. For the purpose of this policy, students who are under such influence shall be treated in the same manner as though they had drugs in their possession. If a student is found to be illicitly using, possessing, or distributing drugs or look-alike drugs and drug paraphernalia, they may be suspended for a period of up to 10 days and/or expelled. In addition, parents and juvenile authorities shall be notified promptly. When a substance is suspected to be an illicit drug, the identity of the student shall be given to the proper authorities for prosecution.

### **DRUG TESTING POLICY**

Any student who participates in extracurricular activities sanctioned by the Illinois Junior High School Association will be subject to the drug testing policy.

## **ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**

When self-discipline fails, regulations for the management of school behavior, including those adopted by the Board, must be enforced by those directly responsible for the operation of the schools. School staff members will make every effort, individually, collectively, and cooperatively, with appropriate available community resources, to help each student gain acceptable self-discipline standards. The School Board of Unit #7 has this legal responsibility according to The Illinois School Code.

1. **SCHOOL DETENTION:** Students may be detained before school, during lunch, or after school as a disciplinary measure. This includes students transported by school bus. A reasonable attempt shall be made to contact the parent or guardian.

2. **OTHER REMEDIES:** The principal, any administrative personnel, or any teacher of the school shall be authorized to take reasonable action in connection with student misbehavior. Reasonable action might include:

A. Counseling with a student or group of students.

B. Conferences with a parent or group of parents.

C. Assigning students alternative assignments.

D. Rearranging class schedules.

E. Requiring a student to remain after regular school hours.

F. Restriction of extracurricular activities.

G. Delayed access to Drivers Education.

3. **REMOVAL FROM CLASS (CLASSROOM DISRUPTION):** The principal may remove a student from class when the seriousness of the offense, when the persistence of the misbehavior, or when the disruptive conduct, in consultation with the teacher, disrupts the educational process of the other students in the classroom, or when the student has been disrespectful, defiant, or insubordinate.

4. **PROBATION:** Students on probation will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities during the probation period. Extracurricular activities shall include all school activities which are not directly related to a specific course in which the student is enrolled on a regular basis. Violation of probation may result in the extension of the probationary period or in the suspension of the student from school for a period of not more than three school days.

**NOTE:** Parents will be notified in writing or in person when a student is placed on probation. In all cases the assignment of probation will be by the principal or superintendent.

5. **ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM:** The term "Alternative Classroom" means the students attends school during regularly scheduled hours and is assigned to a classroom where he/she receives his/her assignments and studies under supervision. All work completed while in the in-school suspension will count toward the students grades. A. Student may not eat at the same time as the other students.

B. Student must keep up with homework and other assignments.

C. Parents will be notified by mail of the alternative classroom assignment.

6. **SUSPENSION:** The term "suspension" means disciplinary action whereby a student is separated from school and any extracurricular and related activities for a period of ten school days or less and which does not constitute an expulsion under number 7 of this section.

7. **EXPULSION:** The term "expulsion" means disciplinary action taken by the Board of Education whereby a student by Board of Education resolution:

A. Is separated from school attendance and extracurricular/related activities for a period in excess of ten school days.

B. As a result of Public Act 89-371, the school board may extend student expulsions into the following school year. Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1996, the maximum expulsion period is extended from the end of the current year to the end of the next school year for a maximum expulsion period of two school years.

8. **REFERRAL OF CHRONIC TRUANTS:** Chronic truants and their parents will be referred to the Office of the State's Attorney for prosecution under Illinois statutes.

## **GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING PENALTIES**

Any violation of state or local law will be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. 1. These examples are not the only acts or condition for which suspension or expulsion is warranted, nor do they limit this handbook.

2. Subsequent cases of the same offense may result in more severe disciplinary action.

3. Physical attack upon any person may be grounds for expulsion from school.
4. Expulsion may be levied on any student who is found to be carrying a weapon to, from, or within Gallatin County Schools; or to, from, or in attendance at any school-sponsored activity.
5. Any student who has initiated, or taken part in an act of vandalism or arson as described in this handbook may be expelled. Further, it shall be the practice of the school district to seek to recover damages from the parents of any minor, or from any person, who has initiated, or taken part in any act of vandalism as described in this handbook.

## **ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE**

Before a student can enroll at Gallatin County Unit #7, a student must present a valid birth certificate (a copy of a birth certificate is not acceptable). Students also need to bring or have requested their student records from their previous school. Out of state students will need to present a physician's signed school physical before student can attend.

1. No Illinois school is required to admit a new student unless they can produce their Student Transfer Form; OR
2. School records from previous out of state school through appropriate transfer forms, or through direct contact with that school's officials; OR
3. While serving a suspension or expulsion from previous school district.

## **FAMILY LIFE & SEX EDUCATION CLASS**

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or courses in comprehensive sex education, including in grades 6-12, instruction on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; family life instruction, including in grades 6-12, instruction on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS; instruction on diseases; recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse; or instruction on donor programs for organ/tissue, blood donor, and transplantation, if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The parent or guardian's decision will not be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this Section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene or traditional courses in biology.

Parents or guardians may examine the instructional materials to be used in any district sex education class or course.

## **FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**

All school fundraising must be approved by building and district administration using the district fundraising approval form. (See Coach/Sponsor handbook) Fundraising must have a designated purpose prior to the beginning of sales. The projects must be planned and carried out in cooperation with building administration and comply with the Coach/Sponsor Handbook and Board Policy 7:325 Student Fundraising. Parent organizations and booster clubs are invaluable resources to the District's schools. While parent organizations and booster clubs have no administrative authority and cannot determine District policy, the School Board welcomes their suggestions and assistance.

Parent organizations and booster clubs may be recognized by the Board and permitted to use the District's name, a District school's name, or a District school's team name, or any logo attributable to the District provided they first receive the Superintendent or designee's express written consent. Consent to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos will generally be granted if the organization or club has by-laws containing the following:

The organization's or club's name and purpose, such as, to enhance students' educational experiences, to help meet educational needs of students, to provide extra athletic benefits to students, to assist specific sports teams or academic clubs through financial support, or to enrich extracurricular activities.

1. The rules and procedures under which it operates.
2. An agreement to adhere to all Board policies and administrative procedures.

3. A statement that membership is open and unrestricted, meaning that membership is open to all parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school, District staff, and community members.
4. A statement that the District is not, and will not be, responsible for the organization's or club's business or the conduct of its members, including on any organization or club websites or social media accounts.
5. An agreement to maintain and protect its own finances.
6. A recognition that money given to a school cannot be earmarked for any particular expense. Booster clubs may make recommendations, but cash or other valuable consideration must be given to the District to use at its discretion. The Board's legal obligation to comply with Title IX by providing equal athletic opportunity for members of both genders will supersede an organization or club's recommendation.

Permission to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos may be rescinded at any time and does not constitute permission to act as the District's representative. At no time does the District accept responsibility for the actions of any parent organization or booster club regardless of whether it was recognized and/or permitted to use any of the above-mentioned names or logos. The Superintendent shall designate an administrative staff member to serve as the recognized liaison to parent organizations or booster clubs. The liaison will serve as a resource person and provide information about school programs, resources, policies, problems, concerns, and emerging issues. Building staff will be encouraged to participate in the organizations.

## **GRADE SCALE**

A 94-100  
B 87-93  
C 77-86  
D 70-76  
F 69-Below

## **HARASSMENT**

Any form of harassment will not be tolerated. If harassment is suspected, whether it be physical, verbal, or sexual, the principal or assistant principal should be notified immediately. Harassment is defined as any act, verbal or physical, that disturbs or torments another individual. These acts would include, but not be limited to, racial slurs, comments about one's anatomy, inappropriate student to student physical contact, or threats of intimidation. No person, including a school or school district employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity<sup>1</sup>; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

### **Sexual Harassment Prohibited**

The school and district shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law.

## **Making a Report or Complaint**

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student's same gender.

**Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

**Mercedes Lands**

618-272-3821 ext 1305

[mlands@gallatincusd7.com](mailto:mlands@gallatincusd7.com)

## **Equal Educational Opportunities and Sex Equity**

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities are available to all students without regard to race, color, nationality, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact your building administrator.

## **HEAD LICE**

The school will observe the following procedures regarding head lice.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has head lice.
2. Infested students will be sent home following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions, products needed, and our Wellness Center's Family Resource Developer to parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the Infestation.

A student excluded because of head lice will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings the student to school to be checked by the school nurse or building principal and the child is determined to be free of the head lice and eggs (nits). Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

*Cross-Reference:*

*Press 7:250API, Measures to Control the Spread of Head Lice at School*

## **HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER**

Parents may request the educational status of their child(ren)'s teacher(s) by filling out and submitting a "Teacher Status Request Form". Forms may be obtained from the superintendent's office.

## **HOME & HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION**

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant or licensed advance practice



registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction before (1) the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to 3 months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

For information on home or hospital instruction, please contact Keri Koester at 618-272-3821 ext, 1318.

### **JUNIOR HIGH HONOR ROLL**

To be on the honor roll, a student must attain a 92.5 average. Grades are calculated by the computer. No grades greater than 100 will be recorded or used in figuring class rank or honor roll.

### **LEAVING SCHOOL**

No student is to leave school without having permission from the office. They must also sign out, and sign back in upon their return. Failure to do this will result in an unexcused absence. This could be considered truancy.

### **LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY**

Students with a limited proficiency in English will be identified. Their level of proficiency will be assessed and methods of instruction will be provided to meet the educational strengths and needs of the student. A program will be developed with a goal to move to a proficiency in English with exit goals established. The student's parents or guardian will be notified and the program shall be established within 30 days after the beginning of the school year or within 2 weeks after the student's enrollment. Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children; and (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students; and (3) participate and serve on the District's Transitional Bilingual Education Programs Parent Advisory Committee. For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Learners program, contact Keri Koester at 618-272-3821 ext. 1318.

### **LUNCH AND BREAKFAST**

#### **MEALS PROCEDURES- Breakfast/Lunch Program**

The Board promotes healthy, high-quality school meals, recognizing that students need adequate, nourishing food in order to learn, grow and maintain good health. To assure students have access to healthy meals, the district participates in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs.

#### **All Gallatin County Students will receive free breakfast and lunch this school year.**

All students will receive one breakfast and one lunch tray each day free of charge. There will be no charging to lunch accounts this school year. For students who wish to purchase an extra school meal, A la carte items, or beverages, we recommend advance payments be made online and/or cash and check payments made to the

lunch secretary's office. Students may also bring lunch. Please label lunch boxes with your

child's name. As always, soda and fast food lunches are discouraged.

Parents, the new online payment system will take credit and debit cards. This online program is called, "My School Bucks" and is located on the main page of our schools website at [www.gallatincusd7.com](http://www.gallatincusd7.com). Click open "My School Bucks" and follow the instructions to set up an account.

Once you have your account you may also Pay All Student Fee's Online with credit or debit cards. The "My School Bucks" software will list individual students' school fees for this school year. The program is user friendly and should be helpful for parents. Please take the time to visit the [gallatincusd.com](http://gallatincusd.com) website and click on <https://www.myschoolbucks.com> to set up a user account for your child/children this school year.

### **PAST ACCOUNT BALANCES**

During the past our lunch secretary has maintained accounts for each individual student; if your child has a previous account balance you may use the online payment system to take care of this debt or set up a payment plan with the lunch secretary by calling (618) 272-3821 Extension 1234.

### **WAIVER FOR SCHOOL FEES**

A child who is "directly certified" or "categorically eligible" (i.e., is homeless, migrant or runaway) would automatically receive school fee waivers subject to the federal verification limitations. Proof of income will determine school fee waiver eligibility. A School Fee Waiver Application is included in the appendix of this handbook. The School Fee Waiver Application must include a copy of verified proof of yearly family income and be submitted to the child's office secretary by Friday, August 27, 2021.

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It shall be the policy of the Gallatin County Unit #7 Board of Education to prohibit discrimination against any employee, student, or individual on account of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, sex, or disability.

Furthermore, it shall be the policy to make reasonable accommodations for qualified applicants, employees, students, and individuals with disabilities, such as each of the following, unless it demonstrably would impose an "undue hardship" on the operation of the program:

1. Make facilities used by employees readily accessible to and usable by disabled persons.
2. Make modifications or adjustments to the job application process that enables a qualified applicant with a disability to be considered.
3. Making modification or adjustments in the work environment that enables a qualified individual with a disability to perform the essential functions of that position.
4. Making appropriate adjustments or modifications of examinations, training materials, or policies.
5. Job restructuring, part-time or modified work schedules.
6. Reassignment to a vacant position.
7. Acquisition or modification of equipment or devices.
8. The provision of readers or interpreters or other similar action.

### **NO PASS-NO PLAY POLICY**

The Board of Education believes that school sponsored, school supported and extracurricular activities provide students with invaluable educational, as well as instructional skills, and knowledge. The Board further recognizes, however, that a student's academic education must take precedence over participation in such activities. As such, and in accordance with Section 10-20.30 of the School Code, the Board has determined as follows:

1. All students in this District between grades nine and twelve, who participate in any school sponsored activity, including school supported athletic or extracurricular activities, shall maintain a

minimum passing grade in all classes. Passing or failing shall mean the grade average that the student would receive if he/she were transferring from the District on the day eligibility is checked

(i.e. year to date average).

2. Any student who fails to meet the minimum requirements established in paragraph 1 of this Policy shall be suspended from further participation in any school sponsored, school supported or extracurricular activity for one week AND/OR until such student raises his or her grades to passing.

3. Any student in this District between grades 5 and 8, who was retained the prior school year is not eligible to participate in any school sponsored, school supported or extracurricular activity.

The Board of Education authorizes the administration to promulgate rules and regulations to implement and enforce this policy.

Legal Reference: The School Code, 105 ILCS5/10-20.30.

### **PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW**

In accordance with Section 1111(h)(6) RIGHT-TO-KNOW, the Gallatin County School District is notifying every parent of a student in a Title I school that you have the right and may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher.

### **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parents are encouraged to keep in contact with their child's teacher, especially if a problem exists. Teachers will be available before school, during planning time and after school for conferences. Parents should call 618-272-3821 ext, 1300 to arrange for a convenient conference time. Teachers will not be available for conferences during teaching time except in extreme emergency situations.

### **PESTICIDE APPLICATION**

During the first week of each month the Gallatin County School District will have an outside agency come into the building to spray for insects. Parents may turn in a written request to the superintendent's office if they would like to be notified in advance of the day the building is sprayed.

### **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS/PROOF OF IMMUNITY**

It shall be the policy of Gallatin County Community Unit #7 School to enforce the requirements of Section 27-8 of the School Code regarding physical and dental exams. As per current regulations (5-1980) fulfillment of the requirements for immunizations and providing the school with dates of each shall be part of this policy as well. Failure to obtain proof of immunization with dates and/or physical exams will lead to the exclusion of the student from school until the recommended requirement is met.

#### **Required Health Examinations and Immunizations**

All students are required to present appropriate proof of a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school for the first time, regardless of the student's grade.

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Students between the age of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, an age-appropriate developmental screening and an age appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year<sup>1</sup> will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. A

student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.

New students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay.

The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

### **Eye Examination**

All students entering kindergarten or the school for the first time must present proof by October 15 of the current school year of an eye examination performed within one year. Failure to present proof by October 15, allows the school to hold the student's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

### **Dental Examination**

All students entering kindergarten, second, sixth and ninth grades must present proof by May 15 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

### **Exemptions**

A student will be exempted from the above requirements for:

1. Medical grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a signed statement explaining the objection;
2. Religious grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a completed Certificate of Religious Exemption;
3. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification;
4. Eye examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
5. Dental examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

## **PROMOTION POLICY**

A student will be retained if they do not meet the following criteria:

- Students must pass math, reading, and science.
- Students must pass the Illinois and United States Constitution tests by the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### **STUDENT PROMOTION**

The Board of Education adheres to the Illinois School Code's prohibition on promotion of a student to the next grade level based on social reasons, such as age. It is, therefore, the policy of this District that students shall be promoted to the next grade level based on the following criteria:

1. Successful completion of the curriculum.
2. Attendance
3. Performance based on state and local testing.

#### 4. Local goals and objectives indicating that the student can perform at the expected grade level.

Students shall not be promoted for purely social reasons.

Legal Reference: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a

#### 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1412(a)(17)(A)(I)

### **PUPIL POLICIES**

1. Children entering kindergarten or sixth and ninth grades and before participation in Drivers Education and Athletic Activities shall present a physical administered by a competent physician on the first day of school. Transfer students must have a physical examination and immunization dates on file within 30 school days or they will be excluded from school pursuant to section 27-8.1 of the School Code of Illinois. Dental exams are required for all 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

2. Pre-school age children are not permitted to visit school unless accompanied by a parent. 3. Physical education is a required subject. All students will be enrolled in a P.E. class unless they have a doctor's excuse which will have to be re-evaluated every 20 school days.

4. Children who ride the bus to a school activity shall return by bus. Any pupil who does not ride the bus home from a school activity must present a note to their sponsor signed by their parents giving permission to ride home by another form of transportation, or he must be excused by the principal. Each pupil must in all cases, notify the bus driver.

5. No knives or weapons of any kind, matches, cigarettes, tobacco products/tobacco look alike, pornographic materials. If an electronic device, (such as but not limited to iPods, CD players, etc) is brought to school, it must be removed and stored away (out of sight) before entering the school building. It must be stored in your locker. Such items will be confiscated if brought in the building. The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen electronic devices.

6. The privilege of riding a bus may be withdrawn when any pupil persists in violating rules and regulations. 7. Each student shall pay for all damage he or she may do to school property or the property of others within one week after demand thereof unless by arrangement with the principal. With arrangement, payment can be deferred until a later date. Failure to make such a payment may result in suspension. 8. All correspondence and summer school work must be authorized in advance by the superintendent before credit can be given.

9. Pupils are expected to restrain themselves from any show of affection towards others while on school property or while attending school activities off the school premises.

10. Pupils are permitted to use the school telephone only for emergencies. ***Student will be allowed to call home three times during the school year for reasons not considered an emergency (i.e. students calling home for items that were left at home). It is the student's responsibility to bring all items needed for school and/or extracurricular activities that day.***

Cell phones must be kept out of sight and in an inconspicuous location, such as a backpack or locker. They must be turned off during the regular school day unless the supervising teacher grants permission for them to be used. They may not be used in any manner. Misuse will result in confiscation and be returned to the student according to disciplinary guidelines established by the administration.

11. Students who lose or damage a book while it is checked out to them will be expected to pay for it at the following rate: First year of use—100% of actual cost; second year of use—75% of actual cost; third year of use—50% of actual cost; fourth and subsequent years of use—25% of actual cost. A teacher may require a student to purchase necessary items for class work.

12. Student accident insurance is provided for a nominal fee.

13. Any student who desires to participate in any extracurricular activity shall have all school fees paid before the student may actively participate in that event. All extracurricular activities and/or Driver's Education are required to have the student insurance which the school handles. The insurance requirement will be waived upon presentation of evidence signed by a parent or guardian that the student is adequately insured. 14. Good manners, courtesy, and personal pride shall be exhibited by all students during school hours and during school sponsored activities. (i.e. not running in the halls; wearing hats in the building; loud, boisterous, or profane speech.)

15. It is the responsibility of each student to leave the area of disruption involving students. The student's mere presence as an onlooker tends to lend support and encouragement to those students causing disruptions. Failure to cooperate may subject onlookers to disciplinary action.

16. All pupils shall be responsible for learning the requirements of promotion and/or graduation. These are announced each year, and copies may be obtained from the principal. Programs for transfer students must be approved by the Junior High School Principal. Eighth graders who have not completed requirements for

graduation by the last day of school prior to graduation shall not participate in graduation exercises. 17. Participation in extracurricular activities may be denied to pupils who fail to conform to school rules. 18. Any student who wishes to ride a different bus other than their regular bus must bring a note from home and get permission from the superintendent or principal before being allowed to do so. 19. Breakfast and lunch will be free for all students for the 2019-2020 school year.

20. All equipment purchased by the school for individuals (uniforms, shoes, etc.) must be paid within 30 days and before issue.

21. The school will not issue acetaminophen (Tylenol), antacid tablets, cough drops, or any internal medicine without a written physician order and signed parent consent. First aid supplies are available and first aid will be provided.

22. Students who do not ride the bus should not arrive on school grounds before 7:45 a.m. 23. Students will not loiter in the halls. They will proceed to areas as directed by teachers. 24. Students may wear any clothing which is generally considered morally decent and safe in the school situation. Extreme dress is inappropriate. Young men and women should recognize the importance of being well groomed at all times. Clothing need not be expensive to be clean, neat and attractive. One of the most important factors in being well groomed is wearing clothing appropriate for the occasion. Dress that may be proper at home or on the beach may be out of place at school. Clothing shall not be hazardous to health and safety of the students or disruptive to the educational program of the school. Any extremes of dress which detract from the orderliness of the school program by bringing undue attention to the individual are, of course, inappropriate. For example: Shoes must be worn at all times. Bare midriff clothing, "see-through mesh" attire, undershirts as outerwear, half-shirts, halters, spaghetti straps, T-tops, tank tops or split-side shirts, house shoes, pajamas, caps, hats, or sunglasses shall not be worn. Length of shorts, skirts and dresses must be within five (5) inches from the top of the knee. Holes or slits in jeans must not be more than 5 inches above the knee. No baggy pants without belts and no showing of undergarments. Shirts and scoop neck tops must have a neckline that is no lower than four fingers from the center of the collar bone. Clothing accessories/attachments such as gloves, studded bracelets, chains etc. should not be worn. Leggings/yoga pants must be worn with a top of a length that, at a minimum, covers the "bottom" and is consistent in length from front to back. Students should also refrain from wearing items of clothing which contain printed messages, logos, and/or activity which are deemed offensive, illegal or condone an activity which is socially unacceptable or unwise (i.e. tobacco, alcohol, drugs, profane comments or gestures, etc.).

- When a student's dress becomes inappropriate for the school setting, then it becomes the responsibility of the school to intervene. Faculty and administration reserve the right to determine whether students' dress is appropriate or disruptive to the educational process. A student who is inappropriately dressed will be asked to correct the problem immediately or be sent home to change. The time missed as a result will be considered unexcused. All classrooms are air-conditioned; therefore, students should wear adequate clothing. Students are expected to follow student dress guidelines presenting themselves decently and appropriately at all times during school, educational trips, extra-curricular events and activities. During "dress-up days" such as during Spirit Week, attire must adhere to the school dress guideline. Any deviation must be approved by the principal.

25. Discrimination Policy: The Board of Education of Gallatin County Unit District #7 shall not condone discrimination practices on the basis of sex, color, race, or creed. The superintendent will be the coordinator. His duties shall be to investigate complaints and supervise the district's efforts to comply with Title IX. All complaints shall be routed by way of the building principal to the coordinator and then to the Board of Education.

26. Cheating: In the event that a student is caught cheating on a test or on some other assignment, the student will be given a grade of "zero" for the assignment. Moreover, the teacher may require make-up or additional work and may administer other disciplinary actions such as detentions, parent conferences, etc. 27. No gang logos, colors, signs, paraphernalia, or gang activities are allowed at school. Further, anti-gang uniforms and vulgarities are prohibited. Gang like activities are defined as any conduct by a student for the furtherance of a common purpose.

28. Chewing gum will not be permitted on the school grounds because of the problems it causes carpets and floors. If brought to school, it will be confiscated. Edibles will likewise be confined to the commons. 29. Parents and students must sign a usage clause or statement with guarantee that the Internet will be used ethically and correctly. Parents must agree to pay if student causes damage to Internet access or destroys records or data.

30. Backpacks and large bags are not allowed in the classroom, they are to be kept in the student's locker. 31. Media Center: Books may be checked out of the media center for 2 weeks with the exception of reference books. They are to be checked out overnight. A fine of 5 cents per day will be assessed on overdue books and 30 cents per day will be charged for overdue reference books. All books are bar-coded and every student has

a library number. If the barcode is damaged an assessment of \$1.00 will be charged. Material taken without checking out will be assessed a fine. Students are responsible for returning books on time according to the date stamped in the books.

32. Jr. High Students will not be allowed to wear flip flops or sandals during P.E.class. If a student wears flip flops or sandals to school, they will be required to have non-marking tennis shoes to change into during P.E.

## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

Good schoolwork depends, to a large extent, on punctual attendance. Make-up work cannot completely take the place of regular classroom work. Parents must assume their share of responsibility for the regular and punctual attendance of their children.

A parent excused absence is one where the parent calls the office to report a student ill or absent. Parent excused absences are limited to ten (10) days per year, and no more than (5) per semester. Any absences after (10) parent excused absences in the school year will be considered unexcused absences. The student and parent/guardian will be notified that a doctor's excuse will be required after the 5<sup>th</sup> absence each semester.

School begins at 8:10 a.m. When a student is absent from school, **parents must call** the office @ 272-3821 ext, 1300 before 10:00 a.m. on the day of their child's absence as per IL School Code, Section 122: 26-36. 1. On the day following an absence, the student must bring a signed note from their parents explaining the absence or a phone call from the parents by 9:00 a.m. for absences.

Failure to bring a note or phone call will result in an unexcused absence.

2. If a student has any medical appointments or is absent for 3 or more consecutive days due to illness, a doctor's excuse may be required.

A student may not miss more than 55 minutes in any school day or he/she will be counted absent in the Official Illinois Attendance Register. Students signing out and back in must not be gone more than 55 minutes or he/she will be counted absent. Whether absences are excused or unexcused has no bearing upon the attendance record.

Attendance of school sponsored activities and trips will not be counted as an absence.

Parents may prearrange excused absences for trips. The arrangement must be made at least 2 or more days prior to the requested absence. Students who have had their parents prearrange for an absence will be excused. The arrangement must be a written request and signed by the parent, student, and principal.

When the second bell rings, the student must be in his/her seat ready to start working, or he/she is tardy to that class. **Individual teachers will address tardiness. Students may receive writing assignments.**

The Gallatin County Schools recognizes three types of absences. The type, some examples, and the corresponding school action to be taken are indicated as follows:

TYPE I - LEGAL: Any absence allowed by the laws of the State of Illinois.

TYPE II - SCHOOL ACCEPTED:

Any absence due to sickness, death in family, prearranged absences, school-sponsored trips, and family emergency situations. School officials will evaluate emergency situations. Prearranged absences are those anticipated prior to the actual day or period of absence (i.e. doctor appointments, necessary family trips, and funerals). In order for the prearranged absences to be excused, the parent must inform the office as soon as possible prior to the last day of attendance. The student should obtain assignments or make-up work before the absences if at all possible and give it to the teacher.

Make-up work must be completed and given to the individual teachers. Students may be granted up to one day missed to complete make-up work. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the make-up assignments from the teachers.

It is the classroom teacher's responsibility to hold each student accountable for missed class time.

TYPE III - UNACCEPTABLE:

### **A. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES**

Any absence that is not considered legal or reasonable, but which is not typical of truancy; or reasons characterized by careless planning (i.e. oversleeping, running errands for parents or employers, taking off from school to work or shop, etc).

The principal or his representative will decide and issue unexcused absences. Parental permission to be absent from school does not necessarily mean an excused absence for the purpose of making up work or simply being an excused absence. The following actions or consideration may result from unexcused absence: 1. The student will be barred from any or all extracurricular activities scheduled for that date.

2. The student may be assigned detentions to be served before, during, or after school. 3. The student will not have the opportunity of doing make-up work for credit in the class missed. 4. The student will receive zeros for all graded work missed such as: tests, homework, participation grades, quizzes, etc.

5. After three unexcused absences in any one semester, a one-day in school suspension could result. Also, there may be a parent conference arranged.

6. Skip and related type absences may result in some type of detention or suspension.

### ***B. TRUANCY***

Any absence without the consent of the parents and school. In cases of truancy, the parents will be notified, an unexcused absence given, and make-up work time may be required.

When a student is truant, he/she may be required to make up this time during the noon hour. To make up this time, students will sit in an assigned area away from their friends. Repeated truancy could require additional disciplinary action.

“Chronic or habitual truant” shall be defined as a child who is absent from school without valid cause from compulsory school attendance for 5% or more of the 180 regular attendance school days; this calculates to nine (9) days per school year. The student and parent/guardian will be notified that a doctor’s excuse will be required after the 9<sup>th</sup> absence.

“Truant minor” is defined as a chronic truant to whom supportive services, including prevention, diagnostic, intervention and remedial services, alternative programs and other school and community resources have been provided and have failed to result in the cessation of chronic truancy or have been offered and refused.

### **TARDINESS**

A student is tardy to class when he is not in his assigned station and ready for work when the class bell rings. Passing times are three minutes in length - sufficient time to move to any other areas of the building without undue difficulty. The following procedures should be followed when you are late to class:

1. If you are late in arriving to school, report directly to the office for an admit slip to be marked present. Your admit slip will be marked excused or unexcused, depending upon the reason for your tardiness. There are few reasons for being tardy which are excusable; however, many are understandable and will result in little or no difficulty to the student or parent. Habitual tardiness is another matter and will not be tolerated. Every effort necessary to correct habitual tardiness will be made.

2. If you are detained by a teacher, secure an admit slip from that teacher and report to class. If you are tardy for any reason report directly to class. Do not come to the office since admit slips will not be issued. Each teacher shall determine the validity of the excuse and advise the student of such. Classroom teachers will assign reasonable punishment for being tardy to class.

Teachers will also keep a record of all students who are tardy and will report habitually tardy students to the office where corrective measures will be taken.

The principal shall make the determination if tardiness is becoming a pattern and will assign appropriate corrective measures such as:

1. The principal or classroom teacher will assign reasonable punishment.

2. The student may be assigned unexcused absences for one or more periods.



3. If the principal determines that a pattern of tardiness is established, the student may be suspended, barred from extracurricular activities, and/or parent conference arranged.

## **TRUANCY POLICY**

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district. Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse by the school or the state) are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue. If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district take further action, which may include the following:

- The truancy officer will conduct home visits
- Referral to the State's Attorney
- Appropriate school discipline

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of state law. Parents, or persons having custody or control of a truant child may be fined up to \$500 and/or sentenced to thirty (30) days in jail for a class "C" misdemeanor when a child continues to violate the Illinois Compulsory Attendance Laws. If unexcused absences persist after available supportive services and other school resources have been exhausted, possible punitive action, including suspension, expulsion or court action will be taken.

The parent(s) or legal guardian should make every effort to make sure their child(ren) attend school regularly.

Consequences for Truancy: Once a student has been absent nine (9) days or has three (3) unexcused absences they will be subject to the following consequences as well as all district unexcused absence guidelines and policies:

4<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence: 1 day detention

5<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence: 1 day detention & truancy letter sent

6<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence: 2 days detention

7<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence: ½ day ACR (alternative classroom)

8<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence: 1 day ACR

9<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence: referred to Gallatin County States Attorney

Subsequent absences: 1-3 days ACR through out-of-school suspension 1-5 days

## **SCHOOL OPERATIONS DURING A PANDEMIC OR OTHER HEALTH EMERGENCY**

A pandemic is a global outbreak of disease. Pandemics happen when a new virus emerges to infect individuals and, because there is little to no pre-existing immunity against the new virus, it spreads sustainably. Your child's school and district play an essential role, along with the local health department and emergency management agencies, in protecting the public's health and safety during a pandemic or other health emergency.

During a pandemic or other health emergency, you will be notified in a timely manner of all changes to the school environment and schedule that impact your child. Please be assured that even if school is not physically in session, it is the goal of the school and district to provide your child with the best educational opportunities possible.

Additionally, please note the following:

1. All decisions regarding changes to the school environment and schedule, including a possible interruption of in-person learning, will be made by the superintendent in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Governor, Illinois Department of Public Health, local health department, emergency management agencies, and/or Regional Office of Education.
2. Available learning opportunities may include remote and/or blended learning. Blended learning may require your child to attend school on a modified schedule.

3. Students will be expected to participate in blended and remote instruction as required by the school and district. Parents are responsible for assuring the participation of their child. Students who do not participate in blended or remote learning will be considered truant.
4. All school disciplinary rules remain in effect during the interruption of in-person learning. Students are subject to discipline for disrupting the remote learning environment to the same extent that discipline would be imposed for disruption of the traditional classroom.
5. Students and parents will be required to observe all public health and safety measures implemented by the school and district in conjunction with state and local requirements.
6. During a pandemic or other health emergency, the school and district will ensure that educational opportunities are available to all students.
7. School personnel will work closely with students with disabilities and other vulnerable student populations to minimize the impact of any educational disruption.
8. Students who have a compromised immune system, live with an individual with a compromised immune system, or have a medical condition that may impact their ability to attend school during a pandemic or other public health emergency should contact school officials.
9. During a pandemic or other health emergency, teachers and school staff will receive additional training on health and safety measures.
10. In accordance with school district or state mandates, the school may need to conduct a daily health assessment of your child. Parents and students will be notified of the exact assessment procedures if this becomes necessary.
11. Parents should not send their child to school if their child exhibits any symptoms consistent with the pandemic or other health emergency.
12. Please do not hesitate to contact school or district officials if you have any concerns regarding your child's education, health or safety.

### **SCHOOL BUS RIDERS INSTRUCTIONS**

School bus riders, while in transit, are under the jurisdiction of the school bus driver unless the local board of education designates some adult to supervise the riders. Audio and video recordings may be used randomly on school buses.

To ensure the safety of students, unauthorized persons will not be allowed to ride a bus. This includes, but is not limited to, unregistered students, visiting students, and adults, unless authorized by the school administration in the form of a permission slip or through direct contact with the bus driver. Upon enrollment, a new student must get a bus pass from the office.

It is recommended that all riders, parents of riders, and teachers become thoroughly familiar with the following regulations governing school bus riders. This may be accomplished by giving each student a mimeographed copy of "Instructions to School Bus Riders".

1. Be on time at the designated school bus stop; help keep the bus on schedule.
2. Stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus.
3. Be careful in approaching the place where the bus stops. Do not move toward the bus until the bus has been brought to a complete stop.
4. Do not leave your seat while the bus is in motion.
5. Be alert to a danger signal from the driver.
6. Remain in the bus in the event of a road emergency until the bus has been brought to a complete stop.
7. Keep hands and heads inside the bus at all times. Do not throw anything out of the bus.

8. Remember that unnecessary confusion diverts the driver's attention and could result in a serious accident.
  9. Be absolutely quiet when approaching a railroad crossing.
  10. Treat bus equipment as you would valuable furniture in your own home. Never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment.
  11. Assist in keeping the bus safe and sanitary at all times.
  12. Carry no animals on the bus without permission of the school transportation director and the superintendent and/or the principal.
  13. Keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisles.
  14. Leave no books, lunches, or other articles on the bus.
  15. Be courteous to fellow pupils and the bus driver.
  16. Help look after the safety and comfort of smaller children.
  17. Do not ask the driver to stop at places other than the regular bus stop. The driver is not permitted to do this, except by proper authorization from a school official.
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18. Observe safety precautions at discharge point. Where it is necessary to cross the highway, proceed to a point at least 10 feet in front of the bus on the right shoulder of the highway where traffic may be observed in both directions. Wait for a signal from the bus driver permitting you to cross.
  19. Observe the same rules and regulations on other trips under school sponsorship as you observe between home and school. Respect the wishes of the chaperone appointed by the school.
  20. School officials will assign students to specific seats on the bus if necessary.
  21. No eating, drinking, or chewing gum on the bus.

*Students who do not conform to these rules and are in frequent violation of them will be dealt with in the following manner:* A. School officials will confer with the student and the driver.

B. School officials will confer with parents.

C. If the above steps do not solve the problem, the student may lose his/her riding privileges for one week. D. If problems continue to exist, the student may lose his/her riding privileges for the remainder of the school year. 1. Safety is the most important issue concerning transportation of students.

2. If a student has discipline problems on the bus, the student and the driver will have a conference and try to resolve the problem. The driver will keep a record of said conference.

3. If a minor problem is report to the principal, he will have a conference with the student and send a copy of the conference results to the driver. The parents will be notified.

4. If a student is disrespectful or refuses to follow the directions of the driver, the student may be suspended and/or lose bus riding privileges. The parents will be notified.

5. A student may be suspended from riding the bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to the following:

- a) Violating any school rule or school district policy
- b) Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider
- c) Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus
- d) Repeated use of profanity
- e) Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor
- f) Such other behavior as the building principal deems to threatened the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants

If a student is suspended from riding the bus for gross disobedience or misconduct on a bus, the School Board may suspend the student from riding the school bus for a period in excess of 10 days for safety reasons. A student suspended from riding the bus who does not have alternate transportation to school shall have the opportunity to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit. It is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternate transportation.

## **SCHOOL LOCKERS**

A student's locker is the property of the school and must be used for the purpose intended: a storage area for books, school supplies, and outdoor garments. If school officials have a reasonable suspicion the student has placed illegal or dangerous materials or substances in the locker, school officials may then search the locker, with or without the student's knowledge or consent. In brief, students should not keep anything in their locker that they would not want anyone to find. All lockers are to be kept clean and orderly. Lockers should be cleaned out at least once every 9 weeks.

## **SCHOOL PRAYER**

The Gallatin County CUSD #7 has no policy that prevents constitutionally protected prayer

## **SEARCH & SEIZURE**

In order to maintain order, safety, and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. "School

authorities” includes school liaison police officers.

***School Property and Equipment as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students*** School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as, lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there. The building principal may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

### ***Students***

School authorities may search a student and/or the student’s personal effects in the student’s possession (such as, purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district’s student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student’s age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student’s account on a social networking website that violates the school’s disciplinary rules or school district policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for a school to make a factual determination. School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to the student’s account or profile on a social networking website.

### ***Seizure of Property***

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district’s policies or rules, evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

### ***Questioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity***

Before a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the building principal or designee will: (a) Notify or attempt to notify the student’s parent/guardian and document the time and manner in writing; (b) Make reasonable efforts to ensure the student’s parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that a school employee (including, but not limited to, a social worker, psychologist, nurse, guidance counselor, or any other mental health professional) is present during the questioning; and (c) If practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure that a law enforcement officer trained in promoting safe interactions and communications with youth is present during the questioning.

## **SCHOOL STUDENT RECORD NOTIFICATION STATEMENT**

The building principal or his designee is the official records custodian of each building.

The following information pertains to the rights and obligations of parents, students, and the school under the Illinois School Students Records Act (ISSRA) Chapter 122, Par. 50-1 et seq. of the Illinois Revised Statutes (1985) and the Rules promulgated thereunder by the Illinois State Board of Education, which can be found at 23 Illinois Administrative Code 375.

1. The student permanent record consists of basic identifying information, academic transcript, attendance record, accident reports and health record, record of release of permanent record information, and may also consist of records of awards and participation in school-sponsored activities. No other information will be placed in the student permanent record. The permanent record will be kept for 60 years after graduation or permanent withdrawal. [ISSRA, Par. 50-2(e); 50-4(e)]

2. The student temporary record consists of all information that is of clear relevance to the education of the student, but is not required to be in the student’s permanent record. It may include family background information, intelligence test scores, aptitude test scores, psychological and personality test results, and teacher evaluations. A record of release of temporary record information must be included in the student temporary record. The temporary record will be reviewed for elimination of out-of-date, inaccurate, or unnecessary

information every 4 years or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first. The temporary record will be destroyed entirely within 5 years after graduation or permanent withdrawal. (ISSRA, Par. 50-2(f); Rules, Section 375.10)

3. Parents or any person specifically designated as a representative by a parent have the right to: A. Inspect and copy all permanent and temporary records within a reasonable time and in no case later than 15 days after the date of receipt of such request by the official records custodian. A student shall have the right to inspect and copy his or her school student permanent record. The school charges \$.35 per page for copies. No parent or student shall be denied a copy of school student records due to inability to bear the cost of such copying. (ISSRA, Par. 50-5)

B. Have present at the option of either the parent or the school, a qualified professional, who may be a psychologist, counselor, or other advisor, and who may be an employee of the school or employed by the parent, to interpret the information contained in the student temporary record. If the school requires that a professional be present, the school shall secure and bear any cost of the presence of the professional. If the parent so requests, the school shall secure and bear any cost of the presence of a professional employed by the school. [ISSRA, Par. 50-0(b)]

C. Challenge the accuracy, relevancy or propriety of any entry in the school student records, exclusive of grades, by requesting a hearing with the school.

(I) The request for a hearing shall be submitted in writing to the school and shall contain a notice of the specific entry or entries to be challenged and the basis of the challenge.

(II) An informal conference will be held within 15 school days of receipt of the request for a hearing. (III) If the challenge is not resolved by the informal conference, a formal hearing shall be innate. (IV) Formal hearing: A hearing officer, who is not employed in the attendance center in which the student is enrolled, shall be appointed by the school and shall conduct a hearing within a reasonable time but no later than 15 days after the informal conference, unless an extension of time is agreed upon by the parents and school officials. The hearing officer shall notify the parents and school officials of the time and place of the hearing. Each party shall have the right to present evidence and to call witnesses, the right to cross-examine witnesses, and the right to counsel. A record of the hearing shall be made by tape recording or court reporter. The decision of the hearing officer shall be rendered no later than 10 school days after the conclusion of the hearing and shall be transmitted to the parents and the school district. The hearing officer's decision shall be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing and shall order a) retention of the challenged contents of the student record; or b) removal of the challenged contents of the student record, or c) change, clarification, or addition to the challenged contents of the student record. The parties shall have the right to appeal the decision of the hearing officer to the Regional Superintendent of Schools.

(V) Appeal: Notice of appeal must be presented to the Regional Superintendent of Schools within 20 school days after the decision of the hearing officer. The opposing party shall be notified of the appeal at the same time. Within 10 school days, the school shall forward a transcript of the hearing, a copy of the record entry in question and any other pertinent materials to the Regional Superintendent of Schools. Upon receipt of such documents, the Regional Superintendent of Schools shall examine the documents and record, make findings, and issue a decision to the parents and the school district within 20 school days of receipt of the documents. If the subject of the appeal involves the accuracy, relevance or propriety of any entry in special education records, the Regional Superintendent of Schools should seek advice from appropriate special education personnel who were not authors of the entry. The school shall be responsible for implementing the decision of the Regional Superintendent of Schools. Such decision shall be final, and may be appealed to the Circuit Court of the county in which the school is located. (ISSRA Par. 50-7; Rules, Section 375.90)

4. No school records or information contained therein may be released, transferred, disclosed or otherwise disseminated, except as follows:

- a. to a parent or student or person specifically designated as a representative by a parent; [ISSRA, Par. 50-6(a)(1)]
- b. to an employee or official of the school or school district or the State Board of Education with a current demonstrable educational or administrative interest in the student, in furtherance of such interest; [ISSRA, Par. 50-6(a)(1)]
- c. to the official records custodian of another school in which the student has enrolled or intends to enroll, provided that the parent receives prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information to be transferred and opportunity to inspect, copy and challenge such information. If the address of the parents is unknown, notice may be served upon the records custodian of the requesting school for transmittal to the parents. Such service shall be deemed conclusive; and ten school days after such service, if the parents make no objection, the records may be transferred to the requesting school; [ISSRA, Par. 50-6(a)(3); Rules, Section 375.70(a)]

d. to any person for the purpose of research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent can be identified from the information released and the person(s) requesting the use of such information has signed an affidavit agreeing to comply with all rules and statutes regarding school records; [ISSRA, Par. 50- 6(a)(4); Rules, Section 357.70(d)(2)]

e. pursuant to a court order--provided that the parent shall be given prompt written notice upon receipt of such order, of the terms of the order, the nature and substance of the information proposed to be released in compliance with such order and an opportunity to inspect, copy and challenge the contents of the school student records; [ISSRA, Par. 50-6(a)(5); Rules, Section 375.70(c)(3)]

f. to any person as specifically required by state or federal law, provided that such person shall provide the school with appropriate identification and a copy of the statute authorizing such access and that the parent receives prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information to be released and an opportunity to inspect, copy and challenge such information. If the release of information relates to more than 25 students, such prior notice may be given in a local newspaper of general circulation or other publication

directed generally to parents; [ISSRA, Par. 50-6(a)(6); Rules, Section 375.70(b)]

g. subject to regulations of the State Board, in connection with an emergency to appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health and safety of the student or other persons, provided that the parents are notified as soon as possible of the information released, the date of release, the person, agency or organization receiving the information, and the purpose of the release; (ISSRA, Par. 40-6(a)(7); Rules, Section 375.60)

h. to any person with the prior specific, dated, and written consent of the parent designating the person to whom the records or designated portions of the information to be released. The parent has the right to inspect, copy and challenge the records or designated portions of the information contained within the records or designated portions of the information contained within the records; [ISSRA, Par. 50-6(a)(8); Rules, Section 375.70(d)]

5. Parents may insert their child's school student record a statement of reasonable length setting forth their position on any disputed information contained in that record. The school shall include a copy of such statement in any subsequent dissemination of the information in dispute. [ISSRA, Par. 50-7(d)] 6. Parents will be given reasonable prior notice before any school student record is destroyed or information deleted there from and an opportunity to copy the record or information proposed to be destroyed or deleted. [ISSRA, Par. 50-4(h)]

7. Except for the student and his parents, no person to whom information is released and no person specifically designated as a representative by a parent may permit any other person to have access to such information without prior consent of the parent obtained in accordance with ISSRA, Par. 50-6(a)(8). [ISSRA Section 50-6(d)] 8. A record of any release of information shall be maintained for the life of the school student records and shall be available only to the parents and the official records custodian. The record of release shall include the nature and substance of the information released, the name of the person requesting such information, the capacity in which such a request has been made, the purpose of such a request, the date of the release, the name and signature of the official records custodian releasing such information, and a copy of any consent to such release. [ISSRA, Par. 50-6(c)]

9. All rights and privileges accorded a parent under the ISSRA shall be come exclusively those of the student upon his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, graduation from secondary school, marriage, or entry into military service, whichever occurs first. Such rights and privileges may also be exercised by the student at any time with respect to the student's permanent school record. [ISSRA, Par. 50-2(g)]

10. The following is designed as a directory information and may be released to the general public unless the parent requests that any or all such information not be released: student's name and address, academic awards, degrees and honors; information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations and athletics, the student's major field of study; and period of attendance in the school. (ISSRA, Par. 50(e); Rules, Section 375.80)

11. No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege, or benefit or make as a condition of employment, credit, or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record which such individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under the Illinois School Student Records Act. (ISSRA, Par. 50-8)

12. Upon graduation or permanent withdrawal of a handicapped student, psychological evaluations, special education files, and other information contained in the temporary record which may be of continued assistance to the student may, after five years, be transferred to the custody of the parent or student if the student has succeeded to the rights of the parents. The school will explain to the student and the parent the future usefulness of psychological evaluations, special education files, and other information contained in the student

temporary record. [Rules, Section 375.40(d)]

13. Any policies of the school relating to school student records which are not included in the Act or Rules.

14. Copies of the Illinois School Student Records Act, Chapter 23, Illinois Administrative Code 375 (Student Records), and the district or school policies relating to school student records which are not included in the Act or the Rules are available for review in the office of the school records custodian and the district superintendent.

15. The Wabash and Ohio Valley Special Education District at Norris City, Illinois is the official and legal custodian of all special education records for Gallatin County Community Unit District #7.

## **SCHOOL RECORDS**

A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction or by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except for certain records kept in a staff member's sole possession; records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school; video and other electronic recordings (including electronic recordings made on school busses) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes, though such electronic recordings may become a student record if the content is used for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Illinois Student Records Act afford parents/guardians and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's school records. They are:

1. **The right to inspect and copy the student's education records within 10 business days of the day the District receives a request for access.**

The degree of access a student has to his or her records depends on the student's age. Students less than 18 years of age have the right to inspect and copy only their permanent record. Students 18 years of age or older have access and copy rights to both permanent and temporary records. A parent/guardian or student should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) he or she wishes to inspect. Within 10 business days, the building principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent/guardian or student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. In certain circumstances, the District may request an additional 5 business days in which to grant access. The District charges \$.35 per page for copying but no one will be denied their right to copies of their records for inability to pay this cost. These rights are denied to any person against whom an order of protection has been entered concerning the student.

2. **The right to have one or more scores received on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript.<sup>1</sup>**

Parents/guardians or eligible students may have one or more scores on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript. The District will include scores on college entrance examinations upon the written request of the parent/guardian or eligible student stating the name of each college entrance examination that is the subject of the request and the dates of the scores that are to be included.

3. **The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper.**

A parent/guardian or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that is believed to be inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper. Requests should be sent to the building principal and should clearly identify the record the parent/guardian or eligible student wants changed and the specific reason a change is being sought. If the District decides not to amend the record, the District will notify the parent/guardian or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent/guardian or

eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

4. **The right to permit disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the FERPA or Illinois School Student Records Act authorizes disclosure without consent.**

Disclosure without consent is permitted to school officials with legitimate educational or administrative interests. A school official is a person employed by the District 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 school official may also include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or educational technology vendor); or any parent/guardian or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility or contractual obligation with the district. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any person as specifically required by State or federal law. Before information is released to these individuals, the parents/guardians or eligible student will receive prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information, and an opportunity to inspect, copy, and challenge such records.

Academic grades and references to expulsions or out-of-school suspensions cannot be challenged at the time a student's records are being forwarded to another school to which the student is transferring.

Disclosure is also permitted without consent to: any person for research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified; any person named in a court order; appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons; and juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties who request information before adjudication of the student.

5. **The right to a copy of any school student record proposed to be destroyed or deleted.**

The permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. The temporary record is maintained for at least 5 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. Temporary records that may be of assistance to a student with a disability who graduates or permanently withdraws, may, after 5 years, be transferred to the parent/guardian or to the student, if the student has succeeded to the rights of the parent/guardian. Student temporary records are reviewed every 4 years or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first.

6. **The right to prohibit the release of directory information.**

Throughout the school year, the District may release directory information regarding students, limited to:

- Name
- Address
- Grade level
- Birth date and place
- Parent/guardian names, addresses, electronic mail addresses, and telephone numbers
- Photographs, videos, or digital images used for informational or news-related purposes (whether by a media outlet or by the school) of a student participating in school or school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics that have appeared in school publications, such as yearbooks, newspapers, or sporting or fine arts programs
- Academic awards, degrees, and honors
- Information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics
- Major field of study



• Period of attendance in school Any parent/guardian or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all of the above information by delivering a written objection to the building principal within 30 days of the date of this notice.

7. **The right to request that military recruiters or institutions of higher learning not be granted access to your student's information without your prior written consent.**<sup>2</sup>

Federal law requires a secondary school to grant military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon their request, access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers, unless the student's parent/guardian, or student who is 18 years of age or older, submits a written request that the information not be released without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian or eligible student. If you wish to exercise this option, notify the building principal.

8. **The right contained in this statement: No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege or benefits or make as a condition of employment, credit, or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record which such individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under State law.**

9. **The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.**

The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: U.S. Department of Education  
Student Privacy Policy Office  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington DC 20202-8520

## **SCHOOL VISITATION RIGHTS ACT**

The School Visitation Rights Act permits employed parents/guardians, who are unable to meet with educators because of a work conflict, the right to time off from work under certain conditions to attend necessary school functions such as parent-teacher conferences, academic meetings and behavioral meetings. Letters verifying participation in this program are available from the school office upon request.

## **SECURITY CAMERAS**

For the safety and security of our students, security cameras have been installed inside the school as well as around the exterior of the building. Security cameras will be in operation 24 hours a day.

## **STUDENT BIOMETRIC INFORMATION**

Before collecting biometric information from students, the school must seek the permission of the student's parent/guardian or the student, if over the age of 18. Biometric information means information that is collected from students based on their unique characters, such as a fingerprint, voice recognition or retinal scan.

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

### **Education of Children with Disabilities**

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services.

The School provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the school. The term "children with disabilities" means children between ages 3 and the day before their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday for whom it is determined that

special education services are needed. It is the intent of the school to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

A copy of the publication “Explanation of Procedural Safeguards Available to Parents of Students with Disabilities” may be obtained from the school district office.

Students with disabilities who do not qualify for an individualized education program, as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and implementing provisions of this Illinois law, may qualify for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if the student (i) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of a physical or mental impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

For further information, please contact:

Keri Koester  
618-272-3821 ext: 1318  
Gallatin County CUSD #7; 5175 Hwy 13; Junction, IL 62954

### **Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities**

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the superintendent or building principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION: IEP Service Log**

For a child with an individualized education program (IEP), the school district must create related service logs that

record the type of related services administered under the child’s IEP and the minutes of each type of related service that has been administered. These related service logs will be available to parents/guardians at a student’s annual review IEP meeting. Parents/guardians may also request a copy of any IEP related service log maintained for their child. Please direct any requests for a copy of a related service log for your child to Keri Koester, LEA Representative at 272-7008, ext. 1318.

### **STUDENT BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which reflects respect for each other, for their teachers, staff members, and school facilities. Students may be disciplined for misconduct which occurs on school buses, in school buildings, or on school grounds at any time, on the way to and from school, at bus stops, at school-sponsored activities whether or not held on the grounds of the school district, while being transported to and from school sponsored activities or events. Students may also be disciplined when the misconduct is directed against school employees, their families, or their property because of their status as employees.

The consequences stated are recommended as a guide in determining the disciplinary action for student violations. This in no way implies that these consequences must be followed sequentially, or that other or more severe actions cannot be taken. Each disciplinary case will be handled appropriately at the discretion of the administrator in charge.

EXPULSION or Alternative Placement  
SUSPENSION

ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM (ACR)  
DETENTION

***Prohibited Student Conduct***

Students may be disciplined for gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to the following: 1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens, or other vaping related products. 2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of alcoholic beverages are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.

3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:

- a. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law).
- b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law.
- e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- f. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- g. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
- h. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in a tablet or powdered form.

4. Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

5. Using, possessing, controlling or transferring a "weapon" or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.

6. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.

7. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or similar electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device or cellular telephone, commonly known as "sexting." Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the building principal, all cellular phones, smartphones and other electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student's lunch period; or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

8. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.

9. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a staff member's request to stop, present school identification or submit to a search.

10. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.

11. Engaging in bullying, hazing or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student or encouraging other students to engage in such behavior. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network or other comparable conduct.

12. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning) and sexual assault.

13. Engaging in teen dating violence.

14. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.

15. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.

16. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (calling 9-1-1); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.

17. Being absent without a recognized excuse.

18. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society.

19. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.

20. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and hazing.

21. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

22. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.

23. Operating an unarmed aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the building principal.

For purposes of these rules, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student lockers, desks, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

### ***When and Where Conduct Rules Apply***

The grounds for disciplinary action also apply whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;

2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property or
5. During periods of remote learning.

### ***Disciplinary Measures***

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out of school voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following measures:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. (If transportation arrangements can not be made in advance, an alternative disciplinary measure will be assigned to the student.
8. Community service.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
11. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State law.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension or expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only

reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

### ***Isolated Time Out, Time Out and Physical Restraint***

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

### ***Corporal Punishment***

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

### ***Weapons Prohibition***

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than 2 calendar years:

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than 2 calendar years:

(1) A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, a weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The expulsion period may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

(2) A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including "look alikes" of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

### ***Gang & Gang Activity Prohibited***

"Gang" is defined as any group, club or organization of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts. No student on or about school property or at any school activity or whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to a school activity, shall: (1) wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell any clothing, jewelry, paraphernalia or other items which reasonably could be regarded as gang symbols; commit any act or omission, or use either verbal or non-verbal gestures, or handshakes showing membership or affiliation in a gang; or (2) use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interest of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to, soliciting others for membership in any gangs; (3) request any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidate, harass or threaten any person; (4) commit any other illegal act or other violation of district policies, (5) or incite other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

### ***Re-Engagement of Returning Students***

The building principal or designee shall meet with a student returning to school from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion or alternative school setting. The goal of this meeting shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusion and shall include an opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make-up missed work for equivalent academic credit.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Students may be appointed to the Student Council if deemed worthy by the principal.

## **STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

A grievance is a difference of opinion raised by a student or group of students involving: (1) the meaning, interpretation or application of established policies; (2) difference of treatment; or (3) application of the legal requirements of civil rights legislation.

This procedure is not intended to limit the option of the district and a grievant(s) to resolve any grievance mutually and informally. Hearing and conferences under this procedure shall be conducted at a time and place which will afford a fair and equitable opportunity for all persons.

The following grievance procedure is not required if the grievant(s) prefers other alternatives such as the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) or the courts. Due process shall exist throughout the procedure with the right to: (1)

representation; (2) present witnesses and evidence; (3) confidentiality; (4) review relevant records; and (5) proceed without harassment and/or retaliation. More detailed information is available in the office of the superintendent and the building principal. Time limits refer to days when school is in session.

STEP I: The student(s) and/or parent(s) should discuss the matter with the person(s) directly responsible for the grievance issue within fourteen (14) days of the time when a reasonably alert person should have been aware of the event giving rise to a grievance. An oral response must be made within five (5) days.

STEP II: If the grievance is not resolved, it should be submitted in writing within five (5) days to the building principal. The grievance should be described as specifically and completely as possible. A thorough investigation of the issue will be documented. Extra investigation of the issue will be held between the grievant and district representative within ten (10) days and a written response made within five (5) days.

STEP III: If a satisfactory solution is not reached, the grievant(s) may appeal the issue in writing to the office of the superintendent of designer within five (5) days from the receipt of the response of Step II. A meeting between the parties will be held within ten (10) days and a written response made within five (5) days. A complete record of this meeting shall be kept and signed by both parties for possible future reference.

STEP IV: If the issue is not satisfactorily resolved on Step III, the grievant(s) may appeal the grievance in writing to the school board within five (5) days from the receipt of the written response. The board shall consider the appeal within sixty (60) days and a written response shall be given within five (5) days.

## **REPORTING CONCERNS**

If a parent/guardian should have a problem regarding a teacher or the school we ask that the following school procedure be followed:

First, approach the teacher. Often, a simple misunderstanding can be cleared up quickly and easily. If the matter cannot be resolved through a meeting with the Teacher, the Principal is the next point of contact. Then, if the matter needs to be taken further, parents/guardians can go to the District Superintendent. If no resolve parents may choose to fill out the required paperwork with the Superintendent's office and be added to the public comment section of the next regularly scheduled school board meeting. Venting on social media is never recommended and will only exacerbate the situation.

Remember a negative comment about a teacher or school posted on social media can prove very costly if legal action would be taken. The teacher or school does not have to be named if the comments can be pieced together to work out who is being spoken about; that is sufficient evidence of defamation. When posting on social media during or at the end of the day, it really is all about respect, and teaching our children that adults do not always have to agree, however, adults need to be able to show respect to one another, failing to do so will prove detrimental to everyone involved. Parents/guardians and teachers need to lead by example.

## **STUDENT MESSAGES/ARRANGEMENTS**

Phone messages from parents will be given to students by the office staff in emergencies. Parents should make every attempt to instruct students about where to go or what to do after school before the students leave home each morning. Please do not expect the office staff to deliver unnecessary messages that should have or could have been given to the student before he/she left home. Parents and guardians are reminded that they must send a note in the morning on the day their child will be riding a different bus. Unless it is an emergency, please do not call the school with a bus pass request. Emergency arrangements should be made before 1:00 p.m. The Jr. High office will be serving approximately 230 students so your cooperation is both needed and sincerely appreciated.

## **STUDENT PARKING LOT REGULATIONS**

The following parking lot regulations will be strictly adhered to:

1. Parking is strictly limited to the student parking area.
2. Students are not to loiter in the parking lot. Students are not to sit in parked cars. Upon arrival at

- school, students are to leave their vehicles and enter the building to their designated areas. 3. The parking lot and vehicles are off-limits until school is dismissed at the end of the day. 4. All vehicles must be covered by insurance. The school is not responsible for automobiles and their contents.
5. Students vehicles are subject to search if there are reasonable grounds to believe that drugs, alcohol, weapons, stolen property or other contraband might be present in a vehicle.
6. Parking regulations are enforced. **IT IS CONSIDERED A PRIVILEGE TO DRIVE AND PARK ON SCHOOL GROUNDS! IT IS NOT A RIGHT!** Any violation of the above guidelines may result in the suspension of driving privileges, towing of vehicles, and/or suspension from school. 7. Junior High students will not drive vehicles to school.

## **STUDENT'S RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### ***RIGHTS***

1. Each student has the right to pursue an education.
2. Each student has the right to express opinions verbally or in writing.
3. Each student has the right to dress in such a way as to express the student's personality. 4. Each student has the right to expect that the school will be a safe place for all students to gain an education.
5. Each student has the right to expect to assist in making decisions concerning his own educational goals.
6. In case of suspensions and expulsions, the student who is disciplined has the rights provided by the School Code, Constitutional due process, and the policies adopted by Unit #7.

### ***RESPONSIBILITIES***

1. Each student must not hamper any other student from pursuing an education.
2. Express opinions and ideas in a respectful manner so as not to offend or slander others. 3. Dress so as to meet recognized standards of health and safety and not to the detriment of the educational process.
4. Be aware of all rules and expectations regulating student behavior and conduct and to follow the guidelines established in this code.
5. Participating positively in learning situations.
6. Be willing to volunteer information in disciplinary cases should the student have knowledge of importance in such a case.

## **SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

### ***I. GENERAL***

- A. Students committing acts of gross disobedience or misconduct may be suspended or expelled from school. Any student suspended from school or riding the bus shall have the opportunity to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.
- B. Authority to suspend a student is delegated to the superintendent and principals.
- C. Suspension is defined to mean an exclusion of a student from school or from riding the bus for a period of time not to exceed the (10) school days by summary action of the superintendent or principals. D. Expulsion is defined to mean exclusion of a student from school or from riding the bus for a period of time, up to a maximum of two schools years by the Board of Education. Expulsion may be preceded by suspension. E. School personnel includes employees, teachers, administrators, school board members, school bus drivers, and other school district employees and students where the term is appropriate.

### ***II. DEFINITION OF GROSS DISOBEDIENCE OR MISCONDUCT***

Gross disobedience or misconduct may be grounds for suspension or expulsion. Such conduct may occur on school grounds, on a school bus or at a school function. Such conduct may also occur outside the school grounds provided there is a direct relationship between the conduct and the school's education function. Gross disobedience or misconduct shall include any conduct, behavior, or activity which causes or may reasonably lead school authorities to forecast substantial disruption or material interference with school activities or the rights of others. It shall be further defined to include but is not limited to the following types of conduct, behavior or activity or any other activity or behavior which may be prescribed by the school board from time to time:

- A. Possession of, use of, or distribution of any dangerous substance or weapon or look-alike.

1. The Gun-Free Act of 1994 (20U.S.C.8001): This Act requires all public schools to expel for a period of not less than one year any student who brings a weapon to school. This is mandatory expulsion. B. Unexcused



absences from school or from any class.

C. Insubordination to any school personnel which includes failure to follow directions or produce student identification, passes, etc.

D. Intimidating or attempting to intimidate school personnel.

E. Fighting with or assaulting school personnel or students.

F. Intentional damage to or destruction of school property, or property of school personnel.

G. Verbal abuse or use of profanity or obscenity to school personnel.

H. Endangering the physical well being of the school population by acts such as:

1. Improper release of a school fire alarm or tampering with fire extinguishers.

2. Calling emergency responders (911), in the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists. 3.

Indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school buses, or at any school

activity. A bomb threat is a felony punishable by 2-5 years in prison and expulsion from school. 4. Starting a

fire in or to school property or attempting to do so.

I. Repeated incidents of misbehavior including the repeated refusal to comply with school rules. J. Other acts which directly or indirectly jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of school personnel. K. Other behavior or conduct which is of such gross nature as to constitute a violation of the spirit or intent of these rules though not explicitly stated above or which in itself is so gross as to constitute on its face gross disobedience or misconduct.

L. Creating or attempting to create a classroom disturbance.

M. Smoking or use of tobacco in or on school property or look-alike.

N. Possessing or consuming any alcoholic beverage, a controlled substance/illegal drug, a look-alike/counterfeit drug or any other substances which cause a physiological or psychological change.

O. Any form of harassment will not be tolerated.

### ***DUE PROCESS***

Due Process will be accord to all students. This means that students:

1. Must have had the opportunity to become informed of the school regulations and procedures.

2. Must be informed of the provisions allegedly violated.

3. Must be given an opportunity to give their version of the alleged violation.

Levels of authority:

1. Teacher or other school personnel

2. Principal or assistant principal.

3. Superintendent

4. Board of Education

### ***III. PROCEDURE FOR SUSPENSION***

#### **A. Pre-suspension Procedure**

1. The superintendent or principal shall confer with the student who is under consideration for suspension.

The student shall be adequately advised of the reasons for the proposed suspension, and ask for his version of the incident that gave the proposed suspension.

2. If the student denies his/her guilt, he/she shall be advised as to the evidence upon which the suspension may be predicated.

3. The student shall be given an opportunity to respond to the evidence.

4. If the conference does not cause the charges to be dropped, the suspension procedure set forth below shall be followed.

5. The person conferring with the student shall make anecdotal record of the conference. 6. When, in the opinion of the persons empowered to suspend, the student poses an immediate threat to school personnel or property or an ongoing threat for disruption of the educational process, the student may be summarily removed from the school without following the pre-suspension conference within that time if at all possible. If the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property, a pre-suspension conference is not required and the student can be immediately suspended.

#### **B. Notification**

1. Immediately following the pre-suspension conference, if it results in a decision to suspend, the parents or guardian of the student and the student shall be advised of the decision to suspend by certified mail, return receipt requested:

a. The notice shall state the reasons for the suspension and the duration of the suspension. b. The notice shall inform the parents or guardian of the student that they may request a review of such

suspension and that their failure to request such review within five days after receipt of the notice

shall constitute a waiver of the right to such review.

c. The request for review must be in writing directed to the superintendent's office.

2. The school board shall be notified of each suspension by a notice sent to each member of the school board.

3. Where the suspension is ordered by a principal, a copy of the notice of suspension shall be immediately furnished to the superintendent.

**C. Suspension Review**

1. If a request for review of the suspension is made by the student, parents, or guardian, written notification of the time and place of such review shall be given at least one week prior to the review. The letter shall also set forth the review hearing procedure.

2. The review hearing shall be conducted by the school board.

**D. School Board Review of Contested Suspension**

1. The review of a contested suspension shall be conducted by the school board in executive session within thirty (30) days of the notice of suspension or the review hearing, whichever is later.

2. The school board shall take such action as it deems appropriate including affirming or overruling the suspension.

3. The decision of the school board shall be final and shall be made in public session except that the name of the student shall not be announced.

4. If the school board shall determine that the suspension was not justified, the student's records shall be marked "excused". The student will be allowed to make up missed work.

5. Written notification of the school boards decision on the suspension review shall be mailed to the parents or guardian within 48 hours after the school board meeting.

**IV. EXPULSION PROCEDURE**

A. If a student is to be recommended for expulsion, the superintendent shall send a letter by certified mail (return receipt requested) to the parents or guardian of the student notifying them of the proposed expulsion. If the expulsion is preceded by a removal from school the pre-suspension procedure must be followed.

B. The superintendent may elect after a suspension initiated, to move to expel, in which event the suspension review shall be combined with the expulsion hearing.

C. The notification of expulsion letter shall include:

1. The reasons for the proposed expulsion.

2. The time and place of the expulsion hearing which shall be at least one week after the notification is sent.

3. The hearing procedure.

D. Expulsion hearings will be conducted by the school board.

E. The penalty imposed by the board may be expulsion for a period up to a maximum of two school years.

**V. PROCEDURE FOR SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION HEARINGS**

A. The hearing shall be held in executive session.

B. The student may attend the hearing and be represented by a representative of his choice.

C. Presentation of evidence.

1. The school officials shall present their evidence first. Such evidence may be in oral or written form. The school officials need not present their witnesses for confrontation if the school officials determine the such witnesses would be subject to physical or mental harassment. In such cases, a summary of the witness' testimony must be presented to the student at the hearing.

2. The student may present evidence to refute the charges either orally or in writing. He shall be afforded an opportunity for cross-examination of any written evidence presented.

3. Pertinent and relevant evidence shall be received without regard to the rules of evidence in such a manner as is appropriate to the circumstances.

4. The hearing may be recorded stenographically or by tape. If either party cause a recordation to be made, the other party shall be offered an opportunity to purchase a copy of the transcript of the tape. 5. The parties may make a short opening statement as to their position on the issues at the commencement of the hearing.

6. There may be short closing arguments by the parties at the conclusion of the hearing.

7. A motion to exclude witnesses may be made by either party.

D. The Department of Mental Health shall be invited to send a representative to the hearing to consult with the board whenever there is evidence that mental illness may be the cause for the suspension or expulsion.

## **SCHOOL OPERATIONS DURING A PANDEMIC OR OTHER HEALTH EMERGENCY**

A pandemic is a global outbreak of disease. Pandemics happen when a new virus emerges to infect individuals and, because there is little to no pre-existing immunity against the new virus, it spreads sustainably. Your child's school and district play an essential role, along with the local health department and emergency management agencies, in protecting the public's health and safety during a pandemic or other health emergency.

During a pandemic or other health emergency, you will be notified in a timely manner of all changes to the school environment and schedule that impact your child. Please be assured that even if school is not physically in session, it is the goal of the school and district to provide your child with the best educational opportunities possible.

Additionally, please note the following:

1. All decisions regarding changes to the school environment and schedule, including a possible interruption of in-person learning, will be made by the superintendent in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Governor, Illinois Department of Public Health, local health department, emergency management agencies, and/or Regional Office of Education.
2. Available learning opportunities may include remote and/or blended learning. Blended learning may require your child to attend school on a modified schedule.
3. Students will be expected to participate in blended and remote instruction as required by the school and district. Parents are responsible for assuring the participation of their child. Students who do not participate in blended or remote learning will be considered truant.
4. All school disciplinary rules remain in effect during the interruption of in-person learning. Students are subject to discipline for disrupting the remote learning environment to the same extent that discipline would be imposed for disruption of the traditional classroom.
5. Students and parents will be required to observe all public health and safety measures implemented by the school and district in conjunction with state and local requirements.
6. During a pandemic or other health emergency, the school and district will ensure that educational opportunities are available to all students.
7. School personnel will work closely with students with disabilities and other vulnerable student populations to minimize the impact of any educational disruption.
8. Students who have a compromised immune system, live with an individual with a compromised immune system, or have a medical condition that may impact their ability to attend school during a pandemic or other public health emergency should contact school officials.
9. During a pandemic or other health emergency, teachers and school staff will receive additional training on health and safety measures.
10. In accordance with school district or state mandates, the school may need to conduct a daily health assessment of your child. Parents and students will be notified of the exact assessment procedures if this becomes necessary.
11. Parents should not send their child to school if their child exhibits any symptoms consistent with the pandemic or other health emergency.
12. Please do not hesitate to contact school or district officials if you have any concerns regarding your child's education, health or safety.

## **TEEN DATING VIOLENCE**

Teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. Teen dating violence occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship. Anyone with information about incidents of teen dating violence is encouraged to report them to any school staff members (teacher, administrator, social worker, etc). School staff shall respond to incidents of teen dating violence by following the District's established procedures for prevention, identification, investigation, and response to bullying and school violence. Parents/guardians will be notified. Complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible given the need to investigate. Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen*

*dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

## **TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

**NO** tobacco products, electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes will be permitted on school grounds. If brought to school, they will be confiscated and appropriate disciplinary procedures will result. Students who have tobacco products at school will receive one day of suspension. Students who use tobacco products at school will receive a minimum of two days of suspension.

## **VIOLENT OFFENDER COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION**

State law requires that all school districts provide parents/guardians with information about sex offenders and violent offenders against youth.

You may find the Illinois Sex Offender Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at:  
<http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/> .

You may find the Illinois Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/> .

## **VISITORS**

The school policy is to accept only those visitors who have legitimate business to attend to at the school. Guest and visitors must register in the office. Parents are always welcome, but students are not permitted to bring guests. Visitors are expected to leave promptly when their business is completed.

Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespass and/or disruptive behavior.

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building and proceed immediately to the main office. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school.

Visitors must sign in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location they are visiting. Approved visitors must take a tag identifying themselves as a guest and place the tag to their outer clothing in a clearly visible location. Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. All visitors must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school.

Any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespass and/or disruptive behavior.

No person on school property or at a school event shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.

9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and district policies.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other district policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or district employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the district or a school function.

## **WEAPONS**

Any student who brings a weapon to school or any school sponsored activity or event, or any event that "bears a reasonable relationship" to school shall be expelled. The term weapon refers to the possession, use, control, or transfer of any object that may be used to cause bodily harm. Any student caught with a weapon will be referred to the criminal justice system.

## **WEATHER NOTE**

When students and parents are in doubt about school closings due to the weather, they should listen to radio stations WEBQ-Harrisburg, WROY-WRUL Carmi, or TV stations WSIL-Marion, WTVW, Fox 7, Evansville, and WPSD Paducah and the automated school phone system. If no report is heard, it can be assumed that school will be in session. **PLEASE DO NO CALL THE ADMINISTRATORS.** Telephone lines must be kept open for emergencies. In order to be informed by phone of school closings, please remember to complete the emergency alert page and return to school.

## **WEBSITE/TECHNOLOGY**

### **Annual Notice to Parents about Educational Technology**

### **Vendors Under the Student Online Personal Protection Act**

School districts throughout the State of Illinois contract with different educational technology vendors for beneficial K-12 purposes such as providing personalized learning and innovative educational technologies, and increasing efficiency in school operations.

Under Illinois' Student Online Personal Protection Act, or SOPPA (105 ILCS 85/), educational technology vendors and other entities that operate Internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications that are designed, marketed, and primarily used for K-12 school purposes are referred to in SOPPA as operators. SOPPA is intended to ensure that student data collected by operators is protected, and it requires those vendors, as well as school districts and the Ill. State Board of Education, to take a number of actions to protect online student data.

Depending upon the particular educational technology being used, our District may need to collect different types of student data, which is then shared with educational technology vendors through their online sites, services, and/or applications. Under SOPPA, educational technology vendors are prohibited from selling or

renting a student's information or from engaging in targeted advertising using a student's information. Such vendors may only disclose student data for K-12 school purposes and other limited purposes permitted under the law.

In general terms, the types of student data that may be collected and shared include personally identifiable information (PII) about students or information that can be linked to PII about students, such as:

- Basic identifying information, including student or parent/guardian name and student or parent/guardian contact information, username/password, student ID number
- Demographic information
- Enrollment information
- Assessment data, grades, and transcripts
- Attendance and class schedule
- Academic/extracurricular activities
- Special indicators (e.g., disability information, English language learner, free/reduced meals or homeless/foster care status)
- Conduct/behavioral data
- Health information
- Food purchases
- Transportation information
- In-application performance data
- Student-generated work
- Online communications
- Application metadata and application use statistics
- Permanent and temporary school student record information

Operators may collect and use student data only for K-12 purposes, which are purposes that aid in the administration of school activities, such as:

- Instruction in the classroom or at home (including remote learning)
- Administrative activities
- Collaboration between students, school personnel, and/or parents/guardians
- Other activities that are for the use and benefit of the school district

## **WEBSITES/TECHNOLOGY**

Websites created by student(s) away from school and on the student's own time and personal computer that directly relates to school and/or school personnel may be disciplined because of its content.

### ***Technology***

Student Use of Technology Resources Students will have access to web-based tools, digital resources and applications that support curricular objectives, and these online services may collect, use and disclose personal information (such as student names and email addresses). These online services are only permitted for the use and benefit of the school for the purpose of student learning. In accordance with Board policies and regulations, students will be strongly discouraged from providing any other personal information. Parents and guardians should contact their child's teacher if additional information is needed about websites and online services being used for learning in their child's classes.

### ***Computer/Electronic Devices, Unauthorized Use:***

Law enforcement may be notified depending on the infraction. The unauthorized use of a computer/electronic device is defined as the following:

**A.** Use of district device or technology resource or personal device on any district property, school bus or at a school related event, to download or review data or other materials from a database, computer network or computer system, with or without authorization, when accessing or downloading such data is prohibited, is pornographic, advocates violence or civil disobedience, or will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful district policies and procedures; or

**B.** Use of any district technology resources to access, view, disseminate or create information or digital media/material that constitutes insulting or fighting words, the very expression of which injures or harasses other people (e.g. threats of violence, defamation of character or of a person's race, religion or ethnic origin); presents a clear and present likelihood that, because of their content or their manner of distribution, they will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities; or will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful district policies and procedures; or

**C.** Use of district device, mobile device or any technology resource to do, or attempt to do, any of the following items is prohibited (whether or not they are blocked by the district web filter): • Access unauthorized files from district servers • Access a proxy server

- Access, view, disseminate or create information or material/digital media that is pornographic, obscene, child pornography, harmful, obscene, libelous or pervasively indecent or vulgar
- Access fee services without permission from an administrator
- Attempt to read, delete, copy or modify electronic messages of other users
- Bypass the district web filter
- Download or install unlicensed or unauthorized executable file, software and audio or video media files on district servers or computer without authorization
- Send unsolicited mass email or other electronic messages
- Use of another user's ID, password or personal identification number
- Use of any district technology resource for individual profit or gain (e.g. product advertisement, political activities or excessive personal use)
- Engage in a pattern of unacceptable tech-related behavior which violates school rules and/or district policy, to include but not limited to, use of district technology resources to access non-academic content without prior authorization

### ***Technology Administration***

The technology director will maintain the district's technology in a manner that will protect the district from liability and will protect confidential student and employee information retained on or accessible through district technology resources.

Administrators of district technology resources may suspend access to and/or availability of the district's technology resources to diagnose and investigate network problems or potential violations of the law or district policies and procedures. All district technology resources are considered district property. The district may remove, change or exchange hardware or other technology between buildings, classrooms or users at any time without prior notice. Authorized district personnel may install or remove programs or information, install equipment, upgrade any system or enter any system at any time.

### ***Content Filtering and Monitoring***

The district will monitor the online activities of users and operate a technology protection measure (content filter) on the network and district technology with Internet access, as required by law. In accordance with law, the content filter will be used to protect against access to visual depictions that are obscene or harmful to minors or are child pornography. Content filters are not foolproof, and the district cannot guarantee that users will never be able to

access offensive materials using district equipment. Evading or disabling, or attempting to evade or disable, a content filter installed by the district is prohibited.

The district's technology director may fully or partially disable the district's content filter to enable access for an adult for bona fide research or for other lawful purposes. In making decisions to fully or partially disable the district's content filter, the school administrator shall consider whether the use will serve a legitimate educational purpose or otherwise benefit the district.

### ***Online Safety, Security and Confidentiality***

In addition to the use of a content filter, the district will take measures to prevent minors from using district technology to access inappropriate matter or materials harmful to minors on the Internet. Such measures shall include, but are not limited to, supervising and monitoring student technology use, careful planning when using technology in the curriculum and instructing on appropriate materials. The district's technology director will develop procedures to provide users guidance on which materials and uses are inappropriate, including network etiquette guidelines. All minor students will be instructed on safety and security issues, including instruction on the dangers of sharing personal information about themselves or others when using email, social media, chat rooms or other forms of direct electronic communication. Instruction will also address cyberbullying awareness and response and appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms.

The instruction will occur in computer courses, courses in which students are introduced to the computer and the Internet, or courses that use the Internet in instruction. Students are required to follow all district rules when using district technology resources and are prohibited from sharing personal information online unless authorized by the district.

All district employees must abide by state and federal laws and Board policies and procedures when using district technology resources to communicate information about personally identifiable students to prevent unlawful disclosure of student information or records.

All users are prohibited from using district technology to gain unauthorized access to a technology system or information; connect to other systems in evasion of the physical limitations of the remote system; to copy district files without authorization; interfere with the ability of others to utilize technology; secure higher level of privilege without authorization; introduce computer viruses, hacking tools or other disruptive/ destructive programs onto district technology; or to evade or disable a content filter.

### ***Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites***

School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination.



## **Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7**

### **COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT**

**Please read the following guidelines carefully.**

**This form must be filled out completely or access may be denied.**

**Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7 provides students with a variety of technology (computers, chromebooks, laptops, cameras, TV, VCR, scanner, DVD player, calculator, media projectors, smart boards, document cameras, different formats of software, etc.) to use for educational purposes. These procedures do not attempt to state all required or prohibited behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action.**

**To use the technology provided at Gallatin County, students must abide by the following guidelines.**

#### **COMPUTER AND INTERNET TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- 1. Acceptable Use - The original purpose of the Internet was, and largely still is, to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the United States by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of school computers must support education and research that is consistent with the Learning Outcomes of Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7. Use of another organization's network or violation of any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. The Superintendent or designee may revise these guidelines as needed.**
- 2. Privileges – The Internet and network is to be used for educational research and/or academic purposes. Access to the computer network system is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use of the system may result in discipline, including but not limited to loss of computer use privileges.**
- 3. Email –Students are allowed to use the school provided email for classroom, learning, and device logon only. Inappropriate use of email may result in discipline, including but not limited to revoked email account and loss of computer and or device use privileges.**
- 4. Security - Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the Network, you must notify a teacher or principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the network. Attempts to gain unauthorized access to system programs or computer equipment will result in cancellation of**

user privileges. Downloading of information onto the hard drives of Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7 computers is prohibited. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to District computers. Users should not expect that files stored on school based computers would be private. Files stored on school-based computers may be treated like school lockers. Administrators and faculty may review files to maintain the integrity of the system and ensure that users are acting responsibly. From time to time, Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7 system administrators will make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are consistent with the acceptable use practice.

**5. Prohibited Use - The following activities are unacceptable and prohibited, and shall result in disciplinary action which, in the case of students, may include disciplinary measures as well as suspension or denial of computer network system privileges.**

- Do not use the system to:
- Retrieve, view or disseminate obscene, indecent, or vulgar materials.
- Retrieve, view or disseminate any material in violation of any federal or state regulation or school policy. This includes, but is not limited to, improper use of copyrighted material and improper use of passwords or access codes.
- Transfer files or any software to or from a school computer without prior approval from an authorized staff member. Unauthorized use of personal removable media devices (such as flash or thumb drives);
- It is the District's intention to prevent the spread of technological viruses.
- Engage in for-profit commercial activities, including advertising or sales.
- Harass, threaten, intimidate, or demean any person or group of people.
- Disrupt the educational process, or to interfere with the rights of others at any time, either during school days or after school hours.
- Disrupt information network traffic, or to interfere with network and/or connected systems.
- Gain access without permission to the files of others, or vandalize another user's data or files.
- Gain unauthorized access to resources, entities or the network operations system.
- Gain access to unapproved software programs.
- Improperly forge or alter electronic mail messages, or use an account owned by another user.
- Invade another person's privacy. This includes but is not limited to disclosing the full name, home address, or phone number of any other person. To protect their own privacy, users should not use the system to disclose their own names, addresses, or phone numbers, either.
- Download, copy, print or otherwise store or possess any data that might be considered in violation of these rules.
- Activate chat-rooms, e-mail (students), downloading of games or music, and/or other non-curricular based applications while on the Internet.

- Wastefully using resources, such as file space
- Posting or sending anonymous messages
- Using the electronic networks while access privileges are suspended or revoked.
- Wastefully using resources, such as file space

**6. Accuracy of Information -** Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7 specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through District accounts. Information (including text, graphics, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers and reports should be cited the same as references to printed materials.

**7. Vandalism -** Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges as well as other sanctions cited in the Student Handbook. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm, modify, or destroy computer hardware, data of another user, Internet, or any of the other networks that are connected to the Internet backbone. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

**8. Inappropriate Use -** Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7 teachers and administrators will deem what is inappropriate use. The administration, faculty, and staff of Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7 may discipline any user who violates these acceptable use practices in any of the following actions:

- § Suspension of Internet access or privileges;
- § Revocation of Internet access or privileges;
- § Suspension of computer network access;
- § Revocation of computer network access;
- § School expulsion, and;
- § Referral to legal authorities for prosecution.

**9. Network Etiquette –** The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1.** Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- 2.** Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- 3.** Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.

- 4.** Recognize that the District's electronic networks are not private. People who operate District technology have access to all email and other data. Messages or other evidence relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- 5.** Do not use the networks in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- 6.** Consider all communications and information accessible via the electronic networks to be private property.

**No Warranties –** The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the

Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

**Indemnification –** By using the District's electronic networks, the user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

**Telephone Charges –** The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, texting or data use charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

**Copyright Web Publishing Rules –** Copyright law and District policy prohibit the re-publishing of text or graphics found on the Internet or on District websites or file servers/cloud storage without explicit written permission.

- 1.** For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.

- 2.** Students engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of *public domain* documents must be provided.
- 3.** The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.
- 4.** The *fair use* rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
- 5.** Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and student.

**Use of technology is a privilege, not a right!**

**GALATIN COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7  
ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT**

**Student, Parent/Guardian**

I understand and will abide by the above Acceptable Use Agreement. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be instituted. I understand and will not harm, modify or destroy computer or computer hardware, data of another user, internet or any other networks that are connected to the Internet backbone. Disabling damage or device destruction shall result in the student being billed for the total cost repairing or replacing the Chromebook (approx. \$300).

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student name (please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Student signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**

**Parent or Guardian**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent or Guardian e-mail address**

### **District Responsibilities**

- ▶ We will provide students with a Chromebook to use at times during the academic year. Students will return the Chromebook as instructed by Gallatin County Faculty and Administration.
- ▶ We will provide students wireless digital access to academic content and resources at school.
- ▶ We will encourage students and staff to use electronic resources to promote educational excellence through resource sharing, innovation, communication, and electronic tools.
- ▶ We will provide internet filtering capabilities in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

### **Wireless and Internet Filtering Information**

While at school or at home, students will be required to authenticate (login with school provided credentials) the chromebook to the district's management suite prior to use. Students may not connect to the internet in any other way and attempts to bypass the district's management suite will constitute a violation of the district's Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. Once on the school district's wireless network, all users will have filtered internet access just as they would on any other district owned device. The filtering capabilities provided by the district meet the guidelines established by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

### **Student Responsibilities**

*The school provided Chromebook for the student is an important learning tool to be used for educational purposes. In order to use the device each day, the student must be willing to accept the following responsibilities:*

- ▶ I will sign and return the Chromebook User Agreement, participate in the Chromebook Protection Plan to Gallatin County Community Unit School District 7 prior to the device being issued. The plan covers the following accidental disabling damage to the device for the school year:

- 1st occurrence of accidental disabling damage - Covered at no charge
- 2nd occurrence of accidental disabling damage - a co-pay replacement charge up to \$50 dollars may be paid to Gallatin County Community Unit

**School District 7 prior to a replacement device being issued.**

- **Any additional occurrences of disabling damage shall result in the student being billed for the total cost repairing or replacing the Chromebook (approx. \$300).**

- ▶ **I will be responsible for ALL damage or loss of the device due to NEGLECT OR ABUSE.**
- ▶ **At ALL times when using my Chromebook, I will follow the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy, all related policies adopted by the Board of Education, and abide by all local, state and federal laws.**
- ▶ **I will talk with my parent/guardian about their ground rules for going online when not at school.**
- ▶ **I agree to follow all of the rules in the Student Code of Conduct when using my Chromebook**
- ▶ **I will treat my device with care by not dropping it, not letting it get wet, not leaving it in extreme weather conditions, and not using it with food or drink nearby.**
- ▶ **I will notify the school principal and my parents of any damage to the device as soon as possible.**
- ▶ **I understand that district officials have the ability to monitor my use of the device at all times and that communications, files, internet search activities and any other actions using the device are not considered to be private. Note: *GCUSD7 does not have the ability to and will not remotely operate the camera on the device. However, students can cover it when not in use to ensure others are not.***
- ▶ **I will charge the Chromebook battery each night and will bring my Chromebook to school every day.**
- ▶ **I will always carry my Chromebook closed.**
- ▶ **I will keep my Chromebook clean.**
- ▶ **I understand that the device assigned to me is on loan from Gallatin County Community Unit School District 7. All accounts, programs, and files are subject to inspection at any time without notice.**
- ▶ **I will not lend my device to anyone. This includes family members and friends. Note: *I could be held responsible for any inappropriate content on the District issued chromebook.***
- ▶ **I will keep all passwords assigned to me secure.**
- ▶ **I am allowed to connect to non-district printers and wireless networks at home and in public places.**



- ▶ I will not try to repair my Chromebook.
- ▶ I agree that e-mail or any other computer communication should be used only for appropriate, legitimate, and responsible communication.
- ▶ I agree not to share personal information about myself (full name, address, etc.) or about my family, friends or anyone else.
- ▶ I agree not to search for, download, display, post, or distribute vulgar, offensive material or images described in applicable district policies. *(See the student handbook and/or the district's Acceptable Use Agreement.)*
- ▶ I agree to abide by all school rules that address electronic device procedures when I am not in an academic class.
- ▶ I will return the device when requested, at the end of the school year or upon my withdrawal.

### **Parent/Guardian Responsibilities**

*The student named below is being issued a Chromebook to improve and personalize his/her education this year. It is essential that the following guidelines be followed to ensure the safe, efficient, and ethical operation of this computer. In order for the student named below to take the device home each day, the parent/guardian must be willing to accept these responsibilities.*

- ▶ My child & I will sign and return the Chromebook User Agreement to Gallatin County Community Unit School District 7 prior to the device being issued.
- ▶ I will review materials provided by the school to ensure that I understand the school's responsibility, the student's responsibility, and my responsibility. We will discuss at home the acceptable and unacceptable uses of the device according to district policies.
- ▶ I understand that district officials have the ability to monitor my child's use of the device at all times and that communications, files, internet search activities and any other actions using the device are not considered to be private.
- ▶ I understand that the school district has made reasonable attempts to provide a safe computing environment for students within the district's network at school or accessing the internet from home. I also understand that it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the internet to information and communications that they and/or parents/guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial.
- ▶ I will supervise the use of the device at home to make sure that it is used and stored appropriately.

- ▶ I will be responsible for ALL damage or loss of the device due to **NEGLECT OR ABUSE**.
- ▶ I will monitor that the battery is being recharged each night.
- ▶ I will monitor that the Chromebook is returned to school each day classes are in session.
- ▶ I agree to make sure the device, when requested, is returned to school.

**Parent/Student Chromebook User Agreement**

By signing this document, my child and I agree to the following:

- ▶ I agree to adhere to the responsibilities outlined in the Gallatin County Community Unit School District 7's One-to-One Technology Initiative.
- ▶ I understand that one Chromebook, power adapter, and case are being lent to the student and are in good working order. It is the student's responsibility to care for the equipment and ensure that it is retained in a safe environment.
- ▶ I understand this equipment is, and at all times remains, the property of Gallatin County Community Unit School District 7 and is herewith lent to the student for educational purposes only for the rest of this academic school year.
- ▶ I agree to not deface or destroy this property in any way. Inappropriate use of the machine may result in the student losing their right to use the Chromebook. The equipment will be returned when requested by Gallatin County Community Unit School District 7, or sooner, if the student withdraws from Gallatin County Community Unit School District 7 prior to the end of the school year.
- ▶ I understand that identification labels have been placed on the Chromebook. These labels are not to be removed or modified. Additional stickers, labels, tags, or markings of any kind are **NOT** to be added to the machine. *Note: Students are not permitted to personalize their case, however, they must be mindful that they cannot deface school property.*

	/	
Student Printed Name		Student Signature

	/	
Parent/Guardian Printed Name		Parent/Guardian Signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Chromebook ID # \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS IS A SAMPLE FOR YOUR TO KEEP**  
**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE FROM HANDBOOK**

## **PARENT NOTICES REQUIRED BY THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT**

### **I. Teacher Qualifications**

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, whether:

- a. The teacher has met the State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- b. The teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status.
- c. The teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- d. Paraprofessionals provide services to the student and, if so, their qualifications.

### **II. Testing Transparency**

The State and District requires students to take certain standardized tests. For additional information, see handbook procedure

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, information regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by law or District policy, which shall include information on any applicable right you may have to opt your student out of such assessment.

### **III. Annual Report Card**

Each year, the District is required to disseminate an annual report card that includes information on the District as a whole and each school served by the District, with aggregate and disaggregated information for each required subgroup of students including: student achievement on academic assessments (designated by category), graduation rates, district performance, teacher qualifications, and certain other information required by federal law. When available, this information will be placed on the District's website at <https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/>

### **IV. Parent & Family Engagement Compact**

### **V. Unsafe School Choice Option**

The unsafe school choice option allows students to transfer to another District school or to a public charter school within the District under certain circumstances.

### **VI. Student Privacy**

Students have certain privacy protections under federal law.

## VII. English Learners

The school offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State standards that all children are expected to meet.

## VIII. Homeless Students

For information on supports and services available to homeless students contact Keri Koester at

272-3821. For further information on any of the above matters, please contact the building principal.

## **STUDENT PRIVACY PROTECTIONS**

### Surveys by Third Parties

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.

Parents who object to disclosure of information concerning their child to a third party may do so in writing to the building principal.

### Surveys Requesting Personal Information

School officials and staff members will not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the school or district) containing one or more of the following items:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
3. Behavior or attitudes about sex.
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
8. Income other than that required by law to determine program-eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

The student's parent/guardian may: (1) inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and/or (2) refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

#### Instructional Material

A student's parent/guardian may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

#### Selling or Marketing Students' Personal Information Is Prohibited

No school official or staff member may market or sell personal information concerning students (or otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose). The term *personal information* means individually identifiable information including: (1) a student or parent's first and last name, (2) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), (3) a telephone number, (4) a Social Security identification number or (5) driver's license number or State identification card.

The above paragraph does not apply: (1) if the student's parent/guardian have consented; or (2) to the collection, disclosure or, use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.

**THIS IS A SAMPLE FOR YOUR TO KEEP**  
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# Gallatin County School District # 7 School Compact

*Together, the parents and staff of Gallatin County School students  
can learn and work together to build a better world.*

## **As a Student, I will:**

- ✓ Always try to do my best in my work and in my behavior
- ✓ Work cooperatively with my classmates
- ✓ Show respect for myself, my school and other people
- ✓ Obey all school and bus rules
- ✓ Take pride in my school and my work
- ✓ Prepare myself for school with adequate sleep, diet and activities
- ✓ Come to school prepared with my homework and supplies
- ✓ Believe in myself that I CAN learn and WILL learn.

## **As a Parent/Guardian, I will**

- ✓ See that my child attends school regularly and on time
- ✓ Provide a home environment that encourages my child to learn
- ✓ Insist that all homework assignments and preparation for tests are completed
- ✓ Communicate regularly with my child's teacher
- ✓ Support the school in developing positive behaviors, and respect for others
- ✓ Talk with my child about his/her school activities every day
- ✓ Encourage my child to read at home and to monitor his/her TV viewing
- ✓ Volunteer time at my child's school
- ✓ Show respect and support for my child, the teacher, and the school

## **As a Teacher, I will**

- ✓ Believe that each student can learn
- ✓ Show respect for each child and his/her family
- ✓ Come to class prepared to teach
- ✓ Provide an environment conducive to learning
- ✓ Help each child grow to his/her fullest potential
- ✓ Provide meaningful and appropriate homework activities
- ✓ Demonstrate professional behavior and a positive attitude
- ✓ Enforce school and classroom rules fairly and consistently
- ✓ Maintain open lines of communication with the student and his/her parents through
  - Opportunities to discuss my students' progress on a regular basis
  - Annual Parent-Teacher Conferences
  - Seek ways to involve parents in the school program

See the District Policy Manual for complete Policy.

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## **AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR REPORTING**

### **LETTER & FORM - To Parent/Legal Guardian**

Illinois requires a parent be notified of a child who engages in aggressive behavior, including such behaviors as bullying (105ILCS5/10-20.14) The School Board policy prohibits a student while at school from engaging in aggressive behavior that causes physical or psychological harm to someone else and/or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited aggressive behavior includes, without limitation, the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, bullying, or other comparable conduct. This early notification is intended to help all of us work together to avoid repetition of the behavior.

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Incident Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Incident Location \_\_\_\_\_ Incident Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Reported by \_\_\_\_\_ Reporting Date \_\_\_\_\_

Aggressive behavior description: *(Reporters, be specific. List all pertinent information regarding the incident including: names of all parties present and involved, weapons or objects used as weapons, pertinent and/or precipitating acts or statements, description of injuries sustained and names of injured parties, etc.)*

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The following consequence(s) is/are recommended:

\_\_\_\_\_ I will telephone you to schedule an in-person meeting or telephone conference to discuss the necessary next steps.

Counseling service \_\_\_\_\_

Non -District affiliate psychological service \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative school assignment \_\_\_\_\_

Community agency service \_\_\_\_\_

Together, I am confident we can help your child understand that aggressive behavior is not allowed at school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Building Principal Date

**THIS IS A SAMPLE FOR YOUR TO KEEP**  
**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE FROM HANDBOOK**

**Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7**

Judy Kasgi, Superintendent  
5175 Highway 13  
Junction, IL 62954

**REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE AT SCHOOL**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

You have asked the school to give medication to your child. We have a directive from the Superintendent of Public Instruction that we should secure written permission from both parent and physician in order to do this. Your signature below herewith indicates that you request this to be done.

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR DOCTOR COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Medication to be given: \_\_\_\_\_

Dosage and Directions for administration:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Upon completion, please return this form to school. We also request that medication be brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy and physician. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ashley Stanley, RN  
Angie Brown, LPN  
School Nurse

**THIS IS A SAMPLE FOR YOUR TO KEEP**



**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE FROM HANDBOOK**

Gallatin County Community Unit School District No. 7

**Judy Kaegi, Superintendent**

**5175 Hwy 13**

**Junction, IL 62954**

**Authorization for Medical Treatment**

*To be submitted to the Superintendent or designee. (please print)*

Student Sport/Activity

Parent/Guardian Home phone

Home address Cell phone

Physician Physician phone

Medical Information: *(list allergies, medications, conditions and any known restrictions)*

In the event of a medical emergency and if reasonable attempts to contact me using the telephone numbers listed above are unsuccessful:

I, as parent or legal guardian of the above student, do hereby authorize:

1. Treatment by a licensed medical physician of my child in the event of a medical emergency that, in the opinion of the attending physician, may endanger his/her life, cause disfigurement, physical impairment, or undue discomfort if delayed, and
2. Transfer of my child to any hospital reasonably accessible at my expense.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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