# Watson Primary School



## Student Handbook 2023-2024

314 North Gaskill Huntsville, AR 72740 Phone (479)738-2425 Fax (479)738-6383 http://www.huntsvilleschooldistrict.org

Hui	ntsville School District	– 2023-2024 CALEN	DAR
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<ul> <li>4 Labor Day</li> <li>8 St Paul campus only PD - no students</li> <li>Huntsville Instructional Days: 20 St Paul INstructional Days - 19 Contract Days: 20</li> </ul>	SEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEVEV	S IM         T         W         Th         S           S         M         T         W         Th         F         S           G         M         T         W         Th         F         S           G         M         T         W         Th         F         S           G         M         T         W         Th         T         2           G         M         S         G         T         8         9           10         11         12         13         14         15         16           17         18         19         20         21         22         23           24         25         26         27         28         29         30           31         V         V         V         V         V         V         V	<ul> <li>12 End of Q3 - 45 days</li> <li>18-22 Spring Break</li> <li>Parent/Teachers Conferences</li> <li>26 Elementary campuses</li> <li>27 All campuses</li> <li>28 Secondary campuses</li> <li>29 No school</li> <li>Instructional Days: Q3-8 Q4-7</li> <li>Contract Days: 16</li> </ul>
<ol> <li>End Q1 - 41 days</li> <li>Parent/Teachers Conferences</li> <li>Secondary campuses</li> <li>All campuses</li> <li>Elementary campuses</li> <li>Elementary campuses</li> <li>Huntsville Campuses Only PD- no students</li> <li>Instructional Days: 1Q - 9</li> <li>-12 Huntsville &amp; 13 St Paul Contract Days: 23</li> </ol>	S USENCIONAL           M         T         W         Th         F         S           1         2         3         4         5         6         7           8         9         10         11         12         13         14           15         16         17         18         19         20         21           22         23         24         25         26         27         28           29         30         31         V         V         V         V	S IM       T       W       Th       F       S         I       2       3       4       5       6         7       8       9       10       11       12       13         14       15       16       17       18       19       20         21       22       23       24       25       26       27         28       29       30       I       I       I       I	12 District PD - no students Instructional Days: 21 Contract Days: 22
20-24 Fall Break Instructional Days: 17 Contract Days: 17	IDENTIFY INTERIMENTAL           S         M         T         W         Th         F         S           I <tdi< td="">         I         I</tdi<>	S IM         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         I         Z         3         4           5         6         7         8         9         10         11           12         13         14         15         16         17         18           19         20         21         22         23         24         25           26         27         28         29         30         31         Image: Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4">Colspan="4"Colspa="4"Colspan="4"Colspan="4"Colspan="4"Colspan="4"Colspan=	27 Memorial Day 30 Last Day of School End of Q4 - 49 days Instructional Days: 21 Contract Days: 21
20     End Q2 - 43 days       21-29     Winter Break       Instructional Days: 14       Contract Days: 14	DECEVER 2023           S         M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         S         M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         S         M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         S         G         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         S         G         T         S         G         T         S         G           M         T         S         G         T         S         G         T         S         G           M         T         S         G         S         S         G         S         S         S           M         T         S         G         S         S         S         S         S         S         S <t< td=""><td>JULE 2024           S         M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         V         Th         F         S           M         T         S         M         T         S         M         T           2         3         4         5         6         7         8           9         10         11         12         13         14         15           16         17         18         19         20         21         22           23         24         25         26         27         28         29           30         M&lt;</td><td>Make-up Days: In the event that we miss a Student Attendance Day, the Superintendent shall have the discretion to designate a make-up day. Possible make-up days are February 19, April 12, May 31, and June 3-4. Instructional Days: 178 P/T Days: 2 PD Days: 10 Total Teacher Contract Days: 190</td></t<>	JULE 2024           S         M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         W         Th         F         S           M         T         V         Th         F         S           M         T         S         M         T         S         M         T           2         3         4         5         6         7         8           9         10         11         12         13         14         15           16         17         18         19         20         21         22           23         24         25         26         27         28         29           30         M<	Make-up Days: In the event that we miss a Student Attendance Day, the Superintendent shall have the discretion to designate a make-up day. Possible make-up days are February 19, April 12, May 31, and June 3-4. Instructional Days: 178 P/T Days: 2 PD Days: 10 Total Teacher Contract Days: 190

#### Huntsville School District – 2023-2024 CALENDAR

#### SECTION 1: SCHOOL POLICIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

#### LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

We believe every child is special and deserves the best education we can give them. Huntsville School District looks forward to working with you to make this the most productive learning year ever for our students.

We are using this handbook as a method of communication between the home and school. Please read and keep this handbook readily available throughout the year. A packet of forms is inserted in the back of the handbook for you to sign and return to school with your child. Duplicate copies are included in your copy of the handbook for future reference. This ensures your notification of policies, regulations, and services provided by our school.

Please feel free to call our school if you have any questions concerning the handbook.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Roach Principal

#### STUDENT HANDBOOK (Refer to ASB Policy 4.42 in Section 2 of the handbook).

This is your child's student handbook. All of the student discipline policies were adopted from the Arkansas School Board Association policies or developed through the commitment, cooperation, and involvement of the school's administrators, teachers, students, parents, and counselors. An advisory committee was created to annually review all student policies to ensure that they are consistent with state and federal law and Department of Education guidelines. The Huntsville School Board of Education as of July, 2019 has approved these policies. The policies describe the school's expectations of student's conduct and specify consequences of violating the rules. Parents, upon reasonable notice to the office, may copy or review their child's permanent records.

#### WATSON PRIMARY SCHOOL HANDBOOK COMMITTEE

Jennifer Roach	Sherri Cozad	Cari Davidson	Caitlin Crow
Sarah Molyneux	Amanda Mayes	Tracie Villines	Katie Goss
Jonodta McMillan	Ashlee Davidson	Mandi Ramirez	Vicky Hudgins
Sierra Bolinger	Tracy Bennett	Britany Eaton	Vicki Martin

#### HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Huntsville School District is to provide a quality educational environment to prepare all students for college and career success as they contribute to a rapidly changing world.

#### WATSON PRIMARY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Watson Primary School is to provide standards-based learning focused on academic and character growth in a partnership with students, parents, and the community to improve achievement for all.

#### SCHOOL GOAL

Students will achieve proficiency in all areas of the Arkansas State Standards specified in Watson Primary School Improvement Plan.

#### **DAILY SCHEDULE**

The bell rings at 8:00 a.m. The office opens for business at 7:40 a.m. each morning. To ensure the safety of your child, students should not arrive at school before 7:30 a.m. Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. will be considered tardy. Students must check in at the office and obtain a tardy slip upon arrival. Parents of primary students will be notified when students have

accumulated 5 and 10 days of tardiness. School is dismissed at approximately 3:20 p.m. each afternoon. Be prompt if picking up your child after school. Students should not be left at school unattended after school hours.

#### **CAR RIDER**

Parents and caregivers wishing to pick up their student(s) in the car rider line must obtain a car rider tag from the office to be kept on the rearview mirror of the vehicle the student will be picked up in. The car tag serves as verification of authorization to pick up the student(s) assigned to the individual car tag. Upon entering the car rider pick-up lanes, individuals should remain in the vehicle until a staff member brings the student(s) to the vehicle. Persons arriving without the appropriate car tag for the student(s) they are attempting to pick up will be asked to park and pick up their student through the office where authorization to pick up can be verified.

Car riders are dismissed at 3:00 each day. To maximize the safety of our students, vehicles will only be permitted to line up in the car rider lane beginning at 2:45 each day. Persons attempting to park and loiter in the parking lot prior to 2:45 will be asked to leave and return at the appropriate time.

#### **REQUIRED INFORMATION (Refer to ASB policy 4.2 in section 2 of the handbook).**

Remember to notify the school of any changes of <u>address or telephone number</u>. The school must have on record a current parent work telephone number or emergency number other than the home number in the event your child becomes ill or is injured at school.

#### **TELEPHONE**

The school phones are not to be used by students for outgoing or incoming calls except in the case of emergency. Students will not be allowed to use the office phone for personal calls except in emergency and with staff permission. Students will be called from class for *emergency* calls only.

Parents are encouraged to refrain from calling the school to tell children where they are to go in the afternoons. Tell your child in the morning before they leave for school. Write a note to the teacher informing him/her of the change of plans for the day. **Only emergency arrangements should be called in to the school.** In the event of an emergency, be prepared to disclose personal information about your child as a means of verifying your identity.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR PARENTS AND VISITORS (Refer to ASB policy 4.16 in section 2 of the handbook).**

All visitors are required to check in at the office and be issued a pass **before** visiting the campus. If you wish to speak with a teacher or visit the classroom, parents, and visitors must call the office or write a note to schedule an appointment for a conference. We want to make the most of all instructional time and not infringe upon student time for learning. Day guests such as younger siblings or out of town relatives are not allowed to come to school with our students. Parents of elementary school students should make afternoon arrangements with their children before their children leave for school.

Parents of Primary (K-2) students who choose to come into the building to pick up their child at the end of the day must wait outside the front doors until students are dismissed. The east end Kindergarten and north end Primary exterior doors will be locked prior to 7:30 a.m. and after 8:00 a.m. each morning and will remain locked until 3:00 p.m. Parents and visitors must enter through the Primary main entrance

Any adult intending to be in the presence of students; other than times of specific school activities, as designated by the school principals; will be asked to provide their driver's license to be scanned into our Raptor system which automatically runs a background check. Refusal of providing information for background check may result in the relinquishment of the right to be at school.

#### PLAYGROUND GUIDELINE FOR PARENTS/VISITORS

In order to ensure maximum safety and security of our students, parents and adults are prohibited from visiting their child during indoor and outdoor recess. For the safety and security of all students, it is not permissible to photograph or video the children playing on the playground or participating in outdoor learning activities.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

In order to ensure confidentiality of all student and staff information, only authorized employees of the school may enter the school office.

#### AGENDA BOOKS

Agenda books are used at our school to promote daily communication between school and home. Parents are responsible to check and sign your child's agenda book each day. It contains specific notes regarding behavior, homework, and other information. Your signature represents our ongoing relationship as we work together to promote a positive educational experience for your child.

#### HOMEWORK (Refer to ASB policy 5.14 in section 2 of the handbook).

Homework is important for academic success. Your child will probably have homework every night. If no homework is assigned, please encourage them to read and practice their math facts. Make sure your child has an opportunity to complete and discuss homework assignments with you. Also, please check your child's agenda book every night for information concerning your child's progress at school.

#### GRADING (Refer to ASB policy 5.15 in section 2 of the handbook.)

The evaluation of each student's performance on a regular basis serves to give the parents/guardians, students, and the school necessary information to help effect academic improvement. Students' grades shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed educational objectives of the course.

The standards-based grading scale for all Elementary Schools in the district shall be as follows:

- 4 Advancing Meets standard expectations and advances the standard requirements
- 3 Achieving Independently demonstrates accuracy on standard expectations
- 2 Developing Independent, but only partial accuracy on standard expectations
- 1 Initiating Demonstrates minimal or inaccurate/incomplete understanding of standard expectations

### STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION (Refer to ASB policy 4.55 in Section 2 of the handbook).

#### **TEXTBOOKS**

All leveled reading books and textbooks are loaned to students for their use during the school year. These materials should be kept clean and handled carefully. Parents will be required to pay for lost or damaged books.

#### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

A supply list for each grade level will be made available to each student, posted on our school website, and displayed at our local Wal-Mart. Students are expected to come to school with the necessary supplies. All personal items should be labeled with the student's name and teacher's name to avoid lost and misplaced items. Remember to check your child's supplies periodically during the year to replace needed items. If you are unable to obtain all the supplies, please speak with your child's teacher and/or the school counselor. Students should not purchase rolling backpacks for use at school.

#### EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (Refer to ASB policy 4.56 in section 2 of the handbook).

Extracurricular and non-instructional activities for students during the school day are governed by the following criteria: 1) Parents/guardians of students must notify the principal in writing prior to the event and provide written documentation of participation upon return. 2) The principal will review and make recommendations for excessive absences. Consideration will be given to number and/or length of excessive absences due to circumstances such as local, state and/or national events or competitions. We value instructional classroom time and require make-up work from students who chose to participate in extracurricular or non-instructional activities. We reserve the right to recommend limited participation if a student is not academically proficient.

#### FIELD TRIPS

A form must be signed and returned to the teacher before your child will be allowed to go on any trips. This form will be sent out at the beginning of school and will cover all trips for the school year. When a field trip is scheduled, your child's teacher will send home an itinerary informing parents of the destination and the date of the trip. It is the duty of the parent/guardian to inform their child's teacher of any trips that they do not want their child to participate in. We reserve the decision to limit student attendance on trips or request that parents accompany their child if discipline problems exist. Parents who wish to join children during field trips must use their own vehicle. Parents will be allowed to transport only their own children during the field trip if they so choose. If parents choose to sign students out from field trips for the remainder of the day, it will be counted as an unexcused absence.

#### SCHOOL PARTIES

Christmas and Valentine parties are conducted in grades K-2. Refreshments and snacks for parties should be purchased products and brought to school in unopened packages. To ensure the health and safety of our students, all foods must be assembled and packaged by a bakery, grocery store, Wal-Mart, etc. Foods that require any preparation at home or at school will not be allowed. Also, student birthdays are not celebrated during the school day.

#### PETS OR LIVE ANIMALS

Permission from teacher and principal must be secured before parents may bring live animals into the buildings. The responsibility to transport the pet is that of the parent. Pets are not allowed on the buses and are not to be brought into the building by students.

#### PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING OF ANIMALS AT SCHOOL

The Huntsville School District has established standard guidelines for the handling of animals at school or school functions that will ensure the safety of students and school employees.

- For the purpose of this procedure, the following definitions have been established:
- a. Animals includes dogs, cats, reptiles, insects, fish, birds, and other such creatures.
- b. Authorized animals are those animals brought to school or school functions with the permission of the principal of the building where the animals will be.
- c. Unauthorized animals are those animals that may wander onto campus or in a building, or animals that someone brings to school or school functions without the permission of the building principal.
- d. School includes all school buildings, school campuses, school vehicles, and school-sponsored functions.

Principals will implement this procedure at their respective buildings. They will ensure that the employees of their buildings are familiar with this policy and understand the procedures established herein. Faculty members will obtain appropriate authorization before allowing animals to be brought to school. Protecting students when animals are present will be the primary duty of faculty members. Support staff will follow all the procedures set forth in the policy. The use of students in the removal of animals from school is not authorized. Students will not attempt to apprehend or corral animals at school.

Authorized animals will be handled by the owners and under the direction of the principal or faculty member who requested the animals be brought to school. Authorized animals should be handled in accordance with the established city leash laws. Unauthorized animals will be handled in the following manner:

- 1. Keep students away from the animal(s).
- 2. Report the situation to the building supervisor.
- 3. Call the appropriate agency for animal removal.
- 4. Do not allow students to attempt to apprehend or corral the animal.

#### ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Huntsville Schools does <u>not</u> provide accident coverage for individual students during the regular school day. However, parents are given the opportunity to purchase school day insurance through an independent agent at the beginning of the school year.

#### LOST AND FOUND

Articles found in and around the school should be turned in to the office where the owners may claim their property. It is a good idea to label all personal items (especially coats!) with your child's first and last name. Articles left for an extended period of time will be recycled or destroyed.

### SEVERE WEATHER/EMERGENCY PLAN (Refer to ASB policy 4.37 in Section 2 of the handbook).

School will not be in session when the weather makes it dangerous for school buses to complete routes. The school messenger system, Blackboard Connect, and the Huntsville School District Facebook page will be utilized to inform the school community of any closings. Also, the local radio and television stations will broadcast school cancellations. If weather conditions become severe enough to require buses to begin their afternoon routes before the regularly scheduled time, parents will be notified through various forms of media. <u>Plan and discuss an early dismissal or emergency plan with your child and notify the school.</u> Radio stations: KKIX 104, KBRS- Spanish, and FM 98. Television stations: KTTS–3, Channel 5, Channel 29/40, and Huntsville TV Cable.

#### SPECIAL SERVICES AND HEALTH RELATED ISSUES

### SCHOOL NURSE (Refer to ASB policy 4.35, 4.35F, 4.35F3, 4.35F4, 4.36, 4.41 & 4.41F in section 2 of the handbook.)

A healthy child is a more productive student. For the welfare of all, any child with a fever or contagious illness should remain at home until signs and/or symptoms subside without the use of medication or medical treatment has been administered for 24 hours or the physician recommendations are fulfilled.

The school nurse performs vision, hearing, Scoliosis, and BMI assessments. The nurse is available to assist with a variety of health concerns throughout the day. If you need more information about school procedures concerning medication at school, childhood illnesses, immunizations, or other health matters. You may contact the Watson Primary nurse at (479) 738-6680.

#### HEAD LICE (Refer to ASB policy 4.34 in section 2 of the handbook.)

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live lice will be asked to pick their child up at school. They will be given information concerning the eradication and control of head lice. Before students may be readmitted following an absence due to head lice, the school nurse or designee shall examine the student to make sure they are free of any lice. The number of days allowed for treatment is as follows:

First Offense-2 absences allowed to correct problem Second Offense-1 absence allowed to correct problem Third Offense-1 absence allowed to correct problem Fourth Offense-1 absence allowed to correct problem A maximum of 5 absences per year will be allowable for the treatment of head lice.

#### MEDICATIONS (Refer to ASB policy 4.35 in section 2 of the handbook.)

Student medication must be brought to school by an adult or designee by way of private transportation. For the safety of all students, medication can never be transported to school by bus. The same rule applies to unused medication being sent home; a parent or designee must pick up any unused medication.

#### LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER (Refer to ASB policy 5.7 in section 2 of the handbook.)

The LMC is a wonderful resource for our students. Through regularly scheduled class time and open library time, students are encouraged to explore books, research materials, and utilize audio-visual materials. In order to maintain an extensive inventory of books, we all must work together to make sure all materials are returned in good condition. If materials are not returned, parents will be charged the replacement price.

#### MUSIC, ART, AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Music, art and physical education classes are provided for all students. A variety of interesting and challenging activities are designed to enhance the academic curriculum.

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

English Language Learners (ELL) is a program used to identify and serve language minority students. Our goal is to meet the needs of our ELL students, as they become proficient English language learners. Instruction is provided in one-on-one, small group or whole class scenarios.

#### HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Huntsville School District Homeless Student Coordinator has multiple resources and areas of support to offer any student or family that can be considered homeless per Policy 4.40. If you are interested in learning about these resources and information, please contact the Homeless Liaison, Matt Ferguson, at (479) 738-2011.

#### MIGRANT

Migrant Education offers a variety of services for students who are eligible for the migrant program. These services include tutorial, dental, and counseling assistance. For more information concerning Migrant Education you may call the Migrant Clerk, Brittany Sparks (479) 738-2500.

### ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (A.L.E.) (Refer to ASB policy 5.26 & 5.26.1 in section 2 of the handbook.)

A.L.E. is a program designed to support regular academic programs and reinforce appropriate personal conduct and social awareness skills.

#### **COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE**

The school counselors are available to provide individual and group counseling for students. Guidance classes are scheduled for students in grades K-2. If you have questions, please call the school office to speak with a counselor.

Ozark Guidance Center provides school-based counseling services for individuals and family therapy. The phone number for the Ozark Guidance Center's school-based office is 738-5301.

#### **PARENT CENTER**

The Parent Center, located in the conference room, is a resource available for parents. It contains much literature on various parenting topics. Questions may be directed to the Watson Primary Parental Involvement Coordinator at (479) 738-2425.

#### **ENRICHMENT/GIFTED AND TALENTED**

The Gifted & Talented Program is part of the Huntsville School District's efforts to meet the educational needs of all students.

Gifted & Talented Services for the Primary School are provided with enrichment lessons weekly. Lessons are provided or approved by the G.T. Coordinator and focus on creative thinking in core curriculum subjects, and an emphasis on "real world" application.

During the Spring Semester, all second-grade students are screened for formal identification into the G.T. Program. If this screening shows that a student may need Gifted & Talented Services, the parents will receive information and a request for permission to conduct further testing.

#### SPECIAL SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Speech, language and other special services are provided to fulfill the academic and physical needs of all students.

#### LITERACY AND MATH PROGRAMS

A variety of programs are offered to ensure that every child has an opportunity to improve their academic skills. Certified teachers, academic coaches, and paraprofessionals provide reading and math instruction utilizing the Arkansas state standards to guide our Literacy and Math programs. All of our students receive additional support through our Response to Intervention (RTI) program. Each student receives either intervention or enrichment on essential learnings throughout the year.

#### **SECTION 504**

It is the policy of the Board of Education to provide a free and appropriate public education to each handicapped student within its jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the handicap. It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are handicapped within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be handicapped under this policy even though they do not require services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Supporting medical documentation less than three (3) years old must be provided.

Tonja McCone is the coordinator of Section 504 activities. She can be reached at P.O. Box F, 570 West Main, Huntsville, or by calling her at 738-2011.

#### **STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

#### **DUE PROCESS**

Every student is entitled to due process in every instance of disciplinary action for which the student may be subjected to penalties of suspension or expulsion.

1. Due process is afforded to students in a disciplinary case of some magnitude such as:

- a. Suspension
  - b. Expulsion
  - c. Statements removed from the student's record.
  - d. Clearing one's name

- 2. The due process rights of students and parents are as follows:
  - a. Prior to any suspension, the school principal or his/her designee shall advise the pupil in question of the particular misconduct of which he or she is accused, as well as the basis for such accusation.
  - b. The pupil shall be given an opportunity at that time to explain his/her version of the facts to the school principal or his/her designee.
  - c. Written notice of suspension and the reason(s) for the suspension shall be given to the parent(s) of the pupil.

Any parent(s) or legal guardian of a pupil suspended shall have the right to appeal to the superintendent of the school.

#### **TRANSPORTATION SAFETY (Refer to ASB policy 4.19 in Section 2 of the handbook).**

- 1. Students must be at the bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to the bus's scheduled arrival time. They should stand about 10 to 15 feet from the bus stop and wait until the door is opened before moving toward the bus. Playing on the road is not permitted. If a student misses the bus, he/she should not attempt to hitchhike or walk to school.
- 2. While loading or unloading, students should enter or leave the bus orderly and quickly. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before getting up.
- 3. When crossing the road or highway to board the bus, students must wait until the bus arrives and comes to a complete stop. When the red lights are flashing and the driver motions, the student may cross the road 10 feet in front of the bus.
- 4. When crossing the road or highway after unloading the bus in the afternoon, the student must wait on the shoulder of the road 10 feet in front of the bus until the driver signals that it is safe to cross the road.
- 5. While riding the bus, students are under the supervision of the driver and must obey him/her at all times. Students must sit in the seat assigned to them by the driver, if applicable.
- 6. Students are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner that they will not distract the driver or disturb other riders on the bus. This means keeping their hands to themselves, attending to their own matters, leaving other students alone, being reasonably quiet, and remaining in their seat while the bus is in motion. Walking up and down the aisle or hanging head and/or arms outside the window is not permitted. Students may listen to music only if they use headphones or ear buds. Any device or gadget that causes a disruption or distraction to the driver or has inappropriate content is subject to confiscation.
- 7. Knives or other sharp objects of any kind are not allowed on the bus. Keep pens, pencils, mascara wands, and other items that might cause harm concealed in purse, binder, or backpack. Weapons, fireworks, matches, tobacco (in any form, including vapor cigarettes and products), alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, laser pointers, animals, or visitors are not allowed on the bus. Items listed in the student handbook as not being allowed at school are also not allowed on the bus.
- 8. School rules apply once students reach the bus stop. All school rules apply to school buses.
- 9. Tampering with any of the safety devices, such as door latches, fire extinguishers, or emergency exits is not allowed.
- 10. Selling items will not be permitted on the bus.
- 11. Students are not to deface any part of the school bus. They must not write on the bus, damage seats, or throw paper, food, or other objects on the floor of the bus or out the window.
- 12. Keep the aisle free from obstructions (books, backpacks, lunch boxes, clothing, feet and legs, etc.).
- 13. Students must ride the bus to which they are assigned. If students are to ride a different bus, they must have a written bus pass from the school office. The driver will not let students off the bus at an alternate site without written permission from the school office.
- 14. Behaviors which violate this policy or any other school rule will be assigned consequences based on a tiered system. If multiple violations are reported, consequences will be assigned based on the most severe. However, lesser violations will continue to be documented for future disciplinary actions.
- 15. This policy is not intended to cover all violations that could occur on a school bus. The driver and/or administrator in charge may find it necessary to interpret this policy in light of his/her own specific needs in order to maintain appropriate discipline and to ensure the safety of all students.

#### HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BUS REFERRAL

Harry Spurlock, Transportation Supervisor (479) 738-6928

For student disciplinary issues, please contact the student's school.

(479) 738-6928	the student's school.								
	Date:				AM PM				
Student's Name:	School:	WPS	HIS	HMS	HHS	SPE	SPHS		
		K-Z	3-5	6-8	9-12	K-6	7-12		
Driver's Name:	Bus No.:				_				
BEHAVIORS: (To be completed by driver) Tier I A. Out of seat while bus is in motion	CONSEQUENCES: (To be completed by administrator) Grades K-5 Grades 6-12								
B. Blocking aisle	1. Warning				1. Warning 2. Assign seat				
C. Failure to follow instructions	2. Parent notification				3. Off bus 1 day				
D. Inappropriate language	3. Assign seat/seatbelt (K-2)				4. Off bus 3 days				
E. Littering/Trash	4. Off bus 1 day 5. Off bus 2 days				5. Off bus 5 days				
F. Horseplay	6. Off bus	P							
G. Loud or excessive talking/music	7. Off bus	P				6. Off bus 10 days 7. Off bus for rest of semester			
H. Back talking; disrespect to driver	8. Off bus	P	of 0 way	alee	/.	OII DUS	tui test ui semester		
Selling items	a. on bu:	s for rest	or 9 wee	CK5					
i. Selling items									
i. Other									
Tier II	Grades K-5				Grades	6-12			
A. Throwing objects on/off bus		notifical	lian			Grades 6-12			
B. Exhibiting sharp or dangerous objects	1. Parent notification					1. Off bus 1 day			
B. Spraving perfume/cologne etc. on bus	2. Off bus 1 day 3. Off bus 2 days					2. Off bus 3 days 3. Off bus 5 days			
C. Obscene gestures/language	4. Off bus 3 days					4. Off bus 10 days			
<ul> <li>D. Sharing/viewing inappropriate content on electronic device</li> </ul>	5. Off bus 5 days					5. Off bus for rest of semester			
E. Failure to properly identify self to driver	6. Off bus for rest of 9 weeks				3.	5. Off bus for rest of semester			
F. Head/arms out the window	b. Off bus for rest of 9 weeks								
G. Public display of affection									
H. Walking/standing in aisle									
I. Defacing school property									
J. Insubordinate to driver									
K. Threatening other students									
L Other									
L Other									
Tier III	Grades K-5				Grades	6-12			
A. Possessing/lighting fireworks or other materials	1. Off bus 1 day				1. School Suspension/				
B. Vandalizing/destroying property	2. Off bus 2 days				Expulsi	Expulsion; contact law			
C. Fighting/biting/spitting	3. Off bus 3 days				enforcement				
D. Threatening driver	4. Off bus 5 days								
E. Possessing/using tobacco, including vapor cigarettes/	5. Off bus for rest of 9 weeks								
pens, e-juice									
F. Inappropriate sexual advances									
G. Possessing weapons									
H. Possessing drugs/alcohol									
I. Striking driver									
J. Sexual misconduct									
K. Other									

Comments:

Administrator's Statement:

Signature

Date

- |

#### CAFETERIA (Refer to ASB policy 5.29, 4.50, & 4.51 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Student behavior in the cafeteria should be based on courtesy and cleanliness. All students should go directly to the cafeteria at the appropriate time and remain there until dismissed by the duty teacher. Nothing should be taken from the cafeteria. Free and reduced lunch applications are available in the offices for those who are interested. Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their children for a nominal charge. Visitors are required to sit with their children/relative at the guest table. Students may choose one classmate to accompany them and their guest to the guest table. Please do not bring or send glass containers. School lunch menus will be printed in the local newspaper and posted on the school website at <u>www.huntsvilleschooldistrict.org</u>.

#### PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION (Refer to ASB policy 4.18 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Public displays of affection will not be tolerated.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention and parental notification

### **DISRESPECT FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEES (Refer to ASB policy 4.18 in Section 2 of the handbook.)**

Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination is unacceptable.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention and parental notification
- 3. Third infraction: Conference with parent(s), principal and/or designee, and appropriate school personnel.

#### DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL (Refer to ASB policy 4.20 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations and infringes on the learning process will not be tolerated. Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention and parental notification
- 3. Third infraction: Conference with parent(s), principal and/or designee, and appropriate school personnel.

\* Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

#### ASSAULT OR BATTERY (Refer to ASB policy 4.21 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Willfully and intentionally threatening, assaulting, or physically abusing students, school employees, or visitors during school is not acceptable.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning, detention, and parental notification
- 2. Second infraction: OSS (1 day), ISS (1) day
- 3. Third infraction: OSS (3 days), ISS (3) days

\* Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

### WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS (Refer to ASB policy 4.22 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Students in possession of a weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual will be held accountable according to school policy and state law. Violation will result in recommendation for expulsion and notification of law enforcement agencies.

#### TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS (Refer to ASB policy 4.23 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any school property is prohibited. Consequences:

1. First infraction: Warning, detention, and parental notification

2. Second infraction: Conference with parent(s), principal and/or designee, and appropriate school personnel.

\*Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

#### DRUGS AND ALCOHOL (Refer to ASB policy 4.24 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs or other intoxicants or anything represented to be a drug will not be permitted.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning, detention, and parental notification.
- 2. Second infraction: Conference with parents, principal and/or designee, and appropriate school personnel.

\*Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

#### GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY (Refer to ASB policy 4.26 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Gangs or gang related activities are forbidden on school property.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning, detention, and parent notification
- 2. Second infraction: Conference with parent(s), principal and/or designee, and appropriate school personnel

\*Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

#### STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT (Refer to ASB policy 4.27 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational environment and will not be tolerated.

Consequences:

1. First infraction: Warning, detention, and parental notification

#### BULLYING (Refer to ASB policy 4.43 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Bullying is a pattern of behavior by a student or a group of students that is intended to harass, intimidate, ridicule, humiliate, or instill fear in another child or group of children. Therefore, this policy will be utilized after repeated qualifying incidents have been documented. Bullying will not be permitted.

Procedures for harassment/bullying:

- A report of alleged harassment can be reported by anyone.
- Reports of any incident can be received by reporting on link on school web site, the anonymous texting system set up by the school, written or verbal reports.
- Upon receipt of report school officials will notify parent or guardian and promptly investigate.
- A full-fledged investigation will be conducted including interviews and documentation.
- Based on facts gathered a decision will be made within 10 school days if harassment/bullying has occurred and if further action is required.

Bullying, harassment, and/or sexual harassment (including indecent exposure and sexual advances) **after a full investigation by administration** will be disciplined with the following consequences:

- 1. 1<sup>st</sup> offense—3 days OSS
- 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense—10 days OSS
- 3. 3rd offense-Recommendation for expulsion not to exceed one school year

\* Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

### DAMAGING, DESTROYING, OR STEALING (Refer to ASB Policy 4.18 in Section 2 of the handbook.)

Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying or stealing school property or the property of others will not be tolerated. Restitution is expected with each infraction.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention, parental notification

### GAMBLING/PERSONAL TRANSACTIONS (Refer to ASB policy 4.18 in the Section 2 of the handbook.)

Students are not allowed to engage in personal transactions of property or belongings at school. Trading, buying, or selling personal property at school is not allowed. Property will be confiscated (when possible) and returned to parent upon request. The school will not be responsible for traded or sold property.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention, parental notification

#### TRUANCY (Refer to ASB policy 4.18 in the Section 2 of the handbook.)

A student leaving campus without permission will be considered truant.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning, detention, and parental notification.
- 2. Second infraction: Conference with parent, principal and/or designee, and appropriate school personnel.

#### EXCESSIVE TARDINESS (Refer to ASB policy 4.18 and 4.9 in the Section 2 of the handbook.)

Promptness is an important character trait that parents are encouraged to model and help develop in our students. Tardiness is a major disruption to the learning environment and should be avoided.

Consequences:

- 1. First-Ninth infractions: Warning
- 2. Tenth infraction: Guardian must schedule a conference with principal to formulate a plan for eliminating future tardies in an effort to ensure student achievement.
- 3. After ten tardies, the school will notify the prosecuting attorney and initiate a FINS case.

\* Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

#### **EARLY CHECKOUT**

Regular School attendance is important for the success of every child. Instruction takes place until the school day has ended at 3:10. If your child is checked out early, he/she will miss out on important academic activities. Checking out your child prior to 3:00 on a regular basis is not acceptable. If your child is checked out before 3:00 more than 6 times per semester, you will be notified by phone or mail. The same consequences that apply to excessive tardies apply to early check out as well.

#### STUDENT DRESS (Refer to ASB policy 4.25 in the Section 2 of the handbook.)

Student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process and are offensive to common standards of decency are unacceptable.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning and parental notification to provide a change of clothes
- 2. Second infraction: Parental notification to provide a change of clothes

#### CHEATING (Refer to ASB policy 4.18 in the second Section 2 of the handbook.)

Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work is prohibited. Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention, parental notification

### **INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE/GESTURES (Refer to ASB policy 4.18 in the Section 2 of the handbook.)**

Inappropriate language and gestures that could be considered offensive to another person will not be tolerated. Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention, parental notification

#### FIREWORKS

Students shall not possess, handle, or transmit fireworks in any form on school grounds, at any school activity, on school buses, or at bus stops.

Consequences:

- 1. First infraction: Warning
- 2. Second infraction: Detention, parental notification
- 3. Third infraction: OSS (1 day) or ISS (1 day)
- 4. Fourth infraction: OSS (3 days) or ISS (3 days)

\* Major infractions or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

### ELECTRONIC DEVICES/LASERS (Refer to ASB policies 4.47, 4.18 and 4.28 in the Section 2 of the handbook.)

Students are not allowed to bring electronic devices such as pagers, cell phones, or lasers to school. The device will be confiscated and returned to the parent upon request.

#### **TOYS/SPORTS BALLS/ELECTRONICS**

Do not allow your child to bring toys, sports balls, or electronics of any kind to school. The toy or electronic item will be confiscated and returned to the parent upon request.

#### **BEHAVIORS NOT COVERED IN THE HANDBOOK**

The handbook cannot cover all rule violations that a student may violate during the school year. Anything not covered in the handbook will be handled by an administrative response. Administrative responses to violations of rules may range from a warning to recommendation for expulsion or notification of appropriate law enforcement agencies. School officials are required to notify law enforcement agencies under certain conditions and every effort will be made to contact parents according to Arkansas Code Annotated 6-18-513.

#### SECTION 2 ARKANSAS SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES FOR STUDENTS (K-12 Policies)

#### **4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Definitions:**

"In Loco Parentis" means relating to the responsibility to undertake the care and control of another person in the absence of:

- 1. Supervision by the person's parent or legal guardian; and
- 2. Formal legal approval.

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

"Resident" means a student whose parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis reside in the school district.

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

The schools of the District shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty-one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis reside within the District and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the District for educational purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis for school attendance purposes.

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District's schools separate and apart from his or her parent, legal guardian, or persons having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis, the student is required to actually reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance. However, a student previously enrolled in the district who is placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial

parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools. A foster child who was previously enrolled in a District school and who has had a change in placement to a residence outside the District, may continue to remain enrolled in his/her current school unless the presiding court rules otherwise.

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

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

#### **4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

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

Students may enter kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment. Any student who has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten program in another state or in a kindergarten program equivalent in another country, becomes a resident of this state as a direct result of active military orders or a court-ordered change of custody, will become five (5) years of age during the year in which he or she is enrolled in kindergarten, and meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten program in another state or in a kindergarten program equivalent in another country, becomes a resident of this state as a direct result of active military orders or a court-ordered change of custody, will become five (5) years of age during the year in which he or she is enrolled in kindergarten, and meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon a written request to the District.

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

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

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

Students who move into the District from an accredited school shall be assigned to the same grade as they were attending in their previous school (mid-year transfers) or as they would have been assigned in their previous school. Private school students shall be evaluated by the District to determine their appropriate grade placement. Home school students enrolling or reenrolling as a public school student shall be placed in accordance with policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

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

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

- 1. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the district will assign the child a nine (9) digit number designated by the department of education.
- 2. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
  - a. A birth certificate;
  - b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
  - c. An attested baptismal certificate;

- d. A passport;
- e. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian;
- f. United States military identification; or
- g. Previous school records.
- 3. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding. The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another school district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.
- 4. In accordance with Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS, the child shall be age appropriately immunized or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health.

#### **Uniformed Services Member's Children**

For the purposes of this policy:

"Active duty members of the uniformed services" includes members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211;

"Uniformed services"<sup>4</sup> means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services;

"Veteran" means: a person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable.

"Eligible child" means the children of:

- Active duty members of the uniformed services;
- Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement; and
- Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death.

An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

- 1. Be allowed to continue his/her enrollment at the grade level commensurate with his/her grade level he/she was in at the time of transition from his/her previous school, regardless of age;
- 2. Be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level, regardless of age if the student has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in his/her previous school;
- 3. Enter the District's school on the validated level from his/her previous accredited school when transferring into the District after the start of the school year;
- 4. Be enrolled in courses and programs the same as or similar to the ones the student was enrolled in his/her previous school to the extent that space is available. This does not prohibit the District from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses/and/or programs;
- 5. Be provided services comparable to those the student with disabilities received in his/her previous school based on his/her previous Individualized Education Program (IEP). This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
- 6. Make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of an incoming student with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, necessary to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
- 7. Be enrolled by an individual who has been given the special power of attorney for the student's guardianship. The individual shall have the power to take all other actions requiring parental participation and/or consent;
- 8. Be eligible to continue attending District schools if he/she has been placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty.

#### 4.3—COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

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

- 1. The child in enrolled in private or parochial school.
- 2. The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy (4.6 HOME SCHOOLING) have been met.
- 3. The child will be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, legal guardian, or persons having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waver form prescribed by regulation of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
- 4. The child has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
- 5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.
- 6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (b).

#### 4.4—STUDENT TRANSFERS

The Huntsville District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both into and out of the district, on a case by case basis.

The District may reject a nonresident's application for admission if its acceptance would necessitate the addition of staff or classrooms, exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, or cause the District to provide educational services not currently provided in the affected school. The District shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to a school in this district shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school. Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities.

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

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

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

#### 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE

#### **Standard School Choice**

#### Definition

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

#### Transfers into the District

#### **Capacity Determination and Public Pronouncement**

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

The District shall advertise in appropriate broadcast media and either print media or on the Internet to inform students and parents in adjoining districts of the range of possible openings available under the School Choice program. The public pronouncements shall state the application deadline; the requirements and procedures for participation in the program; and include contact information for the primary point of contact at the District for school choice questions. Such pronouncements shall be made no later than January1.

#### **Application Process**

The student's parent shall submit a school choice application on a form approved by ADE to this District along with a copy to the student's resident district. Except for students who have a parent or guardian who is an active-duty member of the military and who has been transferred to and resides on a military base, the transfer application must be postmarked or hand delivered between January 1 and May 1 of the year preceding the fall semester the applicant would begin school in the District. The District shall date and time stamp all applications the District receives as both the resident and nonresident district as they are received in the District's central office. Except for applications from students who have a parent or guardian who is an active-duty member of the military and who has been transferred to and resides on a military base, applications postmarked or hand delivered on or after May 2 will not be accepted. Statutorily, preference is required to be given to siblings of students who are already enrolled in the District. Therefore, siblings whose applications fit the capacity standards approved by the Board of Directors may be approved ahead of an otherwise qualified non-sibling applicant who submitted an earlier application as identified by the application's date and time stamp.

Students who have a parent or guardian who is an active-duty member of the military and who has been transferred to and resides on a military base may submit an application and transfer at any time if the student's application:

- 1. Is filed with the nonresident school district within fifteen (15) days of the parent's or guardian's arrival on the military base;
- 2. Includes the parent's or guardian's military transfer orders; and
- 3. Includes the parent's or guardian's proof of residency on the military base.

The approval of any application for a choice transfer into the District is potentially limited by the applicant's resident district's statutory limitation of losing no more than three percent (3%) of its past year's student enrollment due to Standard School Choice. As such, any District approval of a choice application prior to July 1 is provisional pending a determination that the resident district's three percent (3%) cap has not been reached. The superintendent shall contact a student's resident district to determine if the resident district's three percent (3%) cap has been met.

The Superintendent will consider all properly submitted applications for School Choice. By July 1, the Superintendent shall notify the parent and the student's resident district, in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application.

#### **Accepted Applications**

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

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

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

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

#### **Rejected Applications**

The District may reject an application for a transfer into the District under Standard School Choice due to a lack of capacity. However, the decision to accept or reject an application may not be based on the student's previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, English proficiency level, or previous disciplinary proceedings other than a current expulsion.

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

An application may be provisionally rejected if the student's application was beyond the student's resident district's three percent (3%) cap. The student's resident district is responsible for notifying this District that it is no longer at its three percent (3%) cap. If a student's application was provisionally rejected due to the student's resident district having reached its three percent (3%) cap and the student's resident district notifies this District that it has dropped below its three percent (3%) cap prior to July 1, then the provisional rejection may be changed to a provisional acceptance and the student would have to meet the acceptance requirements to be eligible to enroll in the District.

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

Any applications that are denied due to the student's resident district reaching the three percent (3%) limitation cap shall be given priority for a choice transfer the following year in the order that the District received the original applications.

#### **Transfers Out of the District**

All Standard School Choice applications shall be granted unless the approval would cause the District to have a net enrollment loss (students transferring out minus those transferring in) of more than three percent (3%) of the average daily membership on October 15 of the immediately preceding year. By December 15 of each year, DESE shall determine and notify the District of the net number of allowable choice transfers. For the purpose of determining the three percent (3%) cap, siblings are counted as one student, and students are not counted if the student transfers:

- Through Opportunity School Choice due to the school receiving a rating of "F" or a district classified as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support under A.C.A. § 6-18-227;
- Due to the district's identification of Facilities Distress under A.C.A. § 6-21-812; or
- Through the Foster Child School Choice under A.C.A. § 6-18-233.

If, prior to July 1, the District receives sufficient copies of requests from other districts for its students to transfer to other districts to trigger the three percent (3%) cap, it shall notify each district the District received Standard School Choice applications from that it has tentatively reached the limitation cap. The District will use confirmations of approved choice applications from receiving districts to make a final determination of which applications it received that exceeded the limitation cap and notify each district that was the recipient of an application to that effect. The District shall immediately notify all receiving districts if it should drop back below its three percent (3%) cap prior to July 1.

When the last successful application requesting to transfer out of the District before the District's three percent (3%) cap was triggered belonged to an individual who was a member of a group of siblings who applied to transfer out of the District, the District shall allow all members of the individual's sibling group to transfer out of the District even though these applications are beyond the District's transfer cap.

#### **Facilities Distress School Choice Applications**

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

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

#### **Opportunity School Choice**

#### Transfers Into or Within the District

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

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

- Either:
  - The student's resident district has been classified by the state board as in need of Level 5 intensive support; or
  - The student's assigned school has a rating of "F"; and
- By May 1 of the year before the student intends to transfer, the student's parent, guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age has submitted an application of the student's request to transfer to the :
  - DESE;
  - o Sending school district; and
  - Receiving school district.

A student is not required to meet the May 1 application deadline if the student has a prent or guardian who is an active-duty member of the military and who has been transferred to and resides on a military base. The student may transfer at any time if the student's application:

- a. Is filed with the nonresident school district within fifteen (15) days of the parent's or guardian's arrival on the military base;
- b. Includes the parent's or guardian's military transfer orders; and
- c. Includes the parent's or guardian's proof of residency on the military base.

Within thirty (30) days from receipt of an application from a student seeking admission under this section of the policy, the Superintendent shall notify in writing the parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, whether the Opportunity School Choice application has been accepted or rejected. The notification shall be sent via First-Class Mail to the address on the application.

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

If the District rejects the application, the District shall state in the notification letter the specific reasons for the rejection. A parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, may appeal the District's decision to deny the application to the State Board of Education. The appeal must be in writing to the State Board of Education via certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than ten (10) calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the notice of rejection was received from the District.

A student's transfer under Opportunity School choice is effective at the beginning of the next school year and the student's enrollment is irrevocable for the duration of the school year and is renewable until the student completes high school or is beyond the legal age of enrollment. This provision for continuing eligibility under Opportunity School Choice does not negate the student's right to apply for transfer to a district other than the student's assigned school or resident district under the Standard School Choice provisions of this policy.

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

#### Transfers out of, or within, the District

If a District school receives a rating of "F" or the District has been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support, the District shall timely notify parents, guardians, or students, if over eighteen (18) years of age, as soon as practicable after the school or district designation is made of all options available under Opportunity School Choice. The District shall offer the parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, an opportunity to submit an application to enroll the student in a school district that has not been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support or in a public school that does not have a rating of "F".

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

#### **Unsafe School Choice Program**

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

#### 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING

#### **Enrollment in Home School**

Parents or legal guardians desiring to provide a home school for their children shall give written notice to the Superintendent of their intent to home school. The notice shall be given:

- 1. At the beginning of each school year, but no later than August 15;
- Fourteen (14) calendar days prior to withdrawing the child (provided the student is not currently under disciplinary action for violation of any written school policy, including, but not limited to, excessive absences) and at the beginning of each school year thereafter; or
- 3. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the parent or legal guardian establishing residency within the district during the school year.

Written notice of the parent or legal guardian's intent to home school shall be delivered to the Superintendent through any of the following methods:

- Electronically, including without limitation by;
  - Use of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) online system;
  - <u>Email; or</u>
  - o <u>Facsimile</u>
- By mail; or
- In person.

The notice shall include:

- a. The name, sex, date of birth, grade level, and the name and address of the school last attended, if any;
- b. The mailing address and telephone number of the home school;
- c. The name of the parent or legal guardian providing the home school;
- d. Indicate if the home-schooled student intends to participate in extracurricular activities during the school year;
- e. A statement of whether the home-schooled student plans to seek a high school equivalency diploma during the current school year;
- f. A statement that the parent or legal guardian agrees that the parent or legal guardian is responsible for the education of their children during the time the parents or legal guardians choose to home school; and
- g. A signature of the parent or legal guardian

To aid the District in providing a free and appropriate public education to students in need of special education services, the parents or legal guardians home-schooling their children shall provide information that might indicate the need for special education services.

#### **Enrollment or Re-Enrollment in Public School**

A home-schooled student who wishes to enroll or re-enroll in a District school shall submit:

- A transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades from the home school;
- Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment taken in the past year; and
- A portfolio of indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress, including without limitation:
  - Curricula used in the home school;
    - o Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled student; and
    - Other indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress.

If a home-schooled student is unable to provide a nationally recognized norm-referenced score, the District may either assess the student using a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment or waive the requirement for a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment score.

A home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in the District will be placed at a grade level and academic course level equivalent to or higher than the home-schooled student's grade level and academic course level in the home school:

- 1. As indicated by the documentation submitted by the home-schooled student;
- 2. By mutual agreement between the public school and the home-schooled student's parent or legal guardian; or
- 3. If the home-schooled student fails to provide the documentation required by this policy, with the exception of the nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment score, the District may have sole authority to determine the home-schooled student's grade placement and course credits. The District will determine the home-schooled student's grade placement and course credits in the same manner the District uses when determining grade placement and course credits for students enrolling or re-enrolling in the District who attended another public or private school.

The District shall afford a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in a public school the same rights and privileges enjoyed by the District's other students. The District shall not deny a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in the District any of the following on the basis of the student having attended a home school:

- a. Award of course credits earned in the home school;
- b. Placement in the proper grade level and promotion to the next grade level;
- c. Participation in any academic or extracurricular activity;
- d. Membership in school-sponsored clubs, associations, or organizations;
- e. A diploma or graduation, so long as the student has enrolled or re-enrolled in the District to attend classes for at least the nine (9) months immediately prior to graduation; or
- f. Scholarships.

#### 4.7—ABSENCES

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

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

Absences for students enrolled in digital courses shall be determined by the online attendance and time the student is working on the course rather than the student's physical presence at school. Students who are scheduled to have a dedicated period for a digital class shall not be considered absent if the student logs the correct amount of time and completes any required assignments; however, a student who fails to be physically present for an assigned period may be disciplined in accordance with the District's truancy policy.

#### **Excused Absences**

Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons and the student brings a written statement to the principal or designee upon his/her return to school from the parent or legal guardian stating such reason. A written statement presented for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation will **not** be accepted.

- 1. The student's illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of six (6) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal.
- 2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family;
- 3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student's faith;
- 4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency;
- 5. Attendance at a medical appointment;
- 6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal;
- 7. Participation in an FFA, FHA, or 4-H sanctioned activity;
- 8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.
- 9. Absences granted to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.
- 10. Absences granted, at the Superintendent's discretion, to seventeen (17) year-old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in eleventh grade to complete basic combat training between grades eleven (11) and (12).
- 11. Absences for students excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak because the student has an immunization waiver or whose immunizations are not up to date.

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

#### **Unexcused Absences**

Absences not defined above or not having an accompanying note from the parent; legal guardian; person having lawful control of the student; or person standing in loco parentis, presented in the timeline required by this policy, shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with ( $\delta$ ) unexcused absences in a course in a semester may not receive credit for that course. At the discretion of the principal after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the unexcused absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

When a student has (3) unexcused absences, his/her the parents; legal guardians; persons having lawful control of the student; or persons standing in loco parentis shall be notified. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds (6) unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, guardian, or persons in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

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

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

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

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

#### 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK

Students who miss school due to an absence shall be allowed to make up the work they missed during their absence under the following rules.

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

Work may not be made up for credit for absences in excess of the number of allowable <u>unexcused</u> absences in a semester.

Out-of-school suspensions are unexcused absences.

Work missed while a student is expelled from school may not be made up for credit.

In lieu of the timeline above, assignments for students who are excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak are to be made up as set forth in Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS.

#### 4.9—TARDIES

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

#### 4.10—CLOSED CAMPUS

All schools in the District shall operate closed campuses. Students are required to stay on campus from their arrival until dismissal at the end of the regular school day unless given permission to leave the campus by a school official. Students must sign out in the office upon their departure.

#### 4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

No student in the Huntsville School District shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District. The District has a limited open forum granting equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other youth groups.

Inquiries on non-discrimination may be directed to the 504 Coordinator and the Title IX Coordinator, who may be reached at the Huntsville School District Administration Office, 570 West Main, 479-738-8008, <u>titleix@lhsd.org</u>.

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, to the Title IX Coordinator in person or by using the mailing address, telephone number, or email address provided above. A report may be made at any time, including during nonbusiness hours, and may be on the individual's own behalf or on behalf of another individual who is the re person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination or to file a complaint, visit: <u>https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html</u>; for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

#### 4.12—STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS

Non-curriculum-related secondary school student organizations wishing to conduct meetings on school premises during noninstructional time shall not be denied equal access on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must meet the following criteria.

- 1. The meeting is to be voluntary and student initiated;
- 2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;

- 3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time;
- 4. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
- 5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
- 6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

All meetings held on school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal. The school, its agents, and employees retain the authority to maintain order and discipline, to protect the well-being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

Fraternities, sororities, and secret societies are forbidden in the District's schools. Membership to student organizations shall not be by a vote of the organization's members, nor be restricted by the student's race, religion, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. Hazing, as defined by law, is forbidden in connection with initiation into, or affiliation with, any student organization, extracurricular activity or sport program. Students who are convicted of participation in hazing or the failure to report hazing shall be expelled.

#### 4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students' education records are available for inspection and copying by the parent of his/her student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18), the right to inspect and copy a student's records transfers to the student. A student's parent or the student, if over the age of 18, requesting to review the student's education records will be allowed to do so within no more than forty-five (45) days of the request. The district forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If there exists a court order which directs that a parent not have access to a student or his/her records, the parent, guardian, person acting in loco parentis, or an agent of the Department of Human Services must present a file-marked copy of such order to the building principal and the superintendent. The school will make good-faith efforts to act in accordance with such court order, but the failure to do so does not impose legal liability upon the school. The actual responsibility for enforcement of such court orders rests with the parents or guardians, their attorneys and the court which issued the order.

A parent or guardian does not have the right to remove any material from a student's records, but such parent or guardian may challenge the accuracy of a record. The right to challenge the accuracy of a record does not include the right to dispute a grade, disciplinary rulings, disability placements, or other such determinations, which must be done only through the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, the decision of whom is final. A challenge to the accuracy of material contained in a student's file must be initiated with the building principal, with an appeal available to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The challenge shall clearly identify the part of the student's record the parent wants changed and specify why he/she believes it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school determines not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the requesting parent or student of the decision and inform them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amending the record. The parent or eligible student will be provided information regarding the hearing procedure when notified of the right to a hearing.

Unless the parent or guardian of a student (or student, if above the age of eighteen [18]) objects, "directory information" about a student may be made available to the public, military recruiters, post-secondary educational institutions, prospective employers of those students, as well as school publications such as annual yearbooks and graduation announcements. "Directory information" includes, but is not limited to, a student's name, address, telephone number, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, his/her placement on the honor roll (or the receipt of other types of honors), as well as his/her participation in school clubs and extracurricular activities, among others. If the student participates in inherently public activities (for example, basketball, football, or other interscholastic activities), the publication (ID) number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems and a student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student's ID badge, provided the ID cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

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

The form for objecting to making directory information available is located in the back of the student handbook and must be completed and signed by the parent or age-eligible student and filed with the building principal's office no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of each school year or the date the student is enrolled for school. Failure to file an objection by that time is considered a specific grant of permission. The district is required to continue to honor any signed-opt out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

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

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

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education

#### 4.13F—OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY INFO. (Not to be filed if the parent/student has no objection)

I, the undersigned, being a parent of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the disclosure or publication by the Huntsville School District of directory information, as defined in Policy No. 4.13 (Privacy of Students' Records), concerning the student named below. The district is required to continue to honor any signed opt-out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

I understand that the participation by the below-named student in any interscholastic activity, including athletics and school clubs, may make the publication of some directory information unavoidable, and the publication of such information in other forms, such as telephone directories, church directories, *etc.*, is not within the control of the District.

I understand that this form must be filed with the office of the appropriate building principal within ten (10) school days from the beginning of the current school year or the date the student is enrolled for school in order for the District to be bound by this objection. Failure to file this form within that time is a specific grant of permission to publish such information.

I object and wish to deny the disclosure or publication of directory information as follows:

Deny disclosure to military recruiters

Deny disclosure to Institutions of postsecondary education

Deny disclosure to Potential employers \_\_\_\_\_

Deny disclosure to all public and school sources

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), **AND** result in the student's directory information **not** being included in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

#### 4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

#### **Student Media**

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

- 1. Advertising may be accepted for media that does not condone or promote products that are inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience or that endorse such things as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
- 2. Media may be regulated to prohibit communications determined by the appropriate teacher, student advisor, and/or administrator to be ungrammatical; poorly written; inadequately researched; biased or prejudiced; vulgar or profane; or unsuitable for immature audiences.
- 3. Media may be regulated to prohibit the dissemination of material that may reasonably be perceived to advocate drug or alcohol use; irresponsible sex; conduct that is otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order; or to associate the school with any position other than neutrality on matters of political controversy.
- 4. Prohibited media includes those that:
  - a. Are obscene as to minors;
  - b. Are libelous or slanderous, including material containing defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials, and made with knowledge of their falsity or a reckless disregard of the truth;
  - c. Constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy as defined by state law;
  - d. Suggest or urge the commission of unlawful acts on the school premises;
  - e. Suggest or urge the violation of lawful school regulations;
  - f. Attacks ethnic, religious, or racial groups; or
  - g. Harass, threaten, or intimidate a student.

#### **Student Media on School Web Pages**

Student media displayed on school web pages shall follow the same guidelines as listed above and shall also:

- 1. Not contain any non-educational advertisements;
- 2. Adhere to the restrictions regarding the use of Directory Information as prescribed in Policy 4.13 including not using a student's photograph when associated with the student's name unless written permission has been received from the student's parent or the student if over the age of 18;
- 3. State that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the School Board or the employees of the district.

#### Student Distribution of Non-school Literature, Publications, and Materials

A student or group of students wishing to distribute any non-school materials shall have school authorities review their nonschool materials at least three (3) school days in advance of their desired time of dissemination. School authorities shall review the non-school materials prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those non-school materials that are obscene, libelous, pervasively indecent, or advertise unlawful products or services. Material may also be barred from distribution if there is evidence that reasonably supports a forecast that a substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment will likely result from the distribution. Concerns related to any denial of distribution by the principal shall be heard by the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

The school principal or designee shall establish reasonable regulations governing the time, place, and manner of student distribution of non-school materials.

The regulations shall:

- 1. Be narrowly drawn to promote orderly administration of school activities by preventing disruption and may not be designed to stifle expression;
- 2. Be uniformly applied to all forms of non-school materials;
- 3. Allow no interference with classes or school activities;

- 4. Specify times, places, and manner where distribution may and may not occur; and
- 5. Not inhibit a person's right to accept or reject any literature distributed in accordance with the regulations.

The Superintendent, along with the student media advisors, shall develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy. The regulations shall include definitions of terms and timelines for the review of materials.

#### 4.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

#### **CONTACT BY PARENTS**

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

#### CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

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

Arkansas law provides that, in order to avoid continuing child custody controversies from involving school personnel and to avoid disruptions to the educational atmosphere in the District's schools, the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation. Unless a valid no-contact order has been filed with the student's principal or the principal's designee, district employees shall not become involved in disputes concerning whether or not that parent was supposed to pick up the student on any given day.

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

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

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis identified on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after-hours telephone number.

#### Contact by Professional Licensure Standards Board Investigators

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

#### 4.16—STUDENT VISITORS

Student visitors in the classroom can be disruptive to the educational process. Student visitation is strongly discouraged. Any visitation to the classroom shall be allowed only with the permission of the school principal.

#### 4.17—STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Huntsville Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the District's students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

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

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

The District's personnel policy committees shall annually review the District's student discipline policies, including State and District student discipline data and may recommend changes in the policies to the Huntsville School Board. The Board has the responsibility of determining whether to approve any recommended changes to student discipline policies.

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

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

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

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a person has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence or any crime involving a deadly weapon on school property or while under school supervision. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident. Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement.

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

#### **4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

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

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

- 2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;
- 3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;
- 4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;
- 5. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;
- 6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;
- 7. Possession of any paging device, beeper, or similar electronic communication devices on the school campus during normal school hours unless specifically exempted by the administration for health or other compelling reasons;
- 8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;
- 9. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
- 10. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
- 11. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
- 12. Gambling;
- 13. Inappropriate student dress;
- 14. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;
- 15. Truancy;
- 16. Excessive tardiness;
- 17. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability;
- 18. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;
- 19. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
- 20. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, "throwing signs" or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;
- 21. Sexual harassment;
- 22. Bullying .; and
- 23. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using a wireless communication device.

#### 4.19—CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL

The District's Student Code of Conduct applies to students while traveling to and from school or to and from a school activity to the same extent as if the students were on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate the District's Student Code of Conduct.

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. In addition to other disciplinary measures provided for violations of the District's

Student Code of Conduct the student's transportation privileges may be suspended or terminated for violations of the Student Code of Conduct related to bus behavior.

The transportation to and from school of students who have lost their bus transportation privileges is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian

#### **4.20—DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL**

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

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

#### 4.21—STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY

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

Furthermore, it is unlawful, during regular school hours, and in a place where a public school employee is required to be in the course of his or her duties, for any person to address a public school employee using language which, in its common acceptation, is calculated to:

- a. Cause a breach of the peace;
- b. Materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school;
- c. Arouse the person to whom it is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation.

Students guilty of such an offense may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to any student disciplinary measures.

#### 4.22—WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

#### **Definitions**

"Firearm" means any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use.

"Possession"" means having a weapon on the student's body or in an area under the student's control.

"Weapon" means any:

- Firearm;
- Knife;
- Razor;
- Ice Pick;
- Dirk;
- Box Cutter;
- Nun chucks;
- Pepper spray, mace, or other noxious spray;
- Explosive;
- Taser or other instrument that uses electrical current to cause neuromuscular incapacitation; or
- Any other instrument or substance capable of causing bodily harm.

No student, except for Military personnel (such as ROTC cadets) acting in the course of their official duties or as otherwise expressly permitted by this policy, shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon before or after school while:

- In a school building;
- On or about school property;
- At any school sponsored activity or event;
- On route to or from school or any school sponsored activity; or
- Off the school grounds at any school bus stop.

If a student discovers prior to any questioning or search by any school personnel that he/she has accidentally brought a weapon, other than a firearm, to school on his/her person, in a book bag/purse, or in his/her vehicle on school grounds, and the student informs the principal or a staff person immediately, the student will not be considered to be in possession of a weapon unless it is a firearm. The weapon shall be confiscated and held in the office until such time as the student's parent/legal guardian shall pick up the weapon from the school's office. Repeated offenses are unacceptable and shall be grounds for disciplinary action against the student as otherwise provided for in this policy.

Except as permitted in this policy, students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm shall be recommended for expulsion for a period of one (1) year. The superintendent shall have the discretion to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws are prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The mandatory expulsion requirement for possession of a firearm does not apply to a firearm brought to school for the purpose of participating in activities approved and authorized by the district that include the use of firearms. Such activities may include ROTC programs, hunting safety or military education, or before or after-school hunting or rifle clubs. Firearms brought to school for such purposes shall be brought to the school employee designated to receive such firearms. The designated employee shall store the firearms in a secure location until they are removed for use in the approved activity.

The district shall report any student who brings a firearm to school to the criminal justice system or juvenile delinquency system by notifying local law enforcement.

#### 4.23—TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS

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

With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pips, or under any other name or descriptor.

#### 4.24—DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

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

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

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

The sale, distribution, or attempted sale or distribution of over-the-counter (OTC) medications, dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, or prescription drugs is prohibited. The possession or use of OTC medications, dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US food and Drug Administration, or prescription drugs is prohibited except as permitted under Policy 4.35 – STUDENT MEDICATIONS.

#### 4.25—STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

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

Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the school grounds during the school day and at school-sponsored events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female. This prohibition does not apply, however to a costume or uniform worn by a student while participating in a school-sponsored activity or event.

The Superintendent shall establish student dress codes for the District's schools, to be included in the student handbook, and are consistent with the above criteria.

#### 4.26—GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY

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

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

- 1. Wearing or possessing any clothing, bandanas, jewelry, symbol, or other sign associated with membership in, or representative of, any gang;
- 2. Engaging in any verbal or nonverbal act such as throwing signs, gestures, or handshakes representative of membership in any gang;
- 3. Recruiting, soliciting, or encouraging any person through duress or intimidation to become or remain a member of any gang; and/or
- 4. Extorting payment from any individual in return for protection from harm from any gang.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

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

#### 4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

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

The District believes the best policy to create an educational environment free from sexual harassment is prevention; therefore, the District shall provide informational materials and training to students, parents/legal guardians/other responsible adults, and employees on sexual harassment. The informational materials and training on sexual harassment shall be age appropriate and,

when necessary, provided in a language other than English or in an accessible format. The informational materials and training shall include, but are not limited to:

- the nature of sexual harassment;
- The District's written procedures governing the formal complaint grievance process;
- The process for submitting a formal complaint of sexual harassment;
- That the district does not tolerate sexual harassment;
- That students can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences;
- The supports that are available to individuals suffering sexual harassment; and
- The potential discipline for perpetrating sexual harassment.

#### Definitions

"Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Education program or activity" includes locations, events, or circumstances where the District exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs.

"Formal complaint" means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting an investigation of the allegation of sexual harassment.

"Respondent" means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Sexual harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

- 1. A District employee:
  - a. Conditions the provisions of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in sexul conduct; or
  - b. Uses the rejection of sexual conduct as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual;
- 2. The conduct is:
  - a. Unwelcome; and
  - b. Determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
  - c. Constitutes:
  - d. Sexual assault;
  - e. Dating violence;
  - f. Domestic violence; or
  - g. Stalking

"Supportive measures: means individualized services that are offered to the complainant or the respondent designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party. The supportive measures must be non-disciplinary and non-punitive in nature; offered before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed; and offered to either party as appropriate, as reasonable available, and without fee or charge. Examples of supportive measures include, but are not limited to: measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the District's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment; counseling; extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments; modifications of work or class schedules; campus escort services; mutual restrictions on contact between the parties; changes in work or class locations; leaves of absence; and increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

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

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- Making sexual propositions or pressuring for sexual activities;
- Unwelcome touching;
- Writing graffiti of a sexual nature;
- Displaying or distributing sexually explicit drawings, pictures, or written materials;
- Performing sexual gestures or touching oneself sexually in front of others;
- Telling sexual or crude jokes;

- Spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities;
- Discussions of sexual experiences;
- Rating other students or employees as to sexual activity or performance;
- Circulating or showing e-mails or Web sites of a sexual nature;
- Intimidation by words, actions, insults, or name calling; an
- Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether or not the individual self-identifies as homosexual.

Students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment, or the parent/legal guardian/other responsible adult of a student who believes their student has been subjected to sexual harassment, are encourages to bring their concerns to **any** District staff member, including a counselor, teacher Title IX coordinator, or administrator. If the District staff member who received a report of alleged sexual harassment is not the Title IX coordinator, then the District staff person shall inform the Title IX coordinator of the alleged sexual harassment. As soon as reasonably possible after receiving a report of alleged sexual harassment from another District staff member or after received a report directly through any means, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the complainant to:

- Discuss the availability of supportive measures;
- Consider the complainants' wishes with respect to supportive measures;
- Inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint; and
- Explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.

#### **Supportive Measures**

The District shall offer supportive measures to the complainant and make supportive measures available to the respondent that are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. The district shall provide the individualized supportive measures to the complainant unless declined in writing by the complainant and shall provide individualized supportive measures that are non-disciplinary and non-punitive to the respondent. A complainant who initially declined the District's offer of supportive measures may request supportive measures at a later time and the District shall provide individualized supportive measures based on the circumstances when the subsequent request is received.

#### **Formal Complaint**

A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by email. Upon receipt of a formal complaint, a District shall simultaneously provide the following written notice to the parties who are known:

- Notice of the District's grievance process and a copy of the procedures governing the grievance process;
- Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include:

The identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known;

He conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment; and

he date and location of the alleged incident, if known;

- A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process;
- That the parties may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney;
- That the parties may inspect and review evidence relevant to the complaint of sexual harassment; and
- That the District's code of conduct prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process.

If, in the course of an investigation, the District decides to investigate allegations about the complainant or respondent that are not included in the previous notice, the District shall simultaneously provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known.

The District may consolidate formal complaints of allegations of sexual harassment where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances and the formal complaints are against more than one respondent; or by more than one complainant against one or more respondents; or by one party against the other party. When the District has consolidated formal complaints so that the grievance process involves more than one complainant or more than one respondent, references to the singular "party", "complainant", or "respondent" include the plural, as applicable.

When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the grievance process, a District shall:

- Ensure that the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding the responsibility rest on the District and not the parties;
- Not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege or access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in the professional's or paraprofessional's capacity, or assisting in that capacity, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party unless the District obtains the parent, legal guardian, or there responsible adult of that party's voluntary, written consent or that party's voluntary, written consent if the party is over the age of eighteen (18) to do so for the grievance process;
- Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence;
- Not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;
- Provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any grievance proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and not limit the choice or presence of advisor for either the complainant or respondent in any meeting or grievance proceeding;
- Provide, to a party whose participation is invited or expected, written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of all hearings, investigative interviews, or other meetings, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate;
- Provide both parties and equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the formal complaint so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation; this includes evidence:
  - Whether obtained from a party or other source;
  - The District does not intend to rely upon in reaching a determination regarding responsibility; and
  - That is either Inculpatory or exculpatory; and
- Create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.

At least ten (10) days prior to completion of the investigative report, the District shall send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy. The parties shall have at least (10)<sup>3</sup> days to submit a written response to the evidence. The investigator will consider the written responses prior to completion of the investigative report. All evidence subject to inspection and review shall be available for the parties' inspection and review at any meeting to give each party equal opportunity to refer to such evidence during the meeting.

After the investigative report is sent to the parties, the decision-maker shall:

- Provide each party with the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a part wants asked of any party or witness;
- Provide each party with the answers;
- Allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party; an
- Provide an explanation to the party proposing the questions any decision to exclude a question as not relevant. Specifically, questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent.

No earlier than ten (10) days following the completion of the investigation period, the decision-maker, who cannot be the same person and the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator, shall issue a written determination regarding responsibility. The written determination shall include---

- 1. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
- 2. A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the formal complaint through the determination, including:
  - a. Any notifications to the parties;
  - b. Interviews with parties and witnesses;
  - c. Site visits
  - d. Methods used to gather other evidence,; and
  - e. Hearings held;
- 3. Findings of fact supporting the determination;
- 4. Conclusions regarding the application of the District's code of conduct to the facts;

- 5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including:
  - a. A determination regarding responsibility'
  - b. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent; and
  - c. Whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity will be provided by the District to the complainant; and
- 6. The procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

The written determination shall be provided to the parties simultaneously. The determination regarding responsibility shall become final on the earlier of:

- If an appeal is not filed, the day after the period of an appeal to be filed expires; or
- If an appeal is filed, the date the written determination of the result of the appeal is provided to the parties.

The District shall investigate the allegations in a formal complaint. If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined in this policy even if proved; did not occur in the District's education program or activity; or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the District shall dismiss the complaint as not meeting the definition of sexual harassment under this policy. A dismissal for these reasons does not preclude action under another provision of the District's code of conduct.

The District may dismiss the formal complaint or ally allegations therein, if at any time during their grievance process:

- The complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein;
- The respondent is no longer enrolled in the District; or
- Specific circumstances prevent the District from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

Upon the dismissal of a formal complaint for any reason, the District shall promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) for the dismissal simultaneously to the parties.

The District may hire an individual or individuals to conduct the investigation or act as the determination-maker when necessary.

# Appeals

Either party may appeal a determination regarding responsibility or from a dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:

- a. The existence of a procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
- b. Discovery of new evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination

regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; c. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decision-maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter; or

d. An appeal of the disciplinary sanctions from the initial determination.

For all appeals, the District shall:

- 1. Notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed;
- 2. Simultaneously Provide all parties a written copy of the District's procedures governing the appeal process;
- 3. Implement appeal procedures equally for both parties;
- 4. Ensure that the decision-maker for the appeal is not the same person as the decision-maker that reached the original determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator;
- 5. Provide all parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome;
- 6. Issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result; and
- 7. Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

# Confidentiality

Reports of sexual harassment, both informal reports and formal complaints, will be treated in a confidential manner to the extent possible. Limited disclosure may be provided to:

- individuals who are responsible for handling the District's investigation and determination of responsibility to the extent necessary to complete the District's grievance process;
- Submit a report to the child maltreatment hotline;
- Submit a report to the Professional Licensure Standards Board for reports alleging sexual harassment by an employee towards a student; or
- The extent necessary to provide either party due process during the grievance process.

Except as listed above, the District shall keep confidential the identity of:

- Any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination;
- Any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment;
- Any complainant;
- Any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination;
- Any respondent; and
- Any witness.

Any supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent shall be kept confidential to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality does not impair the ability of the District to provide the supportive measures.

# **Emergency removal**

The District may remove a respondent from the District's education program or activity on an emergency basis only after the completion of an individualized safety and risk analysis that determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal. A removed student will be provided with notice and an opportunity to challenge the removal decision immediately following the removal.

# **Retaliation Prohibited**

Students, or the parents/legal guardians/ other responsible adult of a student, who submit a report or file a formal complaint of sexual harassment,; testified; assisted; or participate or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing on sexual harassment shall not be subjected to retaliation or reprisal in any form, including threats; intimidation; coercion; discrimination; or charges for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or formal complaint of sex discrimination, and are made for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege under this policy. The District shall take steps to prevent retaliation and shall take immediate action if any form of retaliation occurs regardless of whether the retaliatory acts are by District officials, students, or third parties.

# **Disciplinary Sanctions**

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment. Following the completion of the District's grievance process, any student who is found by the evidence to more likely than not have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion. No disciplinary sanction or other action that is not a supportive measure may be taken against a respondent until the conclusion of the grievance process.

Students who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment or purposely provide inaccurate facts shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. A determination that the allegations

do not rise to the level of sexual harassment alone is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a false allegation or materially false statement in bad faith.

# Records

The District shall maintain the following records for a minimum of seven (7) years:

- Each sexual harassment investigation including:
- Any determination regarding responsibility;
- any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent;
- Any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity;
- Any appeal and the result therefrom;
- All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decision-makers;
- Any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, which must include:
  - The basis for the District's conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent; and
  - Document:
    - If supportive measures were provided to the complainant, the supportive measures taken designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
    - If no supportive measures were provided to a complainant, document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

# 4.28—LASER POINTERS

Students shall not possess any hand-held laser pointer while in school; on or about school property, before or after school; in attendance at school or any school-sponsored activity; on route to or from school or any school-sponsored activity; off the school grounds at any school bus stop or at any school-sponsored activity or event. School personnel shall seize any laser pointer from the student possessing it and the student may reclaim it at the close of the school year, or when the student is no longer enrolled in the District.

# 4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

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

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

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

- 1. Is in violation of school policies, rules, or regulations;
- 2. Substantially interferes with the safe and orderly educational environment;
- 3. School administrators believe will result in the substantial interference with the safe and orderly educational environment; and/or
- 4. Is insubordinate, incorrigible, violent, or involves moral turpitude.

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

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

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

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

- 1. The student shall be given written notice or advised orally of the charges against him/her;
- 2. If the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an explanation of the evidence against him/her and be allowed to present his/her version of the facts; and
- 3. If the principal finds the student guilty of the misconduct, he/she may be suspended.

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student's re-admittance to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) with lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older prior to the suspension. Such notice shall be handed to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older or mailed to the last address reflected in the records of the school district.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# 4.31—EXPULSION

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District's written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct:

- Deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate;
- Where the student's continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment; or
- Would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

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

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

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records) that he/she will

recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

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

The President of the Board, Board attorney, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing. The student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. Both the district administration and School Board also may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, person standing in loco parentis, or student if age eighteen (18) or older, requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

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

Except as permitted by policy 4.22, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

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

The District shall establish programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during a student's period of expulsion. The District's program shall include offering an expelled student an opportunity for enrollment in digital learning courses or other alternative educational courses that result in the receipt of academic credit that is at least equal to credit the expelled student may have received from the District if the student had not been expelled.

# 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control by court order, or person standing in loco parentis. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

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

# 4.33—STUDENTS' VEHICLES

A student who has presented a valid driver's license and proof of insurance to the appropriate office personnel, may drive his/her vehicle to school. Vehicles driven to school shall be parked in the area designated for student parking. Parking on school property is a privilege which may be denied to a student for any disciplinary violation, at the discretion of the student's building principal.

Students are not permitted to loiter in parking areas and are not to return to their vehicles for any reason unless given permission to do so by school personnel.

It is understood that there is no expectation of privacy in vehicles in parking areas. Drivers of vehicles parked on a school campus will be held accountable for illegal substances or any other item prohibited by District policy found in their vehicle. The act of a student parking a vehicle on campus is a grant of permission for school or law enforcement authorities to search that vehicle.

# 4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell or unfit for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up by their parent or guardian. Specific examples include, but are not limited to: Varicella (chicken pox), measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo/MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis A, B, or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 F when taken orally). A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the discretion of the school nurse, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

To help control the possible spread of communicable diseases, school personnel shall follow the District's exposure control plan when dealing with any blood borne, foodborne, and airborne pathogens exposures. Standard precautions shall be followed relating to the handling, disposal, and cleanup of blood and other potentially infectious materials such as all body fluids, secretions and excretions (except sweat).

In accordance with 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS, the District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records as defined in policy 4.13. That policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

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

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment will be asked to pick their child up as soon as possible. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites. A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined the student no longer has live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment.

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

# **4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS**

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

Unless authorized to self-administer or otherwise authorized by this policy, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter medications or any perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student's medication to the school nurse. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity of the medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify, in the presence of the student the quantity of the medication(s). Each person present shall sign a form verifying the quantity of the medication(s).

Medications, including those for self-administration, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings. Schedule II medications that are permitted by this policy to be brought to school shall be stored in a double locked cabinet.

Students with an individualized health plan (IHP) may be given over-the-counter medications to the extent giving such medications are included in the student's IHP.

The District's supervising registered nurse is responsible for creating procedures for the administration of medications on and off campus.

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medications past the end of the school year. Parents shall be notified ten (10) days in advance of the school's intention to dispose of any medication. Medications not picked up by the parents or legal guardians within the ten (10) day period shall be disposed of by the school nurse in accordance with current laws and rules.

### **Schedule II Medications**

The only Schedule II medications that shall be allowed to be brought to the school are methylphenidate (e.g. Ritalin or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), and amphetamine sulfate (e.g. Adderall or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse).

For the student's safety, no student will be allowed to attend school if the student is currently taking any other Schedule II medication than permitted by this policy. Students who are taking Schedule II medications which are not allowed to be brought to school shall be eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP or 504 plans.

### Self-Administration of Medication

Students who have written permission from their parent or guardian and a licensed health care practitioner on file with the District may:

- 1) Self-administer either a rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine;
- 2) Perform his/her own blood glucose checks;
- 3) Administer insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
- 4) Treat the student's own hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia; or
- 5) Possess on his or her person:
  - a) A rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine; or
  - b) The necessary supplies and equipment to perform his/her own diabetes monitoring and treatment functions.

Students who have a current consent form on file shall be allowed to carry and self-administer such medication while:

- In school;
- At an on-site school sponsored activity;
- While traveling to or from school; or
- At an off-site school sponsored activity.

A student is prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any way diverting his/her medications to any other person. The fact that a student with a completed consent form on file is allowed to carry a rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, diabetes medication, or combination does not require him/her to have such on his/her person. The parent or guardian of a student who qualifies under this policy to self-carry a rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, diabetes medication, or any combination on his/her person shall provide the school with the appropriate medication, which shall be immediately available to the student in an emergency.

Students may possess and use a topical sunscreen that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for OTC use to avoid overexposure to the sun without written authorization from a parent, legal guardian, or healthcare professional while the student is on school property or at a school-related event or activity. The parent or guardian of a student may provide written documentation authorizing specifically named District employee(s), in addition to the school nurse, to assist a student in the application of sunscreen. The District employee(s) named in the parent or legal guardian's written authorization shall not be required to assist the student in the application of sunscreen.

### **Emergency Administration of Glucagon and Insulin**

Students may be administered Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations by the school nurse or, in the absence of the school nurse, a trained volunteer school employee designated as a care provider, provided the student has:

- 1. an IHP that provides for the administration of Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations; and
- 2. a current, valid consent form on file from their parent or guardian.

When the nurse is unavailable, the trained volunteer school employee who is responsible for a student shall be released from other duties during:

- A. The time scheduled for a dose of insulin in the student's IHP; and
- B. Glucagon or non-scheduled insulin administration once other staff have relieved him/her from other duties until a parent, guardian, other responsible adult, or medical personnel has arrived.

A student shall have access to a private area to perform diabetes monitoring and treatment functions as outlined in the student's IHP.

### **Emergency Administration of Epinephrine**

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained and certified by a licensed physician may administer an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee(s) certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine to administer auto-injector epinephrine to the student when the employee believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

Students with an order from and a licensed health care provider to self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine and who have written permission from their parent or guardian shall provide the school nurse an epinephrine auto-injector. This epinephrine will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction and the student is either not self-carrying his/her /epinephrine auto-injector or the nurse is unable to locate it.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep epinephrine auto-injectors on hand that are suitable for the students the school serves. The school nurse or other school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained and certified by a licensed physician may administer auto-injector epinephrine to those students who the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

### **Emergency Administration of Albuterol**

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained and certified by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may administer albuterol in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of albuterol in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee(s) certified to administer albuterol to the student when the employee believes the student is in perceived respiratory distress.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep albuterol on hand. The school nurse or other school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained and certified by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may administer albuterol to those students who the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer albuterol, in good faith professionally believes is in perceived respiratory distress.

#### **Emergency Administration of Anti-opioid**

The school nurse for each District shall keep anti-opioid injectors on hand. The school nurse, other school employee, volunteer, or student may administer anti-opioid in accordance with the District's procedures to a student who the school nurse, or other observer, in good faith believes is having an opioid overdose.

# 4.35F—MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

Medications, including those for self-administration, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

I hereby authorize the school nurse or his/her designee to administer the following medications to my child.

Name(s) of medication(s)
Name of physician or dentist (if applicable)
Dosage
Instructions for administering the medication
Other instructions

I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_\_ to administer the above medication to my student in the unavailability of the school nurse at school in accordance with the above medication administration instructions.

I authorize the school nurse to take a photograph of my student to be used to verify my student's identification before the school nurse or an authorized individual administers medications to my student.

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of medications in accordance with this consent form.

Parent or legal guardian signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# 4.35F2—MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The following must be provided for the student to be eligible to self-administer rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine. Eligibility is **only** valid for this school for the current academic year.

- a written statement from licensed a health-care provider who has prescriptive privileges that he//she has prescribed the rescue inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for the student and that the student needs to carry the medication on his/her person due to a medical condition;
- the specific medications prescribed for the student;
- an individualized health care plan developed by the prescribing health-care provider containing the treatment plan for managing asthma and/or anaphylaxis episodes of the student and for medication use by the student during school hours; and
- a statement from the prescribing health-care provider that the student possesses the skill and responsibility necessary to use and administer the asthma inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate his/her skill level in using the rescue inhalers and/or autoinjectable epinephrine to the nurse.

Rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for a student's self-administration shall be supplied by the student's parent or guardian and be in the original container properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Students who self-carry a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector shall also provide the school nurse with a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector to be used in emergency situations.

I understand this form authorized my student to possess and use the medication(s) included on this form while on school grounds and at school sponsored events but that distribution of the medication(s) included on this form to other students may lead to disciplinary action against my student.

My signature below is an acknowledgment that I understand that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for injury resulting from the self-administration of medications by the student named above.

Parent or legal guardian signature

Date

# 4.35F3—GLUCAGON ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The school has developed an individual health plan (IHP) acknowledging that my child has been diagnosed as suffering from diabetes. The IHP authorizes the school nurse to administer Glucagon or insulin to my child in an emergency situation.

In the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel may administer to my child in an emergency situation:

Glucagon

Insulin

I hereby authorize the school nurse to administer Glucagon and insulin to my child, or, in the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel designated as care providers, to administer the medication(s) I selected above to my child in an emergency situation. I will supply the medication(s) I selected above to the school nurse in the original container properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, its employees, or an agent of the District, including a healthcare professional who trained volunteer school personnel designated as care providers shall not be liable for any damages resulting from his/her actions or inactions in the administration of Glucagon or insulin in accordance with this consent form and the IHP.

Parent or legal guardian signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# 4.35F4—EPINEPHRINE EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

My child has an IHP that provides for the administration of epinephrine in emergency situations. I hereby authorize the school nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injectable epinephrine to administer auto-injectable epinephrine in emergency situations when he/she believes my child is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

The medication must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Date of physician's order

Circumstances under which Epinephrine may be administered

Other instructions

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of auto-injector epinephrine in accordance with this consent form, District policy, and Arkansas law.

Parent or legal guardian signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# 4.35F5—ALBUTEROL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

My child has an IHP that provides for the administration of albuterol in emergency situations. I hereby authorize the school nurse or other school employee certified to administer albuterol to administer albuterol in emergency situations when he/she believes my child is in perceived respiratory distress.

The medication must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Date of physician's order

Circumstances under which albuterol may be administered

Other instructions \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of albuterol in accordance with this consent form, District policy, and Arkansas law.

Parent or legal guardian signature

Date

# 4.36—STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT

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

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

# 4.37—EMERGENCY DRILLS

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

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

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

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted to test the implementation of the District's emergency plans in the event of violence, terrorist attack, natural disaster, other emergency, or the District's Panic Button Alert System. Students shall be included in the drills to the extent practicable.

# 4.38—PERMANENT RECORDS

Permanent school records, as required by the Arkansas Department of Education, shall be maintained for each student enrolled in the District until the student receives a high school diploma or its equivalent or is beyond the age of compulsory school attendance. A copy of the student's permanent record shall be provided to the receiving school district within ten (10) school days after the date a request from the receiving school district is received.

# **4.39—CORPORAL PUNISHMENT**

The Huntsville School Board prohibits the use of corporal punishment by any employee of the District against any student.

# 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS

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

- Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;
- coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services to homeless children and youths;
- Ensure that school personnel receive professional development and other support regarding their duties and responsibilities for homeless youths;
- Ensure that unaccompanied homeless youths:
  - Are enrolled in school;
  - Have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths; and
  - Are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that they may obtain assistance from the LEA liaison to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid;

• Ensure that public notice of the educational rights of the homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such youth, and unaccompanied homeless youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form that is easily understandable.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A. Are:

1.

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Abandoned in hospitals; or
- Awaiting foster care placement;

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

In accordance with Federal law, information on a homeless child or youth's living situation is part of the student's education record and shall not be considered, or added, to the list of directory information in Policy 4.13.

# 4.41—PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

The district conducts routine health screenings such as hearing, vision, and scoliosis due to the importance these health factors play in the ability of a student to succeed in school. The intent of the exams or screenings is to detect defects in hearing, vision, or other elements of health that would adversely affect the student's ability to achieve to his/her full potential.

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

Except in instances where a student is suspected of having a contagious or infectious disease, parents shall have the right to opt their student out of the exams or screenings by using form 4.41F or by providing certification from a physician that he/she has recently examined the student.

# 4.41F—OBJECTION TO PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

I, the undersigned, being a parent or guardian of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the physical examination or screening of the student named below.

Physical examination or screening being objected to:

V	Vision test
F	Jearing test
S	Scoliosis test
C	Dther, please specify
Comm	ents:

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

# 4.42—STUDENT HANDBOOK

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

Principals shall review all changes to student policies and ensure that such changes are provided to students and parents, either in the Handbook or, if changes are made after the handbook is printed, as an addendum to the handbook.

Principals and counselors shall also review Policies 4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS and the current ADE Standards for Accreditation Rules to ensure that there is no conflict. If a conflict exists, the Principal and/or Counselor shall notify the Superintendent and Curriculum Coordinator immediately, so that corrections may be made and notice of the requirements given to students and parents.

# 4.43—BULLYING

### **Definitions**:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

a. Building a fake profile or website of the employee;

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

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

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

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

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

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

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously using any of the following mechanisms: the link on the District website https://www.huntsvilleschooldistrict.org, a written report, or a verbal report. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the building principal, or designee, as soon as possible. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the building principal, or designee. In the even the principal is the accused, the Asst. Principal or Asst. Superintendent will conduct the investigation. The complainant will be asked to complete a Bullying, Harassment, or Discrimination Report Form after making a report. At this time the complainant will have the opportunity to present witnesses and other evidence.

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

A school principal or his or her designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall:

- 1. As soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than the end of the school day following the receipt of the credible report of bullying:
  - 1. Report to a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student that their student is the victim in a credible report of bullying; and
  - 2. Prepare a written report of the alleged incident of bullying;
- 2. Promptly investigate the credible report or complaint of bullying using the Bullying, Harassment, or Discrimination Investigation Form, which shall be completed by no later than the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) school day following the completion of the written report.

- 3. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who was the alleged victim in a credible report of bullying whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of bullying to be true and the availability of counseling and other intervention services.
- 4. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who is alleged to have been the perpetrator of the incident of bullying:
  - 1. That a credible report or complaint of bulling against their student exists;
  - 2. Whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of bullying to be true;
  - 3. Whether action was taken against their student upon the conclusion of the investigation of the alleged incident of bullying; and
  - 4. Information regarding the reporting of another alleged incident of bullying, included potential consequences of continue incidents of bulling;
- 5. Make a written record of the investigation, which shall include:
  - 1. A detailed description of the alleged incident of bullying, including without limitation a detailed summary of the statements from all material witnesses to the alleged incident of bullying;
  - 2. Any action taken as a result of the investigation; and
- 6. Discuss, as appropriate, the availability of counseling and other intervention services with students involved in the incident of bullying.

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

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

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

Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.

# 4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2023, 2024, AND 2025

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are eighteen (18) years of age or older, sign a *Smart Core Waiver Form* to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, both a *Smart Core Informed Consent Form* and a *Smart Core Waiver Form* will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade, or when a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time and there is not a signed form in the student's permanent record. Parents must sign one of the forms and return it to the school so it can be placed in the students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when required by their IEP to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the time they are required to sign the consent forms.

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

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents at least every other year to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each. This may be accomplished through any or all of the following means:

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

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

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

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

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

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

### **Digital Learning Courses**

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format. In addition to the other graduation requirements contained in this policy, students are required to take at least one (1) digital learning course for credit while in high school.

### Personal and Family Finance

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

### SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units  $-9^{th}$ ,  $10^{th}$ ,  $11^{th}$ , and  $12^{th}$ 

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) unit

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

• Algebra I or Algebra A & B\* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9; - 1 credit

Geometry or Geometry A & B\* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10; - 1 credit

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

- Algebra II 1 credit; and
- The fourth unit may be either:
  - A math unit approved by DESE beyond Algebra II; or
  - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a fourth math credit.

### Natural Science: a total of three (3) units

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

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (1/2) unit
- World History one unit
- American History one unit
- Other social studies one-half (½) Unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

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

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

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

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

### **CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units**

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

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

### CORE: Sixteen (16) units

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

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

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

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

Science: three (3) units

- DESE approved Biology 1 credit
- DESE approved Physical Science 1 credit; and
- A third unit that is either:
  - An additional science credit approved by DESE; or
  - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (½) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit
- Other social studies one-half (½) unit

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

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

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

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

### **CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units**

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

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

#### SMART CORE INFORMED CONSENT FORM (GRADUATING CLASS OF 2016 AND AFTER)

Name of Student:

Name of Parent/Guardian:	
Name of District:	-
	Name of School:

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

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

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

#### SMART CORE CURRICULUM

#### English - 4 units

• 9th grade English\*

- 10th grade English\*
- 11th grade English\*
- 12th grade English\*

#### Mathematics - 4 units (or 3 units of math and 1 flex unit of Computer Science\*)

- Algebra I\*
- Geometry \*
- Algebra II\*
- ADE approved fourth Math or Computer Science Flex 1 credit.

#### Science - 3 (or 1 biology, 1 physical science, and 1 Computer Science\*)

- ADE approved Biology 1 credit
- ADE approved physical science 1 credit
- ADE Approved third science or Computer Science Flex 1 credit.

(All students must have 1 unit in Biology, IB Biology, ADE Biology, ADE Approved Biology Honors, or Concurrent Credit Biology.)

#### Social Studies – 3 units

- Civics\* ½ unit
- World History\* 1 unit
- American History\* 1 unit
- other social studies ½ unit

Oral Communications\* – 1/2 unit

Physical Education\* –  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit Health and Safety\* –  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit

Economics and Personal Finance\* – <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)

Fine Arts\* - 1/2 unit

#### Career Focus\* - 6 units

Personal Finance- Beginning with the freshmen class of 2017-18, A.C.A. § 6-16-135 requires students to complete a course that includes specific personal finance standards in either grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.

#### \*Category course options as listed on the ADE Smart Core Course Code List

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

Each high school student shall be required to take at least one digital learning course for credit to graduate.

Smart Core is the default graduation requirements for all students; therefore, signatures are no longer required to participate. Schools should develop Student Success Plans beginning in 8th grade for all students in accordance with Smart Core Requirements.

Arkansas Department of Education – May 9. 2019

#### SMART CORE WAIVER FORM (GRADUATING CLASS OF 2016 AND AFTER)

Name of		
Student:		
Name of Parent/Guardian:		
Name of District:		

#### Name of School:

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

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

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

#### CORE CURRICULUM

#### English - 4 units

- English 9th grade
- English 10th grade
- English 11th grade
- English 12th grade

#### Mathematics - 4 units (or 3 units of math and 1 flex unit of Computer Science\*)

- Algebra I (or Algebra A & Algebra B each may be counted as one unit of the 4 unit requirement)
- Geometry (or Geometry A & Geometry B each may be counted as one unit of the 4 unit requirement)
- (All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.)

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

- At least 1 unit of Biology
- At least 1 unit of Physical Science, Chemistry, and/or Physics
- (All students must have 1 unit in Biology, IB Biology, ADE Biology, ADE Approved Biology Honors, or Concurrent Credit Biology.)

#### Social Studies – 3 units

- Civics 1/2 unit
- World History 1 unit
- U.S. History 1 unit
- Economics or other social studies <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> unit

Oral Communications –  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit Physical Education –  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit Health and Safety –  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit Economics –  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus) Fine Arts –  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit Career Focus – 6 units

\*Computer Science – (flex unit)

A unit of Computer Science and Mathematics, Essentials of Computer Programming, AP Computer Science, or IB Computer Science may replace the 4<sup>th</sup> math unit requirement or the 3<sup>rd</sup> Natural Science Requirement. Two distinct units of the computer science courses listed above may replace the 4<sup>th</sup> math unit requirement and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Natural Science Requirement. If the 4<sup>th</sup> Math requirement and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Natural Science requirement have been met through other coursework, any of the computer science courses listed above may be used for career focus credit.

(Comparable concurrent credit may be substituted where applicable.)

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

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

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

School Official Signature

Arkansas Department of Education— April 2015

Date

# 4.46—PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited during the first class period of each school day. Those students choosing to participate shall do so by facing the flag with their right hands over their hearts, or in an appropriate salute if in uniform, while reciting the Pledge. Students choosing not to participate shall be quiet while either standing or sitting at their desks.

Students shall not be compelled to recite the Pledge, but students who choose not to recite the Pledge shall not disrupt those students choosing to recite the Pledge.

Students choosing not to recite the Pledge shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

# 4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Before and after normal school hours, possession of electronic devices is permitted on the school campus. The use of such devices at school sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.

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

Students who use school issued cell phones and/or computers for non-school purposes, except as permitted by the district's Internet/computer use policy, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students are forbidden from using school issued cell phones while driving any vehicle at any time. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

No student shall use any wireless communication device for the purposes of browsing the internet; composing or reading emails and text messages; or making or answering phone calls while driving a motor vehicle that is in motion and on school property. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

# 4.48—VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING

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

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

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

The district shall retain copies of video recordings until they are erased which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording. Other than video recordings being retained under the provisions of this policy's following paragraph, the district's video recordings may be erased any time greater than five (5) after they were created.

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

Students who vandalize, damage, disable, or render inoperable (temporarily or permanently) surveillance cameras and equipment, automatic identification, or data compilation devices shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

# 4.49—SPECIAL EDUCATION

The district shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, as required under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and Arkansas Statutes.

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 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the state and federal statutes governing special education. Implementation of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in accordance with the IDEA satisfies the district's obligation to provide a free and appropriate education under Section 504.

The Board directs the superintendent to ensure procedures are in place for the implementation of special education services and that programs are developed to conform to the requirements of state and federal legislation. The superintendent is responsible for appointing a district coordinator for overseeing district fulfillment of its responsibilities regarding students with disabilities. Among the coordinator's responsibilities shall be ensuring district enforcement of the due process rights of students with disabilities and their parents.

# 4.50—SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS

The district only provides modified meal components on menus to accommodate students with a disability. A parent/guardian wishing to request dietary accommodations for their student with a disability must submit to the district's Food Service Director<sup>1</sup> a medical statement completed by a State licensed healthcare professional, which includes:

- Physicians, including those licensed by:
  - The Arkansas State Medical Board;

- The Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Chiropractors);
- The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine (Podiatrists);
- Nurse Practitioners (APRNs in family or pediatric practice with prescriptive authority);
- Physician Assistants (PAs who work in collaborative practice with a physician); and
- Dentists.

The medical statement should include:

- 1. A description of the student's disability that is sufficient to understand how the disability restricts the student's diet;
- 2. An explanation of what must be done to accommodate the disability, which may include:
  - a. Food(s) to avoid or restrict;
  - b. Food(s) to substitute;
  - c. Caloric modifications; or
  - d. The substitution of a liquid nutritive formula.

If the information provided in the medical statement is unclear, or lacks sufficient detail, the district's Food Service Director shall request additional information so that a proper and safe meal can be provided.

When choosing an appropriate approach to accommodate a student's disability, the District will consider the expense and efficiency of the requested accommodations. The District will offer a reasonable modification that effectively accommodates the child's disability and provides equal opportunity to participate in or benefit from the program, which may include a generic version of a product.

Parents may file a grievance regarding the request for accommodations with the District's 504 Coordinator, who will schedule a hearing on the grievance to be held as soon as possible. The 504 coordinator shall provide a copy of the procedures governing the hearing, including that the parent has the right to be accompanied by counsel, and the appeal process upon request.

The district will not prepare meals outside the normal menu to accommodate a family's religious or personal health beliefs.

# 4.51— FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT

### **Meal Charges**

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

- Submitting cash or check payment at the school food service office;
- Depositing funds through the District's online service at www.myschoolbucks.com;

A student's parents will be contacted by authorized District personnel regarding a student's prepaid account balance at the following times: when the student has \$12.00 or less in his/her account a notice will be sent home.

Student Meal Prices Grades K-5 for the 2022-2023 School Year:

- Full Price Breakfast: \$1.35
- Full Price Lunch: \$2.75
- Reduced Breakfast: \$0.30
- Reduced Lunch \$0.40

### **Unpaid Meal Access**

In accordance with Arkansas law, the District allows students whose accounts do not have enough funds to purchase a meal to receive an unpaid reimbursable meal at no charge. The District will notify a student's parents:

- When the student's prepaid account balance has dropped to the point that the student will begin receiving unpaid meals;
- Each time the student receives the first unpaid meal after money has been deposited into the student's prepaid account; and
- After the student has received five (5) unpaid meals.

Students who have submitted proper documentation to receive a meal modification in accordance with Policy 4.50 – SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS shall receive the same type of modification for an unpaid meal.

# 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Foster Child School Choice**

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

By July 1 of the school year in which the student seeks to transfer under this section, the superintendent shall notify the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, in writing whether the application has been accepted or rejected. If the application is accepted, the superintendent shall state in the notification letter a reasonable deadline for the foster child to enroll in the new school or the District and that failure to enroll by the date shall void the school choice acceptance. If the application is rejected, the superintendent shall state in the notification letter the reason for the rejection and that the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may submit a written appeal of the rejection to the State board within ten (10) days of receiving the notification letter.

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

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

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

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

- Graduates from high school; or
- Transfers to another school or school district under:
  - The Foster Child School Choice Act;

- Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004;
- The Public School Choice Act of 2015; or
- Any other law that allows a transfer.

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

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

# 4.53— PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or custody of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6 may request that the multiple birth siblings are placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing not later than the 14<sup>th</sup> calendar day prior to the first day of classes at the beginning of the academic year. The school shall honor the request unless it would require the school to add an additional class to the sibling's grade level. If one parent of multiple birth siblings requests a placement that differs from that of the other parent of the same multiple birth siblings, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the siblings.

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

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

If a parent believes the school has not followed the requirements of this policy, the parent may appeal the multiple birth siblings' classroom placement to the Superintendent. The Superintendent's decision regarding the appeal shall be final.

# 4.54 - STUDENT ACCELERATION

The Board believes that acceleration is an effective and research-based intervention for the academic growth of students who are ready for an advanced or faster-paced curriculum. It can allow a student to move through the traditional educational setting more rapidly, based on assessed readiness, capability and motivation. At the same time, the Board understands that acceleration is not a replacement for gifted education services or programs.

Generally, acceleration can occur through one of two broad categories: content based and grade based. Grade based acceleration shortens the number of years a student would otherwise spend in K-12 education, while content based acceleration occurs within the normal K-12 time span. Either form of acceleration can be triggered by either a parent/guardian, student, or community member's request or by the referral of school personnel. In either case, the process of determining the appropriateness of the request shall be under the direction of the district/school Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator who shall convene the individuals necessary to make an informed decision which shall include the student's parents or guardians.

While the needs of the student should dictate when acceleration decisions are considered, the Board believes the optimal time for referrals is in the spring which gives adequate time for working through the determination process and for preparing those concerned for a smooth transition to the acceleration beginning in the following school-year.

Huntsville School District's Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator will create a written format to govern the referral and determination process which shall be made available to any parent or staff member upon request.

The parents/guardians of any student whose request for acceleration has been denied may appeal the decision, in writing. to the District's GT Coordinator. The Districts GT Coordinator and the Acceleration Placement Committee will again thoroughly review the case study that was completed on the student. Upon completion of the review, the Committee will either request additional new testing be conducted to help the Committee make its determination or it will uphold the initial decision. The Committee's decision may not be further appealed.

# 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION

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

At least once each semester, the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis and teacher(s) of a student in kindergarten through eighth ( $8^{th}$ ) grade shall be notified in writing of the student's independent grade-level-equivalency in reading.

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

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following criteria: academic performance, developmental characteristics, and the student's suitability for success if retained. Students in grades 9-12 will be required to retake any courses necessary to meet graduation requirements if the final grade in a course is below 60%.

Grade Level Promotion Criteria for High School: Sophomore - 5 credits, Junior - 10 credits, Senior - 15 credits.

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

- a. The building principal or designee;
- b. The student's teacher(s);
- c. School counselor;
- d. A 504/special education representative (if applicable); and

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

Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, each student shall have a student success plan (SSP) developed by school personnel in collaboration with the student's parents and the student that is reviewed and updated annually. A student's SSP shall use multiple academic measures to personalize learning in order for students to achieve their grade-level expectations and individual growth. The SSP will identify if the student is in need of additional support or acceleration. Academic measures to be used in creating and updating a student's SSP shall include, but are not limited to:

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

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

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

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

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

An SSP shall be created:

1. By no later than the end of the school year for a student in grade eight (8) or below who enrolls in the District during the school year; or

2. As soon as reasonably possible for a student in grade nine (9) or above who enrolls in the District at the beginning or during the school year.

A student's individualized education program (IEP) may act in the place of the student's SSP if the IEP addresses academic deficits and interventions for the student's failure to meet standards-based academic goals at an expected rate or level and includes a transition plan that addresses college and career planning components. Promotion/retention or graduation of students with an IEP shall be based on their successful attainment of the goals set forth in their IEP or completion of the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when applicable.

Students who either refuse to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempt to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are originally administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity, including school dances, prom, homecoming, senior events, and may be prevented from walking or participating in graduation exercises. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following Statewide assessment, as applicable. The Superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

# 4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

### **Definitions:**

"Academic Courses" are those courses for which class time is scheduled, which can be credited to meet the minimum requirements for graduation, which is taught by a teacher required to have State licensure in the course or is otherwise qualified under Arkansas statute, and has a course content guide which has been approved by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). Any of the courses for which concurrent high school credit is earned may be from an institution of higher education recognized by ADE. If a student passes an academic course offered on a block schedule, the course can be counted twice toward meeting the requirement for students to pass four (4) academic courses per semester as required by this policy.

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

"Field Trips" are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.

"Interscholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.

"Intrascholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.

"Supplemental Improvement Program (SIP)" is an additional instructional opportunity for identified students outside of their regular classroom and meets the criteria outlined in the current Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Handbook.

### **Extracurricular Eligibility**

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

Any student who refuses to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempts to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their

student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following statewide assessment, as applicable. The superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

A student who enrolls in the district and meets the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS shall be eligible to try out for an extracurricular activity regardless of the date the student enrolls in the District so long as the student meets all other eligibility requirements and the extracurricular activity is still ongoing.

A student and the parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt and review of an information sheet regarding signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest before the student may participate in an athletic activity and before each school year the student participates in an athletic activity.

No student shall be required to pay for individual or group instruction in order to participate in an extracurricular activity.

### **Interscholastic Activities**

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.

### **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Junior High**

A student promoted from the sixth to the seventh grade automatically meets scholarship requirements. A student promoted from the seventh to the eighth grade automatically meets scholarship requirements for the first semester. The second semester eighth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

The first semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

The second semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed (4) academic courses the previous semester which count toward his/her high school graduation requirements.

Ninth-grade students must meet the requirements of the senior high scholarship rule by the end of the second semester in the ninth grade in order to be eligible to participate the fall semester of their tenth-grade year.

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Senior High

In order to remain eligible for competitive interscholastic activity, a student must have passed (4) academic courses the previous semester and either:

- 1. Have earned a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 from all academic courses the previous semester; or
- 2. If the student has passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester but does not have a 2.0 GPA the student must be enrolled and successfully participating in an SIP to maintain their competitive interscholastic extracurricular eligibility.

### STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

In order to be considered eligible to participate in competitive interscholastic activities, students with disabilities must pass at least four (4) courses per semester as required by their individual education program (IEP).

### ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

In addition to the foregoing rules, the district shall abide by the rules and regulations of AAA governing interscholastic activities. AAA provides catastrophic insurance coverage for students participating in AAA governed extracurricular activities who are enrolled in school. As a matter of District policy, no student may participate in a AAA governed extracurricular activity unless he or she is enrolled in a district school, to ensure all students are eligible for AAA catastrophic insurance.

#### **Intrascholastic Activities**

#### **AAA Governed Activities**

Students participating in intrascholastic extracurricular activities that would be governed by AAA if they were to occur between students of different schools shall meet all interscholastic activity eligibility requirements to be eligible to participate in the comparable intrascholastic activity. The District will abide by the AAA Handbook for such activities to ensure District students are not disqualified from participating in interscholastic activities.

#### **Non-AAA Governed Activities**

Unless made ineligible by District policies, all students shall be eligible to participate in non-AAA governed intrascholastic extracurricular activities. Intrascholastic activities designed for a particular grade(s) or course(s) shall require the student to be enrolled in the grade(s) or course(s).

### 4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

#### Definitions

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

"Field Trips" are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.

"Interscholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.

"Intrascholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.

#### **Extracurricular Eligibility**

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

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

Any student who refuses to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempts to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following statewide assessment, as applicable. The superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

A student who enrolls in the district and meets the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS shall be eligible to try out for an extracurricular activity regardless of the date the student enrolls in the District so long as the student meets all other eligibility requirements and the extracurricular activity is still ongoing.

A student and the parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt and review of an information sheet regarding signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest before the student may participate in an athletic activity and before each school year the student participates in an athletic activity.

### 4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

Home-schooled student means a student legally enrolled in an Arkansas home school and who meets or has met the criteria for being a home-schooled student, as established by A.C.A. § 6-15-503.

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools subject to regulations of the Arkansas Activities Association that is outside the regular curriculum of the school district, such as an athletic activity, fine arts program, or a special interest group or club.

Home-schooled students whose parents or guardians are legal residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the student's resident school zone as permitted by this policy.

Home-schooled students whose parent or legal guardian are not residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the District if the superintendent of the student's resident district and the superintendent of the District both agree in writing to allow the student to participate in interscholastic activities at the District.

Although not guaranteed participation in an interscholastic activity, home-school students who meet the provisions of this policy, AAA Rules, and applicable Arkansas statutes shall have an equal opportunity to try out and participate in interscholastic activities without discrimination. The District shall provide a reasonable alternative to any prerequisite for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity that the home-schooled student is unable to meet because of his or her enrollment in a home school.

No student shall be required to pay for individual or group instruction in order to participate in an interscholastic activity.

To be eligible to try out and participate in interscholastic activities, the student or the parent of a student shall mail or hand deliver the student's request to participate to the student's school's principal before the signup, tryout or participation deadline established for traditional students. Additionally, the student shall demonstrate academic eligibility by obtaining a minimum test score of the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition; another nationally recognized norm-referenced test; or a minimum score on a test approved by the State Board of Education.

A student who meets the requirements for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity is required to register for no more than one course in the District's school where the student is intending to participate in an interscholastic activity.

The student shall regularly attend the class in which the student is registered beginning no later than the eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) day of the semester in which the student's interscholastic activity participation is desired. The student must attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.

A student and the parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt and review of an information sheet regarding signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest before the student may participate in an athletic activity and before each school year the student participates in an athletic activity.

A home-schooled student who has met the try out criteria; and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

- standards of behavior and codes of conduct;
- attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students;
- required drug testing;
- permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
- participation or activity fees.

A home-schooled student who is not a resident of the District may begin participating in interscholastic activities:

a. Immediately upon being approved for participation for all interscholastic activities other than athletic activities; and

b. One (1) calendar year after being approved to participate in interscholastic activities that are athletic activities unless the approval is prior to July 1 of the school year the student would have been enrolled in seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade if the student were enrolled in public school.

A home-schooled student who is not a resident of the District and is prohibited under this policy from participating in an interscholastic activity that is an athletic activity for one (1) calendar year may immediately participate in rehearsals, tryouts, practices, auditions, classes, or other endeavors associated with the interscholastic activity.

Students who participate in extracurricular or athletic activities under this policy will be transported to and from the interscholastic activities on the same basis as other students are transported.

A student who withdraws from an Arkansas Activities Association member school to be home-schooled shall not participate in an interscholastic activity in the resident school district for a minimum of three hundred sixty-five days after the student withdraws from the member school.

# 4.56.2F— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT RESIDENT DISTRICT

Student's Name (Please Print)			
Parent or Guardian's Resident Address			
reet Apartment		Apartment	
City	State	Zip Code	
Student's date of birth _/_/ Last grade	e level the student con	mpleted	
Student has demonstrated academic eligibility the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achie referenced test approved by the State Board of	vement Test Series, T	Fenth Edition, or anot	in
Name of test, Date taken, and score achieved_			
Extracurricular activity(ies) the student reques	ts to participate in		
Course(s) the student requests to take at the sc			
Proof of identity			
Date Submitted//			
Parent's Signature			

# 4.56.2F2— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT NON-RESIDENT DISTRICT

Student's Name (Please Print)		
Parent or Guardian's Resident Address		
Street	Apartment	
City	State Zip Code	
Student's date of birth _/_/_ Last gra	ade level the student completed	
	ity by obtaining a verifiable minimum test score of the 30 <sup>th</sup> p hievement Test Series, Tenth Edition, or another nationally p l of Education	
Name of test, Date taken, and score achieve	ed	
Extracurricular activity(ies) the student requ		
Course(s) the student requests to take at the	school	
Proof of identity		
Date Submitted _/_/		
Parent's Signature		
As the superintendent of the above student's activities at Huntsville School District.	s resident district, I agree that the above student may particip	pate in extracurricular
Resident Superintendent's Signature:		
	ool District, where the above student desires to participate in rticipate in extracurricular activities at Huntsville School Dis	
Non-resident Superintendent's Signature: _		

## 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

#### Definitions

"In process" means the student has received at least one dose of the required immunizations and is waiting the minimum time interval to receive the additional dose(s).

"Serologic testing" refers to a medical procedure used to determine an individual's immunity to Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella.

#### **General Requirements**

Unless otherwise provided by law or this policy, no student shall be admitted to attend classes in the District who has not been age appropriately immunized against<sup>1</sup>:

- Poliomyelitis;
- Diphtheria;
- Tetanus;
- Pertussis;
- Red (rubeola) measles;
- Rubella;
- Mumps;
- Hepatitis A;
- Hepatitis B;
- Meningococcal disease;
- Varicella (chickenpox); and
- Any other immunization required by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).

The District administration has the responsibility to evaluate the immunization status of District students. The District shall maintain a list of all students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or who have an exemption provided by ADH to the immunization requirements based on medical, religious, or philosophical grounds. Students who are not fully age appropriately immunized to a medical authority for consultation.

The only types of proof of immunization the District will accept are immunization records provided by a:

- A. Licensed physician;
- B. Health department;
- C. Military service;
- D. Official record from another educational institution in Arkansas; or

E. An immunization record printed off the statewide immunization registry with the Official Seal of the State of Arkansas. The proof of immunization must include the vaccine type and dates of vaccine administration. Documents stating "up-to-date", "complete", "adequate", and the like will not be accepted as proof of immunization. No self or parental history of varicella disease will be accepted as a history of varicella disease must be documented by a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, doctor of osteopath, or physician assistant. Valid proof of immunization and of immunity based on serological testing shall be entered into the student's record.

In order to continue attending classes in the District, the student must have submitted:

- 1) Proof of immunization showing the student to be fully age appropriately vaccinated;
- 2) Written documentation by a public health nurse or private physician of proof the student is in process of being age appropriately immunized, which includes a schedule of the student's next immunization;
- 3) A copy of a letter from ADH indicating immunity based on serologic testing; and/or
- 4) A copy of the letter from ADH exempting the student from the immunization requirements for the current school year, or a copy of the application for an exemption for the current school year if the exemption letter has not yet arrived.

Students whose immunization records or serology results are lost or unavailable are required to receive all age appropriate vaccinations or submit number 4 above.

#### **Temporary Admittance**

While students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or have not yet submitted an immunization waver may be enrolled to attend school, such students shall be allowed to attend school on a temporary basis only. Students admitted on a temporary basis may be admitted for a maximum of thirty (30) days (or until October 1st of the current school year for the tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, and meningococcal vaccinations required at ages eleven (11) and sixteen (16) respectively if

October  $1^{st}$  is later in the current school year than the thirty (30) days following the student's admittance). No student shall be withdrawn and readmitted in order to extend the thirty (30) day period. Students may be allowed to continue attending beyond the thirty (30) day period if the student submits a copy of either number 2 or number 4 above.

Students who are in process shall be required to adhere to the submitted schedule. Failure of the student to submit written documentation from a public health nurse or private physician demonstrating the student received the vaccinations set forth in the schedule may lead to the revocation of the student's temporary admittance; such students shall be excluded from school until the documentation is provided.

The District will not accept copies of applications requesting an exemption for the current school year that are older than two (2) weeks based on the date on the application. Students who submit a copy of an application to receive an exemption from the immunization requirements for the current year to gain temporary admittance have thirty (30) days from the admission date to submit either a letter from ADH granting the exemption or documentation demonstrating the student is in process and a copy of the immunization schedule. Failure to submit the necessary documentation by the close of the thirty (30) days will result in the student being excluded until the documentation is submitted.

#### **Exclusion From School**

In the event of an outbreak, students who are not fully age appropriately immunized, are in process, or are exempt from the immunization requirements may be required to be excluded from school in order to protect the student. ADH shall determine if it is necessary for students to be excluded in the event of an outbreak. Students may be excluded for no fewer than twenty-one (21) days or even longer depending on the outbreak. No student excluded due to an outbreak shall be allowed to return to school until the District receives approval from ADH.

Students who are excluded from school are not eligible to receive homebound instruction unless the excluded student had a pre-existing IEP or 504 Plan and the IEP/504 team determines homebound instruction to be in the best interest of the student. To the extent possible, the student's teacher(s) shall place in the principal's office a copy of the student's assignments:

- for the remainder of the week by the end of the initial school day of the student's exclusion; and
- by the end of each school's calendar week for the upcoming week until the student returns to school.

It is the responsibility of the student or the student's parent/legal guardian to make sure that the student's assignments are collected.

Students excluded from school shall have five (5) school days from the day the student returns to school to submit any homework and to make up any examinations. State mandated assessments are not included in "examinations" and the District has no control over administering state mandated make-up assessments outside of the state's schedule. Students shall receive a grade of zero for any assignment or examination not completed or submitted on time.

Annually by December 1, the District shall create, maintain, and post to the District's website a report that includes the following for each disease requiring an immunization under this policy:

- The number of students in the District that were granted an exemption by the Department of Health from an immunization;
- The percentage of students in the District that were granted an exemption by the Department of Health from an immunization;
- The number of students within the District who have failed to provide to the public school proof of the vaccinations required and have not obtained an exemption from ADH;
- The percentage of students within the District who have failed to provide to the public school proof of the vaccinations required and have not obtained an exemption from ADH; and
- The percentage of a population that must receive an immunization for herd immunity to exist.

### 4.58—FOOD SHARING AND ITS REMOVAL FROM FOOD SERVICE AREA

#### Food Sharing Table

In an effort to reduce wasted food and to provide students access to healthy foods when possible, the District shall have in the district cafeteria a food sharing table located at the end of the service line. Prior to leaving the service line, students may place on or retrieve items from the table, at no additional charge, any of the following:

- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten without the peel (e.g. bananas and oranges);
- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten with the peel provided the fruit is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. apples and grapes);

- Raw whole vegetables provided the vegetable is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. carrot sticks);
- Milk; and
- Juice.

Fruit and vegetables to be shared are to be placed into a designated container on the table. Milk and juice to be shared are to be placed in an ice-filled cooler. Milk and juice may not be taken by another student unless the carton is unopened and was completely covered by ice while in the cooler. A student may not return to the table to place an item for sharing after the student has left the service line.

At all times, the sharing table will be under the supervision of the food service staff. Remaining items should be discarded at the end of the meal period, and no item may remain on the table for longer than four (4) hours.

#### **Removing Food Items From the Food Service Area**

At the end of the meal period, a student may leave the cafeteria with up to 2 school provided whole fruit or whole vegetable food items. Students may not remove from the cafeteria milk, juice, or any other item requiring a temperature controlled environment.

Except for food service workers as required by their job duties, District employees may only remove school provided food items from the food service area when required by a 504 plan or a student's IEP.

Protocol for food items removed will be established at the building level.

# 4.59 – ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

The District allows private school and home schooled students whose parents, legal guardians, or other responsible adult with whom the student resides are residents of the District to attend academic courses offered by the District. The District will place a list of courses that a private school or home schooled student may request to attend on its website by:

- 1. June 1 for courses offered during the Fall semester; and
- 2. December 1 for courses offered during the Spring semester.

A private school or home schooled student who desires to attend one or more of the available academic courses shall subit a written request to attend the academic course(s) to the superintendent, or designee, no later than:

- 1. August 1 for Fall semester courses
- 2. December 1 for Spring semester courses

The superintendent, or designee, is authorized to waive the application deadline on a case-by-case basis.

The District permits a private school or home schooled student to attend a maximum of six (6) courses per semester.

The District may reject a private school or home schooled student's request for attendance if the District's acceptance would:

- Require the addition of staff or classrooms;
- Exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building;
- Cost the District more for the student to attend the academic course than the District receives for the student's attendance;
- Cause the District to provide educational services the District does not currently provide at a financial burden to the District; or
- Cause the District to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Requests to attend an academic course will be granted in the order the requests are received. Upon the receipt of a private or home schooled student's request to attend academic course(s), the District will date and time stamp the request for attendance. If a private school or home schooled student is denied attendance based on a lack of capacity and an opening in the requested course occurs prior to the start of the course, the District will use the date and time stamp on the request for attendance to determine the private or home schooled student who will be notified of an opening in the requested course.

As part of the request to attend academic courses in the District, a private school or home schooled student shall:

- Indicate the course(s) the private school or home schooled student is interested in attending;
- If the course(s) the private school or home schooled student is interested in attending is being offered by the District in both a physical and digital format, whether the private school or home schooled student intends to attend the physical course or the digital course;

- Submit, along with the student's application, a copy of the student's transcript indicating that the student has received credit for the course(s), or equivalent course(s), that are a prerequisite to the course(s) the student desires to attend at the District;
- Agree to follow the District's discipline policies; and
- Submit immunization documentation required by Policy 4.57 IMMUNIZATIONS

A private school or home schooled student who fails to attend an academic course by the eleventh (11) day of class or who is absent without excuse for eleven (11) consecutive days during the semester shall be dropped from the course; however, a private school or home schooled student shall not be considered truant for unexcused absences from the course(s) the student is attending in the District.

Private school or home schooled students shall receive a final grade and transcript for each academic course the student completes.

The responsibility for transportation of any private school or home schooled student attending academic courses in the District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents.

The opportunity provided to home schooled students under this policy is in addition to the opportunity provided in Policy 4.56.2 – EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS.

### 5.5—SELECTION/INSPECTION OF SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The use of instructional materials beyond those approved as part of the curriculum/textbook program must be compatible with school and district policies. If there is uncertainty concerning the appropriateness of supplemental materials, the personnel desiring to use the materials shall get approval from the school's principal prior to putting the materials into use.

All instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum of a student shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the student. For the purposes of this policy, instructional materials is defined as instructional content provided to the student regardless of its format, including printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats. The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Parents or guardians wishing to inspect instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum for their child may schedule an appointment with the student's teacher at a mutually agreeable time. Parents/guardians wishing to challenge the appropriateness of any instructional materials shall follow the procedures outlined in Policy 5.6—CHALLENGE OF INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS.

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

### 5.6—CHALLENGE TO INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Instructional and supplemental materials are selected for their compatibility with the District's educational program and their ability to help fulfill the District's educational goals and objectives. Individuals wishing to challenge or express concerns about instructional or supplemental materials may do so by filling out a *Challenge to Instructional Material* form available in the school's office.

The contesting individual may present a copy of the form to the principal and request a conference be held at a time of mutual convenience. Prior to the conference, the principal shall consult with the teacher regarding the contested material. In the conference, the principal shall explain to the contesting individual the criteria used for the selection of the material and its relevancy to the educational program as well as any other pertinent information in support of the use of the material.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, the principal shall have five (5) working days to submit a summary of the concerns expressed by the individual and the principal's response to those concerns to the Superintendent.

If the contesting individual is not satisfied with the principal's response, the individual may, after the five (5) working day period, request a meeting with the Superintendent where the individual shall present the same *Challenge to Instructional Material* form previously presented to the principal. The Superintendent shall explain to the contesting individual the criteria used for the selection of the material and its relevancy to the educational program as well as any other pertinent information in support of the use of the material.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, the Superintendent shall have five (5) working days to write a summary of the concerns expressed by the individual and the Superintendent's response to those concerns. The Superintendent shall create a file of his/her response along with a copy of the principal's response and a copy of the contesting individual's *Challenge to Instructional Material* form.

If, after meeting with the Superintendent, the contesting individual is not satisfied with the Superintendent's response regarding the appropriateness of the instructional or supplemental material, he/she may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board. The Superintendent shall present the contesting individual's *Challenge to Instructional Material* form to the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting along with the written responses to the challenge. The Board may elect, if it so chooses, to hear brief verbal presentations from the parties involved in the challenge.

The Board shall decide at that meeting or their next regularly scheduled meeting whether to retain the material, limit the availability of the material, or remove the material from the school. The Board's primary consideration in reaching its decision shall be the appropriateness of the material for its intended educational use.

### 5.7—SELECTION OF LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER MATERIALS

The ultimate authority for the selection and retention of materials for the schools' media centers rests with the Board of Education which shall serve as a final arbiter in resolving a challenge to any media center materials. Licensed media center personnel shall make the initial selections in consultation with school and district licensed staff. Materials selected shall be in accordance with the guidelines of this policy.

The purpose of the schools' libraries/media centers is to supplement and enrich the curriculum and instruction offered by the District. Promoting the dialogue characteristic of a healthy democracy necessitates the maintenance of a broad range of materials and information representing varied points of view on current and historical issues. In the selection of the materials and resources to be available in each library/media center consideration will be given to their age appropriateness. Materials should be available to challenge the different interests, learning styles, and reading levels of the school's students and that will help them attain the District's educational goals.

#### **Selection Criteria**

The criteria used in the selection of media center materials shall be that the materials:

- 1. Support and enhance the curricular and educational goals of the district;
- 2. Are appropriate for the ages, learning styles, interests, and maturity of the schools' students, or parents in the case of parenting literature;
- 3. Contribute to the examination of issues from varying points of view and help to broaden students understanding of their rights and responsibilities in our society;
- 4. Help develop critical thinking skills;
- 5. Are factually and/or historically accurate, in the case of non-fiction works and/or serve a pedagogical purpose;
- 6. Have literary merit as perceived by the educational community; and
- 7. Are technically well produced, physically sound (to the extent appropriate), and represent a reasonably sound economic value.

#### **Retention and Continuous Evaluation**

Media center materials shall be reviewed regularly to ensure the continued appropriateness of the center's collection to the school's curriculum and to maintain the collection in good repair. Those materials no longer meeting the selection criteria, have not been used for a long period of time, or are too worn to be economically repaired shall be withdrawn from the collection and disposed of. A record of withdrawn media materials including the manner of their disposal shall be maintained for a period of three years.

#### Gifts

Gifts to the media centers shall be evaluated to determine their appropriateness before they are placed in any media center. The evaluation shall use the same criteria as for all other materials considered for inclusion in the media centers. Any items determined to be unacceptable shall be returned to the donor or disposed of at the discretion of the media specialist. The media centers shall have a list of desired items to give to prospective donors to aid them in their selection of materials to donate.

#### Challenges:

The parent of a student affected by a media selection, or a District employee may formally challenge the appropriateness of a media center selection by following the procedure outlined in this policy. The challenged material shall remain available throughout the challenge process.

Before any formal challenge can be filed, the individual contesting (hereinafter complainant) the appropriateness of the specified item shall request a conference through the principal's office with a licensed media center employee. The complainant shall be given a copy of this policy and the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* prior to the conference. The meeting shall take place at the earliest possible time of mutual convenience, but in no case later than five (5) working days from the date of the request unless it is by the choice of the complainant.

In the meeting, the media specialist shall explain the selection criteria and how the challenged material fits the criteria. The complainant shall explain his/her reasons for objecting to the selected material. If, at the completion of the meeting, the complainant wishes to make a formal challenge to the selected material, he/she may do so by completing the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* and submitting it to the principal's office.

To review the contested media, the principal shall select a committee of five (5) or seven (7) licensed personnel consisting of the principal as chair and at least one media specialist. The remaining committee members shall be personnel with curriculum knowledge appropriate for the material being contested and representative of diverse viewpoints. The task of the committee shall be to determine if the challenged material meets the criteria of selection. No material shall be withdrawn solely for the viewpoints expressed within it and shall be reviewed in its entirety and not selected portions taken out of context.

The principal shall convene a meeting after a reasonable time for the committee members to adequately review the contested material and the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* submitted by the complainant. The complainant shall be allowed to present the complaint to the committee after which time the committee shall meet privately to discuss the material. The committee shall vote by secret ballot to determine whether the contested material shall be removed from the media center's collection. A member from the voting majority shall write a summary of the reasons for their decision. A notice of the committee's decision and the summary shall be given (by hand or certified mail) to the complainant.

If the decision is to not remove the material, the complainant may appeal the committee's decision to the district Board of Directors by filing a written appeal to the Superintendent within 5 working days of the committee's decision or of written receipt of the decision. The Superintendent shall present the original complaint and the committee's decision along with the summary of its reasons for its position plus a recommendation of the administration, if so desired, to the Board within 15 days of the committee's decision. The Board shall review the material submitted to them by the Superintendent and make a decision within thirty (30) days of receipt of the information. The Board's decision is final.

### 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

#### Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

"Blended Learning" is education in which instruction and content are delivered through supervised instruction in a classroom and online delivery of instruction with some element of student control over time, place, path, or pace.

"Digital Learning" means a digital technology or internet-based educational delivery model that does not rely exclusively on compressed interactive video (CIV). Digital learning includes online and blended learning.

"Instructional Materials" means:

- 1. Traditional books, textbooks, and trade books in printed and bound form;
- 2. Activity-oriented programs that may include:
  - a. Manipulatives;
  - b. Hand-held calculators;
  - c. Other hands-on materials; and
- 3. Technology-based materials that require the use of electronic equipment in order to be used in the learning process.

"Online Learning" is education in which instruction and content are delivered primarily over the Internet. The term does not include print-based correspondence education, broadcast television or radio, videocassettes, compact disks and stand-alone educational software programs that do not have a significant Internet-based instructional component.

"Public School Student Accessing Courses at a Distance" means a student who is scheduled for a full course load through the District and attends all classes virtually.

#### **Digital Course Offerings**

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format and shall be tailored to meet the needs of each student.

All digitally offered courses shall meet or exceed the State Board of Education's curriculum standards and requirements and be capable of being assessed and measured through standardized or local assessments. Additionally, the District shall ensure there is sufficient infrastructure to handle and facilitate a quality digital learning environment.

As an approved digital learning provider, the District shall annually determine what District created digital learning courses it will provide to our students. The District may also choose to provide digital learning courses by contracting with outside providers of such courses, who have been pre-approved by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). The School Board shall determine the provider method or combination of methods for the District. The Superintendent shall ensure that all digital learning courses provided to District students, regardless of the source of the course, have been approved by ADE.

District created digital courses and any digital courses the district purchases from outside providers shall adhere to the guidelines for the use of digitally transmitted copyrighted materials set forth in Policy 5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS as well as applicable statutory requirements.

The District shall require all outside providers to incorporate Policy 5.8 as a condition of the service contract. Failure of the outside provider to abide by Policy 5.8 shall constitute a breach of contract and the outside provider shall be responsible for any costs resulting from such breach.

A student may elect to take any or all of his/her scheduled courses digitally. The student's attendance in his/her digital course(s) shall be determined by the online attendance and time the student is working on the course rather than the student's physical presence at school.

The District is responsible for providing all instructional materials for each student who enrolls in a District approved digital learning course.

Regardless of any other provisions of this policy, the District may restrict a student's access to digital courses when the student's building principal determines the student's participation in such a course would not be academically appropriate based on the student's past performance in digital courses. Furthermore, the student's building principal may revoke a student's eligibility to continue taking a digital learning course if the student's performance during the semester indicates the student is not succeeding in the course.

### 5.14—HOMEWORK

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the District. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student's educational development. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful.

Teachers should be aware of the potential problem students may have completing assignments from multiple teachers and vary the amount of homework they give from day to day.

Parents shall be notified of this policy at the beginning of each school year.

### 5.15—GRADING

Parents or guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, or teachers. If the progress of a student is unsatisfactory in a subject, the teacher shall attempt to schedule a parent-teacher conference. In the conference, the teacher shall explain the reasons for difficulties and shall develop, cooperatively with the parents, a plan for remediation, which may enhance the probability of the student succeeding. The school shall also send timely progress reports and issue grades for each nine – (9) week grading period to keep parents/guardians informed of their student's progress.

The evaluation of each student's performance on a regular basis serves to give the parents/guardians, students, and the school necessary information to help effect academic improvement. Students' grades shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed educational objectives of the course.

The grades of a child in foster care shall not be lowered due to an absence from school due to:

- 1. A change in the child's school enrollment;
- 2. The child's attendance at a dependency-neglect court proceeding; or
- 3. The child's attendance at court-ordered counseling or treatment.

The standards-based grading scale for all Elementary Schools in the district shall be as follows:

- 4 Advancing Meets standard expectations and advances the standard requirements.
- 3 Achieving Independently demonstrates accuracy on standard expectations
- 2 Developing Independent but only partial accuracy on standard expectations.
- 1 Initiating Demonstrates minimal or inaccurate/incomplete understanding of standard expectations.

The grading scale for all Middle and High Schools in the district shall be as follows:

A = 100 - 90B = 89 - 80C = 79 - 70

D = 69-60

F = 59 and below

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be:

- A = 4 points B = 3 points C = 2 points
- D = 1 point
- F = 0 points

The grade point values for Advanced Placement (AP), approved courses for weighted credit, International Baccalaureate (IB), and approved honor courses shall be one (1) point greater than for regular courses with the exception that an F shall still be worth zero (0) points.

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

For example: The grading period had forty (40) days. A student transferred in with a grade of eighty-three percent (83%) earned in ten (10) days at the previous school. The student had a grade of seventy-five percent (75%) in our district's school earned in the remaining thirty (30) days of the grading period. Ten (10) days is twenty-five percent (25%) of forty (40) days while thirty (30) days is seventy-five percent (75%) of forty (40) days. Thus the final grade would be  $(0.25 \times 83) + (0.75 \times 75) = 77\%$ .

### **5.20—DISTRICT WEB SITE**

The Huntsville School District shall maintain a web page to provide information about its schools, students, and activities to the community. This policy is adopted to promote continuity between the different pages on the district website by establishing guidelines for their construction and operation.

The Huntsville School District website shall be used for educational purposes only. It shall not create either a public or a limited public forum. Any link from any page on the District's site may only be to another educational site. The website shall not use "cookies" to collect or retain identifying information about visitors to its website nor shall any such information be given to "third parties." Any data collected shall be used solely for the purpose of monitoring site activity to help the district improve the usefulness of the site to its visitors.

Each school's web page shall be under the supervision of the school's Web Master and the District's website shall be under the supervision of the District's Web Master. They shall have the responsibility for ensuring that web pages meet appropriate

levels of academic standards and are in compliance with these guidelines and any additional administrative regulations. To this end, the District and School Web Masters shall have the authority to review and edit any proposed changes to web pages to ensure their compliance with this policy. All such editing shall be viewpoint neutral.

District and school web pages shall also conform to the following guidelines:

- 1. All pages on the District's website may contain advertising and links only to educational sources.
- 2. The District's home page shall contain links to existing individual school's web pages and the school home pages shall link back to the District's home page. The District's home page may also include links to educational extracurricular organization's web pages, which shall also link back to the District's home page.
- 3. Photos along with the student's name shall only be posted on web pages after receiving written permission from the student's parents or the student if the student is over the age of eighteen (18).
- 4. The District's web server shall host the Huntsville School District's website.
- 5. No web page on the District website may contain public message boards or chat rooms.
- 6. All web pages on the District website shall be constructed to download in a reasonable length of time.
- 7. The District's home page shall contain a link to a privacy policy notice, which must be placed in a clear and prominent place and manner.
- 8. With the exception of students who may retain the copyright of material they have created that is displayed on a District web page, all materials displayed on the District web site are owned by Huntsville School District.
- 9. The District shall include the following information on its website through a link located on the District's homepage titled "State Required Information::
  - a. Local and state revenue sources;
  - b. Administrator and teacher salary and benefit expenditure data;
  - c. District balances, including legal balances and building fund balances;
  - d. Minutes of regular and special meetings of the school board;
  - e. The district's budget for the ensuing year;
  - f. A financial breakdown of monthly expenditures of the district;
  - g. The salary schedule for all employees including extended contract and supplementary pay amounts;
  - h. Current contract information (not including social security numbers, telephone numbers, personal addresses or signatures) for all district employees;
  - i. The district's annual budget;
  - j. The annual statistical report of the district;
  - k. The district's personnel policies;
  - 1. The annual School Performance Report;
  - m. School-Level Improvement Plans;
  - n. The School District Support Plan;
  - o. Student discipline policies;
  - p. Comprehensive School Counseling Plan;
  - q. The District financial policies;
  - r. Student handbooks;
  - s. The Annual Report to the Public;
  - t. The parent, family, and community engagement plan; and
  - u. The Immunization Waiver Report from Policy 4.57 IMMUNIZATIONS
  - v. School District Calendar;
  - w. List of statutory, rule, or Standards for Accreditation waivers the district has received under A.C.A.§ 6-15-103;

The information and data required for items A through K in 9 above shall be the actual data for the previous two (2) schoolyears and the projected data for the current school-year.

Before July 15 of each year, the District shall post on its website the following information:

- The dyslexia intervention programs used during the previous school year that were specifically responsive to assisting students with dyslexia;
- The number of students during the previous school year who received dyslexia intervention; and
- The total number of students identified with dyslexia during the previous school year.

The District shall include the following information on its website that may be accessed through a link located on the District's homepage titled "Title IX/Sex Discrimination":

- Contact information for the District's Title IX Coordinator;
- A statement that any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, to the Title IX Coordinator in person or by using the mailing address, telephone number, or email address provided. A report may be made at any time,

including during non-business hours, and may be on the individual's own behalf or on behalf of another individual who is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment;

- Copies of the District's sexual harassment policies;
- Copies of the District's Procedures governing the grievance and appeal process;
- The process for filing a formal complaint of sexual harassment; and
- Direct links to or copies of the materials used to train the District's Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decisionmakers.

The District and school webmasters are responsible for ensuring all District webpages meet required standards to be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

### 5.20 F1—PERMISSION TO DISPLAY PHOTO OF STUDENT ON WEBSITE

I hereby grant permission to the Huntsville School District to display the photograph or video clip of me/my student (if student is under the age of eighteen {18}) on the District's web site, including any page on the site, or in other District publications without further notice. I also grant the Huntsville School District the right to edit the photograph or video clip at its discretion.

The student's name may be used in conjunction with the photograph or video clip. It is understood, however, that once the photograph or video clip is displayed on a web site, the District has no control over how the photograph or video clip is used or misused by persons with computers accessing the District's web site.

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of student (only necessary if student is over 18)

Signature of parent (required if student is under 18)

Date

### 5.20 F2—PERMISSION TO DISPLAY STUDENT INFORMATION ON WEB SITE

I hereby grant permission to the Huntsville School District to display my/my student's name (if student is under the age of eighteen {18}) in conjunction with my/my student's home address, email address, telephone number, and/or my parents' names

It is understood, however, that once the information is displayed on a web site, the District has no control over how the information is used or misused by persons with computers accessing the District's web site.

I (we) agree to defend and hold harmless the members of the Huntsville School Board, the Huntsville School District, its officers, employees, agents, successors and assignees from and against any and all claims and liabilities resulting from displaying my/my student's specified information.

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of student (only necessary if student is over 18)

Signature of parent (required if student is under 18)

Date

## 5.20.1—WEB SITE PRIVACY POLICY

The Huntsville School District operates and maintains a web site for the purpose of informing the citizens of the district about its activities. The web site does not use "cookies" or ISP addresses to collect or retain personally identifying information about visitors to its web site nor is any such information given to "third parties." Any data collected is used solely for the purpose of monitoring site activity to help the district improve the usefulness of the site to its visitors.

The site serves no commercial purpose and does not collect any information from individuals for such purpose.

Photographs of students, when associated with the student's name, shall not be displayed on any page of the district's web site without the prior written consent of the parent (or the student if 18 or older).

The site provides for email communication between the District and individuals for the purpose of exchanging information regarding the District and its activities or between teachers and their students. The site may also provide for password protected communication between the District and its staff.

### 5.24—STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN SURVEYS

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

- 1. political affiliations;
- 2. mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his family;
- 3. sex behavior and attitudes;
- 4. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior;
- 5. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- 6. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- 7. religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
- 8. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

<u>Section Two:</u> No surveys shall be administered without the prior approval of the school principal. Any survey created by a third party, or funded, in whole or in part, as part of any US Department of Education administered program, containing one or more of the eight categories listed above shall be available to be inspected by a student's parent/guardian before the survey is administered or distributed by a school to a student. Parents/guardians shall have the right to deny permission for their child to participate in the taking of the survey. The school shall not penalize students whose parents/guardians exercise this option. The school shall take reasonable precautions to protect students' privacy during their participation in the administration of any survey, analysis, or evaluation containing one or more of the eight categories listed above.

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

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

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

1. A student's name;

- 2. The name of the student's parent or member of the student's family;
- 3. The address, telephone number, or email address of a student or a member of a student's family;
- 4. A personal identification number, such as a social security number, driver's license number, or student identification number of a student or a member of the student's family;
- 5. Any information, the disclosure of which is regulated, or prohibited by any other state or federal law or regulation.

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

### 5.24F1—OBJECTION TO PARTICIPATION IN SURVEYS, ANALYSIS, OR EVALUATIONS

I, the undersigned, being a parent or guardian of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to participation by the student named below in the following survey, analysis, or evaluation.

I choose not to have my student participate in the following survey, analysis, or evaluation.

Name of specific survey \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_All surveys

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

## 5.25—MARKETING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

The Huntsville School District shall not collect, disclose, or use personal information for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or to otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose.

Personal information is defined, for the purposes of this policy only, as 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. telephone number, and
- 4. social security identification number.

The district may collect, disclose, or use personal information that is collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutional such as the following:

- 1. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment;
- 2. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low cost literary products;
- 3. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools;
- 4. Tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
- 5. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school related or education related activities; and
- 6. Student recognition programs.

## 5.26—ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The District shall provide an eligible alternative learning environment (ALE) for each eligible ALE student enrolled in a District school. The ALE shall be part of an intervention program designed to provide guidance, counseling, and academic support to students who are experiencing emotional, social, or academic problems. Placement of a student in an ALE shall not be punitive in nature.

The superintendent or designee shall appoint an Alternative Education Placement Team which shall have the responsibility of determining student placement in the ALE. A student may be enrolled in an ALE only on the referral of the Alternative Education Placement Team. The team's placement decision is final and may not be appealed.

The team is to be comprised of the following:

- a school counselor from the referring school;
- the ALE administrator and/or ALE teacher;
- the building principal or assistant principal from the referring school;
- a parent or legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis (if they choose to participate);
  - The District shall document its efforts to contact the student's parent or legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to schedule a meeting or a phone call for a placement meeting at the parent or legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis convenience, and maintain such documentation in the student's Student Action Plan (SAP).
- LEA special education/504 representative (if applicable);
- at least one (1) of the student's regular classroom teacher(s); and
- if the District so chooses, the student.

Students who are placed in the ALE shall exhibit at least two (2) of the following characteristics:

- 1. Ongoing, persistent lack of attaining proficiency levels in literacy and mathematics;
- 2. Abuse: physical, mental, or sexual;
- 3. Frequent relocation of residency;
- 4. Homelessness;
- 5. Inadequate emotional support;
- 6. Mental/physical health problems;
- 7. Pregnancy;
- 8. Being a single parent;
- 9. Personal or family problems or situations;

- 10. Recurring absenteeism;
- 11. Dropping out of school; or
- 12. Disruptive behavior

Before or upon entry into the ALE, the ALE program shall assess the student in order to provide intervention services designed to address the student's specific educational and behavioral needs, with the focus for behavioral needs on long term improvement of the student's ability to control the student's behavior.

No later than five (5) school days after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall develop a signed agreement between the ALE, the parent or legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis (if they choose to participate), and the student, outlining the responsibility of the ALE, parent or legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis, and the student to provide assurance that the plan for each student is successful.

No later than one (1) week after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall assess the student's current functioning abilities and all relevant social, emotional, academic, career, and behavioral information and develop an SAP outlining the intervention services to be provided to the student. The SAP may be revised from time to time by the ALE placement team. The SAP shall contain at a minimum:

- a. A plan of intervention services to be provided to address the student's specific educational needs and, if appropriate, the student's behavioral needs;
- b. Goals and objectives necessary to achieve positive integration into the regular educational environment;
- c. Exit criteria on which to base a student's return to the regular educational environment;
- d. Documentation of the presence of the characteristics listed above that were the reason for the student's referral to the ALE program;
- e. Documentation of the specific ALE programming and supports that will address each identified characteristic or situation causing a barrier to the student's success; and
- f. A positive behavior or transitional plan prior to a student's return to the regular educational environment.

The district's ALE program shall follow class size, staffing, curriculum, and expenditure requirements identified in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Rules.

### 5.26.1—ALE PROGRAM EVALUATION

The ALE program shall be evaluated at least annually to determine its overall effectiveness at providing a non-punitive environment that is conducive to learning, that eliminates traditional barriers to learning, and at compliance with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding. The evaluation shall specifically address how the use of ALE funds is in alignment with the district's ACSIP in addressing identified achievement gaps and student performance deficiencies.

### 5.29—WELLNESS POLICY

The health and physical well-being of students directly affects their ability to learn. Childhood obesity increases the incidence of adult diseases occurring in children and adolescents such as heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes. The increased risk carries forward into their adulthood. Research indicates that a healthy diet and regular physical activity can help prevent obesity and the diseases resulting from it. It is understood that the eating habits and exercise patterns of students cannot be magically changed overnight, but at the same time, the Board of Directors believes it is necessary to strive to create a culture in our schools that consistently promotes good nutrition and physical activity.

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

#### Wellness Committee

To enhance the district's efforts to improve the health of our students, a School Nutrition and Physical Activity Advisory Committee (SNPAAC) shall be formed. It shall be structured in a way to ensure age-appropriate recommendations are made that correlate to the District's grade configurations by including representatives from each appropriate grade level on the membership of the district committee. The SNPAAC shall have the powers and responsibilities delegated to it by statute and Rule and are incorporated into this policy by reference. The overarching goal of the committee shall be to promote student wellness by monitoring how well the District is doing at implementing this policy. The SNPAAC shall use modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11 of the Centers For Disease Control' (CDC) School Health Index as a basis for annually assessing each school's progress toward meeting the requirements of this policy. The results of the annual assessment shall be included in the school district's support plan (SDSP), provided to each school's principal, and reported to the board. Goals and objectives for nutrition and physical activity shall also be included in the SDSP.

The SNPAAC shall be made up of Individuals from the following groups to the extent interested persons from each group desire to be included in the development, implementation, and periodic review of the District's wellness policy:

- Members of the District's Board of Directors;
- School administrators;
- School nutrition personnel;
- Teacher organizations;
- Teachers of physical education;
- Parents;
- Students;
- Professional groups (such as nurses);
- School health professionals (such as school nurses, school counselors, and social workers); and
- Community members.

The SNPAAC shall provide written recommendations to the District's Child Nutrition Director concerning menus and other foods sold in the school cafeteria. Such recommendations shall be based, at least in part, on the information the Committee receives from the District on the requirements and standards of the National School Lunch Program and from menus for the National School Lunch Program and other food sold in the school cafeteria on a quarterly basis.

The SNPAAC will meet at least quarterly. Meeting dates for the SNPAAC will be placed on the District's calendar.

#### **School Health Coordinator**

To assist the SNPAAC in ensuring that the District fulfills the requirements of this policy, a District level School Health Coordinator (Designated District Official) shall be appointed. In addition, a school level School Health Coordinator shall be appointed who shall be responsible for assisting the District level School Health Coordinator in ensuring that each school fulfills the requirements of this policy.

#### Goals

In its efforts to improve the school nutrition environment, promote student health, and reduce childhood obesity, the District will adhere to the ADE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards And Body Mass Index For Age Assessment Protocols. To promote nutrition, physical activity, and other school based activities that will improve student wellness, the District, working with the SNPAAC, has established the following goals:

- 1. Implement a grade appropriate nutrition education program that will develop an awareness of and appreciation for nutrition and physical activity throughout the curriculum;
- 2. Enforce existing physical education requirements and engage students in healthy levels of vigorous physical activity;
- 3. Strive to improve the quality of physical education curricula and increase the training of physical education teachers;
- 4. Follow the Arkansas Physical Education and Health Education Frameworks in grades K-12;
- 5. Not use food or beverages as rewards for academic, classroom, or sports performances;
- 6. Establish class schedules and bus routes that do not directly or indirectly restrict meal access;
- 7. Provide students with ample time to eat their meals in pleasant cafeteria and dining areas;
- 8. Abide by the current allowable food and beverage portion standards;
- 9. Meet or exceed the more stringent of Arkansas' or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Nutrition Standards for reimbursable meals and a la' carte foods served in the cafeteria;
- 10. Restrict access to competitive foods as required by law and Rule;
- 11. Conform new and/or renewed vending contracts to the content restrictions contained in the Rules and reduce district dependence on profits from the sale of competitive foods.
- 12. Provide professional development to all district staff on the topics of nutrition and/or physical activity;
- 13. Utilize the School Health Index available from the CDC to assess how well the district is doing at implementing this wellness policy and at promoting a healthy environment for its students.

#### Food and Beverages Outside of the District's Food Service Programs

The District will insure that drinking water is available without charge to all students throughout the school including, but not limited to, in the District's food service areas.

All food and beverages sold to students on school campus during the school day by school administrators or school nonlicensed or licensed staff (principals, coaches, teachers, club sponsors, etc.); students or student groups; parents or parent groups; or another person, company, or organization associated with the school shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks requirements and Arkansas Nutrition Standards at a minimum. These restrictions include, but are not limited to, food and beverages sold in vending venues (machines, ice chests, cabinets) in school stores or as part of school fundraisers.

All food and beverages provided, but not sold, to students on the school campus during the school day by school administrators or school non-licensed or licensed staff (principals, coaches, teachers, club sponsors, etc.); students or student groups; parents or parent groups; or another person, company, or organization associated with the school shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks requirements and Arkansas Nutrition Standards at a minimum. These restrictions include, but are not limited to, food and beverages provided in vending venues (machines, ice chests, cabinets) in school stores or as part of school fundraisers.

Up to a maximum of nine (9) times per school year, school administration may schedule school wide events where food and beverages provided to students are not required to meet the Federal Smart Snacks standards during the scheduled time. The schedule of the events shall be by school, approved by the principal, and shall be part of the annual school calendar.

Food and beverages outside of the District's food service programs may not be sold, served, or provided to students in the District's food service areas during meal times.

Elementary students shall not have in-school access to vending machines.

The District does not place nutrition restrictions on food or beverages brought from home that are intended for personal consumption only.

#### Advertising

In accordance with the USDA regulations, oral, written, or graphic statements made for the purpose of promoting the sale of a food or beverage product that are made by the producer, manufacturer, seller, or any other entity with a commercial interest in the product shall only be permitted on school campus during the school day if they meet or exceed the Federal Smart Snacks standards. This restriction does not apply to:

- Materials used for educational purposes in the classroom, including, but not limited to:
  - The use of advertisements as a media education tool; or
  - Designing and implementing the health or nutrition curriculum;
- Clothing, apparel, or other personal items used by students and staff;
- The packaging of products brought from home for personal consumption; and
- Currently existing advertisements on school property, including but not limited to, the exterior of vending machines, posters, menu boards, coolers, trash cans, cups used for beverage dispensing, and other food service equipment; however, all future contracts and replacement items shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks standards.

#### **Community Engagement**

The District will work with the SNPAAC to:

- a. Encourage participation in extracurricular programs that support physical activity, such as walk-to-school programs, biking clubs, after-school walking etc.;
- b. Encourage the implementation of developmentally appropriate physical activity in after-school childcare programs for participating children;
- c. Promote the reduction of time youth spend engaged in sedentary activities such as watching television and playing video games; and
- d. Encourage the development of and participation in family-oriented community-based physical activity programs.

The District will annually inform the public:

- Of the web address where the policy is located;
- Of any changes made to this policy since the previous year;
- Of the health and wellness priority goals in the District's SDSP;
- That a printed copy of the policy may be picked up at the District's central office; and
- The amounts and specific sources of funds received and expenditures made from competitive food and beverage contracts.

#### Assessment of District's Wellness Policy

At least once every three years, with input from the SNPACC, the District shall assess both the District as a whole and individual schools' status in regards to the implementation and compliance of the goals of this policy, including the health and wellness goals in the District's SDSP. The assessment shall be based, at least in part, on:

- The extent to which District schools are in compliance with this policy;
- The extent to which this policy compares to other model local school wellness policies;
- The annual reviews of this policy based on modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11 of the CDC's School Health Index; and
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

On the years the assessment occurs, the assessment results shall be reported to the public, including parents, students, and other members of the community as part of the District's annual report to the public.

The District will update the wellness policy based on the results from the three (3) year assessment.

#### **District Website**

The District will place on its website:

- The name, District phone number, and District email address for the District Level School Health Coordinator;
- The names, district phone numbers, and district email addresses for the School Level School Health Coordinators;
- The names of the members of the SNPAAC;
- Meeting dates for the SNPAAC;
- Information on how community members may get involved with the SNPAAC;
- A copy of this policy;
- A copy of the annual review of this policy based on modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11 of the CDC's School Health Index; and
- A copy of the most recent three (3) year assessment of this policy.

# 6.12—PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - SCHOOL

School understands the importance of involving parents, families, and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the school and those it serves. Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_\_School shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parent, family, and community engagement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, families, and the community. To achieve such ends, the school shall work to:

- 1. Involve parents, families, and the community in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school;
- 2. Have a coordinated engagement program where the engagement activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPY, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers, ABC, ABC for School Success, area Pre-K programs, and Even Start;
- 3. Explain to parents, families, and the community the State's academic and achievement standards, State and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the state's academic standards and assessments and how parents, families, and the community can work with the school to improve students' academic achievement;
- 4. Provide parents and families with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The school may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parental involvement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
- 5. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent, family, and community engagement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents, families, and the community;
- 6. Keep parents, families, and the community informed about parent family, and community engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand;

- 7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents and families from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
- 8. Find and modify other successful parent, family, and community engagement programs to suit the needs of our school;
- 9. Train parents, families, and the community to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents, families, and members of the community;
- 10. Provide reasonable support for other parent, family, and community engagement activities as parents, families, and the community may reasonably request.

To help promote an understanding of each party's role in improving student learning, Watson Primary School shall develop a compact that outlines the responsibilities of parents, students, and the school staff in raising student academic achievement and in building the partnerships that will enable students to meet the State's academic standards.

Watson Primary School shall convene an annual meeting, or several meetings at varying times if necessary to adequately reach parents and families of participating students, to inform parents and families of the school's participation in Title I, its requirements regarding parent, family, and community engagement, and the parent's right to be involved in the education of their child.

Watson Primary School shall, at least annually, involve parents, families, and the community in reviewing the school's Title I program and parent, family, and community engagement policy in order to help ensure their continued improvement.

This policy shall be part of the school's Title I plan and shall be distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

# PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN: A SUMMARY

Our school is committed to the implementation of a successful Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Plan based on documented needs that will welcome and recognize parents and community members as key resources in students' educations. Parents are asked to respond to an annual needs assessment to guide programming decisions. In addition, parents are also asked to evaluate programs and activities and provide input to help amend the Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Plan and Parent/Teacher/Student Compact, annually. A Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Committee, consisting of parents, community, and staff members, guides the parent, family, and community engagement planning process.

A vast number of resources are available to facilitate communication and support parents and students. An open house event at the beginning of the school year, parent/teacher conferences, a parent center, and use of the school website are key tools in place. In addition, parent informational packets, including the complete Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Plan and Parent/Teacher/Student Compact are given to all parents at the beginning of each school year.

The school website includes teacher contact information, homework help links, parenting help links, and calendar events. Parents can check out materials from the parent center and are free to take brochures and pamphlets providing information about scholarships, academic programs, social issues, etc. of their need

or interest. Career and Academic Planning conferences will be held in the spring for high school students to assist parents and students in choosing appropriate academic and career paths. A complete copy of the school's Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Plan may be obtained at any time from the school's office or website.

# HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

# **RESOLVING PARENTAL CONCERNS**

According to Board policy 6.7, it is a goal of the Board and the District to be responsive to the community it serves and to continuously improve the educational program offered in its schools. The Board or the District welcomes constructive criticism when it is offered with the intent of improving the quality of the system's educational program or the delivery of the District's services.

The Board formulates and adopts policies to achieve the District's vision and elects a Superintendent to implement its policies. The administrative functions of the District are delegated to the Superintendent who is responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the District. Individuals with complaints concerning personnel, curriculum, discipline, coaching, or the day to day management of the schools need to address those complaints according to the following sequence:

- 1. Teacher, coach, or other staff member against whom the complaint is directed;
- 2. Principal;
- 3. Superintendent;

Other than in the few instances where statutorily allowed or required, student discipline and personnel matters may not be discussed in Board meetings. Individuals with complaints regarding such matters need to follow the sequence outlined above.

Unless authorized by the Board as a whole for a specific purpose, no individual Board member has any authority when acting alone. District constituents are reminded that the Board serves as a finder of fact, not unlike jury in matters such as student suspensions initiated by the Superintendent, expulsions, and personnel discipline. This policy was adopted as per the recommendation of the Arkansas School Board Association.

When a parent or patron has a concern, it is best to contact the appropriate person and discuss the matter. This will speed the process of developing favorable solutions and help keep the focus on increasing achievement opportunities for our children. If there are further questions, please call the Huntsville School District at 479-738-2011 or visit the HSD website at http://www.huntsvilleschooldistrict.org.

# **Huntsville School District – Technology Handbook**

The Huntsville School District has implemented a 1:1 initiative K-12 by providing every student a Chromebook. Students in grades 6th - 12th will be issued a school-owned Chromebook to take home with them. Students in Kindergarten thru 5th grade will also be provided a Chromebook while at school. All parents/guardians and students will be required to read and abide by the rules set forth in this technology handbook. This document provides students and their parents/guardians with information about the general use of technology, ownership of the Chromebook, rights, and responsibilities for possession of the Chromebook, educational use, care of the Chromebook, and being a good digital citizen. Additionally, for students in grades 6th - 12th a Chromebook use permission form (last page) with parent/guardian and student signatures will be required before taking possession of a school-owned Chromebook.

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# What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a mobile computer running Google Chrome OS as its operating system. Chromebooks are designed to be used while connected to the Internet and support applications like G Suite that reside on the web, rather than traditional PC applications like Microsoft Office and Photoshop that reside on the machine itself. This allows the Chromebooks to be sold at a much lower price point than traditional laptops.

# Ownership of the Chromebook

The Huntsville School District retains sole right of possession of the Chromebook. HSD lends the Chromebook to the students for educational purposes only for the academic year. Additionally, HSD administrative staff and faculty retain the right to collect and/or inspect Chromebooks at any time, including via electronic remote access and to alter, add, or delete installed software or hardware.

**Repossession:** If you do not timely and fully comply with all terms of this Agreement and the HSD Technology Handbook, including the timely return of the property, the District shall be entitled to declare you in default and come to your place of residence, or other location of the property, to take possession of the property.

**Term of Agreement:** Your right to use and possession of the property terminates no later than the last day of the school year unless earlier terminated by the District or upon withdrawal from the District. **Appropriation:** Your failure to timely return the property and the continued use of it for non-school purposes without the District's consent may be considered unlawful appropriation of the District's property.

## **Rights and Responsibilities**

### **Responsibility for Electronic Data**

The students are solely responsible for any apps or extensions on their Chromebooks that are not installed by a member of the HSD technology staff. Students are responsible for backing up their data to protect from loss. Users of School Technology have no rights, ownership, or expectations of privacy to any data that is, or was, stored on the Chromebook, school network, or any school-issued applications and are given no guarantees that data will be retained or destroyed.

#### **Operating System and Security**

Students may not use or install any operating system on their Chromebook other than the current version of ChromeOS that is supported and managed by the district.

#### **Updates**

The Chromebook operating system, ChromeOS, updates itself automatically. Students do not need to manually update their Chromebooks.

#### **Virus Protection**

Chromebooks use the principle of "defense in depth" to provide multiple layers of protection against viruses and malware, including data encryption and verified boot. There is no need for additional virus protection.

# **Educational Purposes Only**

The school district is providing access to its Chromebook networks and the Internet for educational purposes only. If the user has any doubt about whether a contemplated activity is educational, the user may consult with the person(s) designated by the school to help decide if a use is appropriate.

# Damage, Coverage, and Inventory Control

The Huntsville School District has concluded that it would be effective to privately insure the school-owned Chromebooks. Your premium of \$20 covers the cost of repair and replacement parts. If a complete replacement is required, you will only pay a \$100 deductible instead of a total replacement cost. Intentional damage will be charged the full replacement cost of \$200. A temporary replacement Chromebook will be issued, if available, while repairs are being made.

Students/Guardians/Teachers are <u>not</u> authorized to attempt repairs themselves or contract with any other individual or business for the repair of the Chromebook. Intentional damage will be considered vandalism. In this case, full repair or replacement cost of the Chromebook will be charged and further disciplinary action may be taken. Insurance will not cover damage caused by removing the battery or opening the Chromebook in an attempt to repair it.

The Chromebook will be checked out in much the same fashion as a library book using scanned barcodes according to the Chromebook serial number and the school-issued asset tag. The student is responsible for all equipment checked out in his/her name. Therefore, students are not to exchange Chromebooks, chargers, or cases. At the conclusion of each school year, students will be required to check-in their Chromebook and they will be inspected by the technology department at this time. Students will be expected to check in the same serial numbered equipment as originally checked out unless replacement equipment has been issued by the technology department.

# Insurance

Parents/Guardians must pay a nonrefundable annual insurance policy with a premium of **\$20.00** before taking possession of the school-owned Chromebook. If a student and/or family is unable or unwilling to pay the premium, he or she must contact the school principal in order to discuss the unique situation and a waiver may be issued.

### The original \$20.00 premium covers ONE replacement of the following components:

- Keyboard, Palm Rest, Touchpad, or Casing Assembly Replacement
- Screen replacement
- Chromebook Charger
- Chromebook Case

**First Breakage:** If the damage was not deliberate, the Chromebook will be repaired at no additional charge to the student or parent. If the damage was deliberate, the student/guardian will be responsible for the full cost of the repair.

**Second Breakage:** If the damage was not deliberate the student will only have to pay an additional \$20 for the cost of the second repair. If the damage was deliberate, the student/guardian will be responsible for the full cost of the repair.

Third Breakage: The student and parent/guardian will be responsible for the full cost of the repair.

# Damaged, Lost, or Stolen Devices

Loss, theft, or damage beyond the repair of the property must be reported to the Principal's office <u>by the next</u> <u>school day</u> after the occurrence. In case of theft, vandalism, or other criminal acts, **a police report MUST be filed by the student or parent within 48 hours** of the occurrence and a copy of the police report must be brought to the school by the next school day. Students/Parents are reminded that the act of filing a false police report is a felony. If a Chromebook is stolen and the student reports the theft (by the next school day) and a police report is filed, then the student will be charged \$100.00 deductible to receive a replacement Chromebook.

# **Content Filter**

The school utilizes a state internet content filter on site that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks will have all internet activity protected and monitored by the school while on campus. All school-issued Chromebooks, (in use in or out of school), will have internet activity filtered and logged. HSD cannot guarantee that access to all inappropriate sites will be blocked. No filter is as reliable as adult supervision. If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students should contact their teachers to request the site be unblocked. **Parents/guardians are responsible for filtering and monitoring any internet connection students receive that is not provided by the school.** 

# Using the Chromebook for Internet and E-mail

The school utilizes a state internet content filter on site that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks will have all internet activity protected and monitored by the school while on campus. All school-issued Chromebooks, (in use in or out of school), will have internet activity filtered and logged. HSD cannot guarantee that access to all inappropriate sites will be blocked. No filter is as reliable as adult supervision. If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students should contact their teachers to request the site be unblocked. **Parents/guardians are responsible for filtering and monitoring any internet connection students receive that is not provided by the school.** 

# No Expectation of Privacy

Network and internet access is provided as a tool for the user's education. The school district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, and store at any time and without prior notice, any and all usage of the Chromebook network and internet access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such information files shall be and remain the property of the school district and no user shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

# **Internet Safety**

In order for the school district to ensure the continued accessibility of its Chromebook network and the internet, all students and staff must take responsibility for the appropriate and lawful use of this access.

There are many sites on the internet that can be potentially dangerous to minors. All school-issued Chromebooks, (in use in or out of school), will have internet activity filtered and logged. While the school's teachers and other staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise student use of network and internet access, they must have student cooperation in exercising and promoting acceptable use of technology. Parents should monitor student home internet access. To find more information about internet safety, go to **www.isafe.org**.

### Students Must

- 1. Report immediately unauthorized activity on the network or internet.
- 2. Notify HSD staff immediately if an inappropriate site is accessed.
- 3. Never read someone else's email or open their files or folders without permission.

4. Never use or transmit anything with racist, abusive, threatening, demeaning, slanderous, objectionable, sexually explicit, or inflammatory content.

5. Never meet in person someone they meet on the internet.

6. Observe copyright laws, not claim authorship of work copied from a website, or from any other source, and accurately cite sources of information.

7. Protect user accounts by keeping passwords secure and logging off or locking the Chromebook when it is not in use.

8. Protect all personal information. Never give full name, address, phone number, passwords, and/or Social Security Numbers for yourself or others. Use a "code name" that does not identify you personally to online viewers and/or organizations you do not know.

9. Avoid online sites and materials that do not support the curriculum or are otherwise inappropriate for educational use.

# Cyber Bullying

Cyberbullying is when one or more people intentionally harm, harass, embarrass, intimidate, or reject another person using technology. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- Sending mean or threatening messages via social media, email, IM (instant messaging), or text messages.
- Spreading rumors about others through social media, email, IM, or text messages.
- Creating a website or social-networking account that targets another student or other person(s).
- Sharing fake or embarrassing photos/videos of someone with others via a cell phone or the web.
- Stealing another person's login and password to send mean or embarrassing messages from his or her account.

It shall be the policy of the Huntsville School District that cyberbullying will not be tolerated under any circumstances. A student caught violating this policy will lose Chromebook privileges and these actions may result in further disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion from school. In addition, violators and their parents/guardians may be subject to civil and/or criminal penalties as specified by Arkansas and/or federal law.

# Consequences of Inappropriate Use

The user's use of the school Chromebook and the internet is a privilege, not a right. All email, network, and internet activity is the responsibility of the individual whose account is logged in at the time of the activity. If your account is logged in, you are responsible. Keep your passwords a secret! Students are expected to use District technology in accordance with HSD policies and procedures, District Internet Acceptable Use Policy, HSD Student Handbooks, and any applicable laws. Failure to use District technology in an appropriate manner will result in consequences, as determined by HSD staff.

In addition to any disciplinary consequences the following consequences shall apply to violations of this agreement:

1. Compromising the security of any District-owned device, District network, or District-provided internet will result in the loss of the use of District devices, network, and/or internet.

2. Deliberately damaging any District-owned device, District network, or District-provided internet will result in the loss of their use.

3. Violating the HSD Acceptable Computer Use Policy and/or this Agreement may result in the loss of technology privileges.

# Transferring/Withdrawing Students

Students that transfer out of or withdraw from HSD must turn in their Chromebooks and peripherals and accessories to the campus office personnel on their last day of attendance. Failure to turn in the Chromebook will result in the student being charged the full \$250.00 replacement cost. Unpaid fines and fees of students leaving HSD may be turned over to a collection agency or small claims court. Additionally, a report of stolen property with the local law enforcement agency will be filed by the school or school designee.

# General Care for the Chromebook

- Treat each Chromebook with care by not dropping it, getting it wet, leaving it outdoors, or using it with food or drink nearby
- Honor your family's values when using the internet. Parents will discuss family values and expectations regarding the use of the internet at home. Parents will supervise their child's use of the Chromebook at home.

- If the Chromebook is damaged or not working properly, it must be turned in for repair or replacement. Parents/guardians and students are not authorized to attempt repairs themselves or contract with any other individual or business for the repair of the Chromebook.
- Keep your Chromebook closed when transporting it and inside your backpack.
- Do not leave your Chromebook in an unsecured area.
- Do not loan a Chromebook to anyone, not in your immediate family.
- Protect the Chromebook by unplugging the power supply and other peripherals when transporting the Chromebook.
- Protect the display by carefully closing the lid when moving the Chromebook.
- Students are expected to treat the Chromebook with care and respect. The Chromebook, charger, and case are the property of HSD and should be kept clean and free of marks at all times.
- Students should not use their Chromebook while walking, on the bus, or otherwise being transported.
- Chromebooks should only be used while they are on a flat, stable surface such as a table. Chromebooks can be fragile, and if they are dropped they may break.
- Students should protect their Chromebook from extreme heat or cold. Chromebooks should never be left in a car, even if the car is locked.
- Chromebooks should be protected from the weather, water, or other liquid, food, and pets. Students should never eat or drink while using their Chromebook, or use their Chromebook near others who are eating and drinking.
- Heavy objects should never be placed or stacked on top of your Chromebook. This includes books, musical instruments, sports equipment, etc.
- Students should use care when plugging in their power cord or phone cord.
- Chromebooks should never be placed in their carrying case while they are turned on. The Chromebook should either be turned off or in "sleep" mode.
- Chromebooks should not be placed on or under soft items such as pillows, chairs or sofa cushions, or blankets. This will cause the Chromebook to overheat and will result in damage to the Chromebook

# General Chromebook Use at Home/School

HSD fully expects all members of the school community to use technology in a responsible, appropriate, and legal manner. Use the following regulations as a guide:

- Follow the HSD Acceptable Use Policy when using the internet at home or at school.
- Any inappropriate or careless use of a Chromebook should be reported immediately to HSD staff.
- Students must immediately report theft or damage to HSD staff.
- For hardware and software problems, students must take their Chromebook to their school office.
- Do not load software unless you have permission from HSD staff.
- Do not remove programs or files from any Chromebook.
- Do not give personal information when using the internet.
- Use District internet connection for research or information gathering directly related to academic assignments or extracurricular projects supervised by HSD staff.
- Game playing on Chromebooks is not allowed unless the game is directly related to a school assignment or activity.
- E-mail and other Chromebook communication should be used only for legitimate and responsible communication between students, staff, and the outside world. Rude, abusive, threatening, or otherwise inappropriate language is not permitted.
- Students should access only those files that belong to them or which they are certain they have permission to use. Students are expected to follow all copyright laws.
- Students will not download copyrighted material to a school-owned Chromebook unless it is part of a class project and under the supervision of the teacher.
- Files stored on the District domain systems (both Chromebook and file/cloud servers) shall be limited to those relating to formal HSD courses or activities. Games, commercial software, or graphic files that are not for an HSD project or formal activity should not be stored on the school systems.

- Students are expected to only access HSD authorized sites at the appropriate times.
- Students shall notify their teacher immediately if they accidentally access an inappropriate site.
- Students shall only use their assigned HSD g-mail accounts and Google Drive to store school-related files.
- Students shall always protect their user accounts by logging off when not at their Chromebook.
- Each Chromebook is coded and assigned to an individual student. Students shall never "swap" or "share" their Chromebook with another student. Chromebooks should be in a student's possession or secured at all times.
- Students shall never share their passwords with other students. Passwords should always be kept confidential.
- Students are responsible for saving or backing up their documents to their assigned Google Drive accounts. Anything that is saved directly on to the desktop or hard drive of the Chromebook will not be saved if the Chromebook must be reset.
- Students shall never attempt to "hack" into any Chromebook system or engage in unauthorized use of the network.
- Students must never maliciously damage or steal HSD technology equipment or electronic data.
- Students must never change the settings of HSD Chromebooks or software.
- If the Chromebook is stolen while at home, parents/guardians should immediately report the theft to the local police and HSD staff at the first opportunity available. A copy of the police report is to be given to HSD staff within 48 hours of the occurrence.
- The use of chat rooms or instant messaging systems or free email on the internet is prohibited. Students may only use the email account and chat software that is set up by HSD.
- Students shall keep the Chromebook in its case at all times.
- Defacing the Chromebook or carrying case is not allowed and will result in loss of privileges and disciplinary consequences. Defacing includes, but is not limited to, stickers, writing, drawing, engraving, etc.





# **Huntsville School District**

# **Chromebook Agreement Form**

Any parent who wishes that their child has a school-issued Chromebook within the Huntsville School District must read and sign this agreement. Parents and Students who sign this form and agree to the policies, procedures, and information listed in the HSD Technology Handbook as well as:

- I understand the Chromebook is the property of the Huntsville School District and is assigned to me.
- I will care for the Chromebook and will not leave it unsupervised or in unsecured locations.
- I will not loan the Chromebook to another individual.
- I will not use the Chromebook near food or drinks.
- I will not disassemble any part of the Chromebook or attempt any repairs. I will inform the HSD staff immediately if repairs are needed.
- I will not deface the Chromebook in any way including stickers, drawings, markings, etc.
- I will not deface the serial number nor the school asset tag on the Chromebook.
- I understand that the Chromebook and its contents may be inspected at any time because it is HSD property, including random inspections anytime during the year.
- I agree to return upon request and in good working condition the Chromebook, charger, and other accessories assigned to me.
- I agree to pay a **\$20.00** non-refundable annual insurance fee for the school-owned Chromebook. If the Chromebook is lost, stolen, or a total loss there is an additional \$100.00 deductible for replacement and must file a police report.
- I agree not to use the Chromebook to record, transmit, or post photos or videos of a person or persons, including myself, without the express permission of a teacher.
- I understand that Cyber-bullying will not be permitted in any form. If cyber-bullying occurs, school disciplinary policy will be followed.
- I understand that I should not have any expectation of privacy.

### **Please Print:**

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_\_ name\_\_\_\_\_

I understand and will abide by the HSD Technology Handbook policies, procedures, and information and that any violation of these policies may result in the loss of Chromebook privileges as well as other disciplinary action.

### Student's Signature

Date

Parent's

As a parent/guardian, I understand that my child will be responsible for abiding by the HSD Technology Handbook policies, procedures, and information. I have read and discussed them with her/him and they understand the responsibility they have in the use of Chromebooks.

**Parent/Guardian Signature** 

Date

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