

GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

SECONDARY STUDENT HANDBOOK (GRADES 6 – 12)

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District Mission Statement

The mission of Grosse Ile Township Schools, in cooperation with students, parents, and community, is to teach the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary for every student to lead a successful life.

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SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

The Grosse Ile Township School District is dedicated to creating and maintaining a positive learning environment. The rules set out in this handbook are in place for the safety of all students and to ensure the delivery of educational services. All members of our learning community—including students, educators (including teachers, secretaries, custodians, aides, paraprofessionals, and other school personnel), parents, and engaged service providers—must assume a responsible role in promoting behavior that enhances academic and social success. Courteous, respectful, and responsible behavior fosters a positive climate for the learning community. Those responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

Students enrolled in grades 6-12 have the responsibility to:

1. take responsibility for your learning and recognize that it is a process.
2. attend school regularly, arrive on time, and be prepared to learn.
3. respect yourself and others in class, on school grounds, on buses, and at any school-related activity.
4. respect the rights and feelings of fellow students, parents, educators (including teachers, secretaries, custodians, aides, paraprofessionals, and other school personnel), visitors, and guests.
5. work within the existing structure of the school to address concerns.
6. know and comply with school district rules and policies.
7. participate in your learning communities, including helping formulate rules and procedures in the school, engaging in school-related activities, and fostering a culture of respect for learning and for others.

Parents have the responsibility to:

1. take responsibility for your child(ren)'s development as learners by, as much as possible, providing a home environment suited for learning and developing good study habits.
2. see that your child(ren) attends school regularly and on time.
3. provide for your child(ren)'s general health and welfare as much as possible.
4. teach and model respect for yourself, your child(ren), and all members of the school community.
5. support the school's efforts to provide a safe and orderly learning environment.
6. know and support the school and district rules and policies and work within the existing structure of the school to address concerns.
7. advocate for your child(ren) and take an active role in the school community.
8. attend your child(ren)'s parent/teacher conferences.

Educators have the responsibility to:

1. take responsibility for students' development as learners, including their academic success and positive social-emotional development, recognizing that children should be subject to behavior management and discipline policies appropriate to their ages and levels of understanding.
2. model and provide a mutually respectful and accountable atmosphere for learning that include all members of the school community.
3. cooperate and schedule conferences with students, parents, and other school personnel in an effort to understand and resolve academic and behavioral problems. Make every effort to accommodate families whose work schedules, access to transportation, or distance from school limits their ability to meet or participate.
4. keep parents informed of their students' challenges, effort, and success.
5. encourage students to participate in classroom, extracurricular, and other school-related activities.
6. know and enforce the rules and policies consistently, fairly, and equitably.
7. participate in formulating rules and procedures and other learning and developmental opportunities in the school.

The Code of Student Conduct sets forth student rights and responsibilities while at school and school-related activities, and the consequences for violating school rules. It defines behaviors that undermine the safety and learning opportunities for all members of the school community and favors actions that encourage positive behavior and learning over actions designed to punish. When determining the consequences of student misconduct, school officials may use intervention strategies and/or disciplinary actions. Recognizing the importance of keeping students in school learning as much as possible, educators will consider the severity or repetition of misconduct, age and grade level of the student, circumstances surrounding the misconduct, impact of the student's misconduct on others in the school community, and any other relevant factors in determining how they will address misconduct.

The Code of Student Conduct will be administered fairly, without partiality or discrimination. The Code of Student Conduct does not diminish any rights under federal law (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) of a student determined to be eligible for special education programs and services.

When and Where the Code of Student Conduct Applies

The Code of Student Conduct applies before, during, and after school and whenever the student is engaged in a school-related activity. Each student is expected to follow this code of conduct. The code applies:

- "At school," meaning in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event, whether or not it takes place on school premises.
- When a student's conduct at any other time or place has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline, or on protecting the safety and welfare of students or school district staff.
- When a student is using school telecommunications networks, accounts, or other district services.
- If a student engages in a prohibited act when the student was not enrolled in the School District or was enrolled in another school district, if the act of misconduct would constitute a sufficient basis for suspension or expulsion had it occurred while the student was attending school in the School District.

Regarding Exclusionary Discipline

Numerous studies have shown that exclusionary discipline often sets the stage for student disenfranchisement, academic failure, dropout, and potential criminalization. This runs counter to the State Board of Education's (SBE) mission and goal that all students will graduate prepared for careers, college, and community.

Further, based on a preponderance of research, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) links school attendance with academic success and links exclusionary discipline with lower school performance and higher rates of students' academic failure. Recognizing exclusionary discipline negative impact, the school community will reserve exclusion for only the most serious offenses. We will also employ social and emotional learning, positive behavioral expectations, restorative practices and constructive discipline measures and early intervention/diversion strategies that focus on screening and treatment to minimize a suspended student's time away from school and potential court involvement.

To foster each student's academic success and pro-social development, the school will consider research-based social and emotional learning strategies and options designed to promote positive behavior and modify negative behavior while holding students accountable and minimizing exclusion time. These may include research- or evidence-based preventative and discipline measures such as:

- Restorative Practices (See below)
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Michigan Model for Health™
- Focused instruction to avert academic failure
- Early intervention/diversion programs for substance abuse and other appropriate violations
- Family supports and referrals to available community-based resources as appropriate

While the ten-day limit for short-term suspension may be widely accepted, the evidence exists that excluding a student from two weeks of instruction can have a devastating effect on the student, school performance, and long-term success. Therefore, as part of its commitment to graduating well-educated students, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) recommends the maximum length of short-term suspensions be five days.

Recognizing that grades should reflect learning rather than behavior, when suspension is used, students have the right to complete, turn in, and receive any credit earned on assignments and tests scheduled during their disciplinary absences.

Administered well and appropriately, positive discipline can become a powerful tool for teaching students to succeed. When considering intervention options, we will strive to address disciplinary matters as opportunities for learning and reserve exclusion for only the most serious offenses.

All students should recognize the consequences of their language, manners, and actions toward each other, school staff, and volunteers. Students need to understand that they benefit from an orderly school operation and, as members of the school community, acknowledge their responsibility to promote a mutually respectful learning environment and support the reduction of any disruption to learning. The following pages list actions that can cause disruptions and, therefore, require some action to address the harm they cause. Whenever possible, the action to address this misconduct should include steps to heal the harm and restore the community members affected.

Restorative Practices- Consistent with Michigan law and in every case, the School District will consider restorative practices as an addition or alternative to suspension or expulsion. Restorative practices are practices that emphasize repairing the harm of the victim and the School District community of a student's misconduct or other behavior. Restorative practices may be considered and implemented by a restorative practices team. Restorative practices should be the first consideration to remediate offenses.

SECTION II. DUE PROCESS

As noted in the Introduction, The Code of Student Conduct does not diminish any rights under federal law (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) for a student determined to be eligible for special education programs and services. Students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) are responsible for following The Code of Student Conduct. As a consequence of a violation of The Code of Student Conduct by a student with an IEP, specific procedures may apply. Information about these procedures is available at www.michigan.gov/ose-eis.

Short-Term Suspension Definition

For purposes of this code, a short-term suspension occurs when a student is suspended for one (1) school day, up to and including five (5) school days. During a short-term suspension, the student's rights and privileges of attending school, including extracurricular activities, are suspended.

Due Process for Short-Term Suspensions

For a suspension of five (5) days or less, a student is entitled to minimal due process protections, including oral or written notice of the accusation(s), what disciplinary measures are being proposed, and an opportunity to respond. Except in extraordinary circumstances, alleged violations of The Code of Student Conduct are initially handled at the student's school. If a short-term suspension is contemplated, the principal or assistant principal shall provide the student and the parent/guardian with oral or written notice of the charges or allegations and an explanation of the evidence or basis for the charges.

If misconduct is found, the principal may authorize disciplinary action in accordance with The Code of Student Conduct, including short-term suspension. A student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the educational process, may be immediately removed from the school without prior notice explanation, or opportunity to respond. In such cases, the above procedures shall be provided as soon as practical. The student and parent/guardian shall be notified of the circumstances and action taken.

Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion Definition

A long-term suspension is when a student is suspended for more than five (5) school days. During a long-term suspension, the student's rights and privileges of attending school, including extracurricular activities, are suspended.

An expulsion occurs when the school district's board of education terminates the student's rights and privileges to attend school, including extracurricular activities. An expulsion is for an indefinite time, unless otherwise specified by the school board or state law.

Long-term suspensions or expulsions are applied when a student's behavior presents a danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or the educational process. The suspension would start immediately.

Due Process for Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion

A more formal due process procedure is required when serious disciplinary measures are alleged against a student. When the student's misconduct requires legal action, school district staff will work to protect his/her constitutional rights by explaining what the student is accused of and giving him/her the opportunity to speak with an adult advocate such as a parent or other family member, guardian, mentor, friend, and/or attorney. The school district may also provide, upon a request, a list of resources for representation. The student shall be given reasonable time to prepare for a hearing. The person conducting the disciplinary hearing must be impartial.

If recommended by the principal or assistant principal, the school district's board of education or its designee shall conduct a hearing to determine whether to impose a long-term suspension or expulsion. Based upon the results of this hearing, the school district's board of education has the exclusive and final authority to expel a student from the school district.

The student and parent/guardian shall be notified of the allegation, the recommended disciplinary action, the time, date, and location of the hearing, and of their right to attend and participate in the hearing.

Prior to the hearing, families will be given an opportunity to review all documents, videos, other media, or any other types of evidence, and a list of all witnesses slated to testify.

Prior to the hearing, families should be notified of all of the district's processes for hearings and appeals.

The board of education or its designee shall conduct a hearing, which may be recorded. The student shall be advised of the alleged violation and be given an explanation of the facts. The explanation may include the written or oral testimony of others.

At the request of the student or the student's parent/guardian, the board of education shall meet in a closed session to "consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of a student" [MCL 15.268(b)].

The student and parent/guardian may be represented at the hearing by an attorney or other adult. Written or oral evidence may be presented at the hearing on behalf of the student.

After the hearing, the board of education or its designee shall issue a decision, including a determination of disciplinary action.

The parent/guardian of the student may petition the school board to request the student's reinstatement to school, as permitted by state law.

Appeal Process

A student that disagrees with the decision of the board of education may, within five (5) days of receipt of the decision, petition the board of education for the opportunity to request appeal or reconsideration by the board or its designee. The petition shall be in writing and contain the reason that the board or its designee decision should be reviewed or reconsidered. The board of education may grant or deny the request for an appeal or request for reconsideration. If granted, the board shall notify the student in writing of the procedures to be used for the appeal or the request for reconsideration.

SECTION III. TYPES OF SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

The Revised School Code provides each school district with the authority to establish a local discipline policy. Each local school board or its designee has the authority to suspend or expel students guilty of "gross misdemeanor or persistent disobedience." This must not, however, infringe on any of the federally protected rights guaranteed to students who qualify for special education programs and services [MCL 380.1311(8)]. County Intermediate School Districts or Regional Educational Service Agencies' consultants, Community Mental Health Centers, medical clinics, and other human service agencies may need to be involved with a child whose behavior is "persistent."

Recognizing exclusionary disciplines negative impact, the school community will reserve exclusion for only the most serious offenses and will employ discipline measures and early intervention/diversion strategies with a focus on screening and treatment to minimize a suspended student's time away from school and potential court involvement. Districts are required to develop and implement a code of student conduct and to enforce its provisions with regard to student misconduct in a classroom, on school grounds, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, and/or at a School-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school grounds.

For students in grades six (6) and above, in addition to the suspension and expulsion of students who commit violations identified in a district's Code of Student Conduct, Michigan law requires a school district to remove a student who possesses a dangerous weapon unless that student meets one of four exceptions noted below), or a physical assault against a school employee or volunteer. Michigan law also requires school districts to remove students who commit physical assault against another student or make a bomb threat, or similar threat. Those exclusions can last no more than 180 days. In addition, Michigan law also allows any teacher to impose one-day "snap suspensions" from his/her class for students, and it establishes procedures the teacher must follow when exercising this option. Under the law, the suspending teacher must take a number of steps explained in greater detail below. The following information describes the law.

Weapons, Arson, or Criminal Sexual Conduct Expulsion

For students in grades six (6) and above, school districts are required to expel students who possess a dangerous weapon, commit arson, or engage in criminal sexual conduct in a school building or on school grounds. The law allows for possible reinstatement [MCL 380.1311]. The term "criminal sexual conduct" is defined in the Michigan Penal Code, 1931, PA 328 MCL 750.520. It refers to sections which describe various levels of sexual penetration, sexual conduct, and assault with intent to commit criminal sexual conduct [MCL 750.520b, 520c, 520d, 520e, 520g]. The term "dangerous weapon" means a firearm, dirk, dagger, stiletto, iron bar, knife with a blade over 3 inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, and brass knuckles [MCL 380.1313(4)]. The definition of "firearm" in section 380.1311 refers to the definition of that term in the federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, which in turn refers to another section of federal law which defines "firearm" as:

- Any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to, or may readily be converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.
 - The frame or receiver of any such weapon.
 - Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer.
 - Any destructive device.
1. Dangerous Weapon Exceptions: School boards are not required to expel a student if the student can establish in a clear and convincing manner at least one of the following:
 - The object or instrument possessed by the student was not possessed for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon.
 - The weapon was not knowingly possessed by the student.
 - The student did not know or have reason to know that the object or instrument possessed by the student constituted a dangerous weapon.
 - The weapon was possessed by the student at the suggestion, request or direction of, or with the express permission of school or police authorities.
- A student who possesses a weapon in a weapon-free school zone or commits arson or criminal sexual conduct at school or on school grounds is expelled from all Michigan public schools unless the school district operates or participates in an alternative education program appropriate for expelled students. At the school district's discretion, the district may admit the student to that program or a "strict discipline academy."
2. Weapon-Free School Zone and School Property Definition: "Weapon-free school zone" means school property and a vehicle used by a school to transport students to or from school property [MCL 750.237a]. "School property" means a building, playing field, or property used for school purposes to impart instruction to children or used for functions and events sponsored by a school, except a building used primarily for adult education or college extension courses [MCL 750.237a].
 3. Reporting Requirements: If a dangerous weapon is found in the possession of a student while the student is attending school or a school activity, or while the student is en route to or from school on a school bus, the superintendent of the school district or intermediate school district, or his or her designee, shall immediately report that finding to the student's parent/guardian and the local law enforcement agency [MCL 380.1313(1)].

Physical Assault - Student to Employee, Contractor or Volunteer

A student in grade six (6) or above who commits a physical assault against an employee, contractor, or a volunteer of a district, at school or on school grounds, shall be expelled permanently, subject to possible reinstatement. The term "physical assault" means, "intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence" [MCL 380.1311a].

A student expelled for committing physical assault against an employee, contractor, or volunteer of a district at school or on school grounds is expelled from all Michigan public schools unless the school district operates or participates in an alternative education program appropriate for expelled students. At the school district's discretion, the district may admit the student to that program or a "strict discipline academy."

In the event a student is expelled for possession of a dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone, arson in a school building or on school grounds, or criminal sexual conduct in a school building or on school grounds, the school board shall ensure that within three days after the expulsion an official of the school district refers the individual to the appropriate county Department of Human Services or county Department of Community Mental Health agency, and notifies the individual's parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, notifies the individual of the referral [MCL 380.1311(4)].

Michigan law also requires removal of students who commit arson, criminal sexual conduct (as defined in the law and noted below), or a physical assault against a school employee or volunteer. Michigan law also requires school districts to remove

students who commit physical assault against another student, or make a bomb threat, or similar threat. Those exclusions can last no more than 180 days. In addition, Michigan law also allows any teacher to impose one-day "snap suspensions" from his/her class for students, and it establishes procedures the teacher must follow when exercising this option. Under the law, the suspending teacher must take a number of steps explained in detail below. The following information describes the law.

Physical Assault - Student to Student

A student in grade six (6) or above who commits physical assault against another student shall be suspended or expelled for up to 180 school days by the school board or its designee if the physical assault is reported to the school board, superintendent, or principal. The term "physical assault" means "intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence" [MCL 380.1310].

Bomb Threats or Similar Threats

If a student in grade six (6) or above makes a bomb threat, or similar threat, directed at a school building, other school property, or a school-related event, then the school board or the designee on behalf of the school board, as described in MCL 380.1311(1), shall suspend or expel the pupil from the school district for a period of time as determined at the discretion of the school board or its designee. The school board policy should include the types of behavior for which a student who makes a bomb threat, or similar threat, would be suspended or expelled.

Teacher "Snap Suspension"

While "Snap Suspension" is part of the law, we believe that it should be used minimally, if at all. A teacher may suspend a student from the teacher's classroom for up to one day if the student's behavior exceeds limits as defined by local policy. The policy shall be adopted as part of the school district's Code of Student Conduct and specify the types of behavior for which a student may be suspended. If a student is retained in the school, he or she must be under appropriate supervision. The law requires a teacher who imposes this option to immediately report the "snap suspension" to the office, then, as soon as possible, schedule a meeting with the suspended student's parent(s) or guardian(s) and attempt to include the school counselor, social worker, or psychologist. If the teacher or parent requests that a school administrator attend, the teacher must also include the administrator in the meeting [MCL380.1309]. A student may return that school day to the classroom, subject, or activity for which he or she was suspended, with the concurrence of the teacher and the school principal [MCL 380.1309].

If a teacher decides to use a "snap suspension", he or she must fill out a student infraction form to be sent with the student to the office. The teacher may also choose to call the office to notify someone that the student is on the way there. The teacher will receive a carbon copy of the infraction form after the principal or assistant principal has spoken with the student.

Petitioning for Reinstatement

For students in grades six (6) or above, although the law calls for the "permanent" expulsion of a student who possesses a dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone, commits arson, criminal sexual conduct, or a physical assault against an employee, contractor, or a volunteer of a district, at school or on school grounds, the law provides a process for petitioning for reinstatement to school [MCL 380.1311(5) and 380.1311a(5)]. It is the responsibility of the petitioning person (a parent, legal guardian, or the expelled student if he or she is at least 18 years of age or is an emancipated minor) to prepare and submit the petition for reinstatement.

Petition for Student to Return to School

If a petition form is requested by a person wishing to be reinstated, the school board must make the petition form available. The form is available in the office of the superintendent. (An informational packet for parents is available in the MDE online Tool Kit at a link to be provided upon completion of the Tool Kit.)

For a student in grade six (6) or above that is expelled for possessing a dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone, commits arson or criminal sexual conduct, the parent/guardian or the student (if he or she is at least 18 years of age or an emancipated minor) may initiate a petition any time after 150 school days following the date of expulsion. A student may be reinstated 180 school days following the date of expulsion.

For a student in grade six (6) or above that is expelled for committing a physical assault against an employee, contractor, or volunteer, the parent/guardian or the student (if he or she is at least 18 years of age or an emancipated minor) may initiate a petition any time after 150 school days following the date of expulsion. A student may be reinstated 180 school days following the date of expulsion.

A district may establish reinstatement procedures for students expelled for reasons other than those listed.

Committee Review and Recommendation

The local school board may include conditions in a petition for reinstatement, including the successful completion of a restorative justice process or a similar effort, which the student can complete during the exclusion period or as a condition for returning to school. If the expelling school board denies a petition for reinstatement, the petitioner may petition another school board for reinstatement. The following timelines and procedures apply to reinstatement:

Within ten (10) school days after receiving a petition for reinstatement, the school board must appoint a committee comprised of two school board members, one school administrator, one teacher, and one parent of a student in the school district to review the petition and any supporting information submitted by the petitioner. During this time, the superintendent may prepare and submit information concerning the circumstances of the expulsion and any factors weighing in favor of or against reinstatement.

Not later than ten (10) school days after being appointed, the committee must review the petition and supporting information, together with information provided by the school district, and submit a recommendation to the school board. The committee may recommend unconditional reinstatement, conditional reinstatement, or against reinstatement. The recommendation must be accompanied by an explanation of the reasons for the recommendation. If the recommendation is

for conditional reinstatement, it must include any recommended conditions.

According to the law, the committee's recommendation must be based on all of the following factors:

- The extent to which reinstatement of the student would create a risk of harm to pupils or school personnel.
- The extent to which reinstatement would create a risk of school district or individual liability for the school board or school district personnel.
- The age and maturity of the individual.
- The student's school record before the incident that caused the expulsion.
- The student's attitude concerning the incident that caused the expulsion.
- The student's behavior since the expulsion and the prospects for remediation.
- If the petition was filed by a parent or legal guardian, the degree of cooperation and support that has been provided by, and that can be expected from, that person if the student is reinstated, including, but not limited to, receptiveness toward possible conditions placed on the reinstatement [MCL 380.1311(5)(e)].

The committee may also choose to consider such factors as the successful completion of restorative justice measures, the presence of mental health considerations, family situations that might be impacting the child's behavior, observations from a school-based advocate for the student, and more.

School Board Decision

After receiving the committee's recommendation, the school board must make a decision no later than the next regularly-scheduled board meeting. The school board must decide either to reinstate the student, to conditionally reinstate the student, or to deny reinstatement.

Before conditionally reinstating the student, a school board may require a student and the parent or legal guardian to agree in writing to specific conditions. The conditions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Successful completion of a restorative justice process and evidence of compliance with the resulting agreement developed by the participating affected parties.
- Agreement to a behavior contract which may involve the student, parent or legal guardian, and an outside agency.
- Participation in, or completion of, an anger management program or other appropriate counseling.
- Periodic progress reviews.
- Specified immediate consequences for failure to abide by a condition. The law specifies that the decision of the school board is final.

Alternative Education

A school district may provide alternative education for a student who has been suspended or expelled. The Michigan Attorney General issued an opinion cited as 1985 OAG 6271 in which he stated that the board of education of a school district which, in accordance with due process requirements, suspends for a lengthy period of time or permanently expels a non-handicapped student who is subject to the compulsory education requirements is not required to provide an alternative education program for a student. The Michigan State Board of Education, however, encourages school districts to provide alternative education opportunities for excluded students. It encourages schools to explore the Michigan Department of Education's list of alternative education providers on its Michigan Safe Schools website at <http://www.michigan.gov/safeschools/0,4665,7-181-49444-232580--,00.html> with the goal of keeping suspended and/or expelled students engaged in learning.

Ultimately, however, it is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to locate a suitable alternative education program and to enroll their child in a program during the expulsion.

Mandatory Expulsion

A student who has been expelled for weapons, arson, criminal sexual conduct, or physical assault against an employee or volunteer is expelled from all Michigan public schools unless the district operates or participates in an alternative education program appropriate for the mandatory expelled student and at the school district's discretion admits the student to that program or strict discipline academy [MCL 380.1311(2) and 380.1311a(2)].

A program operated for mandatory expelled students must ensure that a student is physically separated at all times during the school day from the general pupil population. If the student is not placed in an alternative education program or a "strict discipline academy," the school district may provide or arrange for the intermediate school district to provide to the student appropriate instructional services at home. Homebound services are designed to help students who are unable to attend school to keep up with their studies [MCL 388.1709].

SECTION IV. VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Various types of student misconduct are defined below. These definitions of misconduct are not all-inclusive, but only representative and illustrative. A student who commits an act of misconduct not listed herein is nonetheless subject to disciplinary action, including "snap suspension" by a teacher for misconduct in a class, subject, or activity.

School district staff may use intervention strategies including preventative measures such as intensive instruction, social-emotional learning, PBIS, restorative practices, teacher/student conferences, auxiliary staff/student intervention, and teacher/parent/guardian contacts for every type of violation listed here. As required by law, the staff will refer the last group of violations directly to school administrators due to the serious and/or unlawful nature of the misconduct. At the option of school administrators, a student accused of any violation of The Code of Student Conduct may be referred to a school social worker or counselor, in conjunction with or in lieu of other disciplinary procedures. Where the misconduct is subject to mandatory discipline under state law, however, the school board will act to impose any mandatory sanctions.

1. **BULLYING:** A student will not engage in bullying any student for any reason in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises. "At school" includes conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if the telecommunications access device or the telecommunications service provider is owned by or under the control of the school district or public school academy. "Telecommunications access device" and "telecommunications service provider" mean those terms as defined in section 219a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.219a.

"Bullying" means any written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one or more pupils either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. Substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more pupils.
- B. Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the school district's or public school's educational programs or activities by placing the pupil in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- C. Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a pupil's physical or mental health.
- D. Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

From Grosse Ile Township Schools Policy 4362 – Anti-Harassment:

Bullying rises to the level of unlawful harassment when one or more persons systematically and chronically inflict physical hurt or psychological distress on one (1) or more students or employees and that bullying is based upon one (1) or more Protected Classes, that is, characteristics that are protected by Federal civil rights laws. It is defined as any unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior, including any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by an adult or student, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or work environment; cause discomfort or humiliation; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school or work performance or participation; and may involve:

- A. Teasing;
- B. Threats;
- C. Intimidation;
- D. Stalking;
- E. Cyberstalking;
- F. Cyberbullying;
- G. Physical violence;
- H. Theft;
- I. Sexual, religious or racial harassment;
- J. Public humiliation; or
- K. Destruction of property.

"Retaliation"– Retaliation against a target of bullying, a witness, another person with reliable information about an act of bullying or any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying is prohibited and will NOT be tolerated.

2. **Cheating/Academic Misconduct:** A student will not plagiarize, cheat, give or receive unauthorized access to, or tamper with educational materials. Discipline under this section may result in academic sanctions in addition to other discipline.
3. **Defacement of Property:** A student will not willfully cause defacement of, or damage to, property of the school or others. Actions such as writing in school textbooks or library books, writing on desks or walls, carving into woodwork, desks, or tables, and spray-painting surfaces are acts of defacement.
4. **Destruction of Property:** A student will not attempt to, or intentionally cause destruction of property of the school or others. Actions that impair the use of something are destructive. Ruining bulletin boards, intentionally clogging the plumbing system, breaking light bulbs or fixtures, disabling or damaging safety equipment and signage, and damaging school equipment to the point where repair is necessary, are acts of property destruction.
5. **Disorderly Conduct:** A student will not knowingly harass others or misbehave in a manner that causes disruption or obstruction to the educational process. Disruption caused by talking, making noises, throwing objects, or otherwise distracting another constitutes disorderly conduct. Behavior is considered disorderly if a teacher is prevented from starting an activity or lesson, or has to stop instruction to address the disruption.
6. **Dress and Grooming:** A student will not dress or groom in a manner that disrupts the educational process or is detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of others. Within this framework, clothing or grooming shall be considered unacceptable if it creates a clear and present danger to the health and safety of the students or other persons; or creates or potentially creates a disruptive influence on the educational process; for example, hats, head coverings, short shorts/skirts, torn or mutilated clothing, pajamas, clothing with profanity, vulgar/obscene suggestions, or clothing which is sexually suggestive, clothing which promotes, displays, advertises alcohol, weapons, or drugs, or which infringes upon the rights and freedom of other students.

Below are some of the guidelines for students to follow:

- Safe and appropriate shoes or sandals will be worn at all times.
- Hats may not be worn during the school day unless special permission is given.
- Clothing may not expose undergarments or skin near the waistline.

- The ordering of new t-shirts to be worn at school or at school functions are required to have administrative pre-approval.
 - Dress code for field trips: Students will dress for field trips in a manner that is appropriate for the field trip activities. Students who do not dress appropriately will not be permitted to attend.
 - Dress code for school dances will pre-determined by administration and communicated to students.
7. **Electronic Communication Devices (ECD):** Students may possess a cellular telephone or other electronic communication device while at school provided that during school hours and on a school vehicle the cellular phone or electronic communication device remains off and out of sight unless authorized school personnel have given students permission to use them. Cell phones may not be used in bathrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where privacy is expected. Students must observe our "Stoplight" guidelines for ECD usage as listed below.
 - Green light zone: Students may use their ECD without staff permission. (Hallways/cafeeteria, before/after school)
 - Yellow light zone: Students must ask for permission to access/use their ECD.*
 - Red light zone: Students may NOT use their ECDs and ECDs may not be visible.*
 *Classroom teachers will communicate when/where their classroom is a Yellow light or Red light zone.
 8. **Failure to Serve Assigned Detention:** A student will not fail to serve an assigned detention. Alternative consequences could be approved by school administrators for students who lack transportation.
 9. **False Accusation:** A student will not make a claim or allegation of wrongdoing that is untrue and/or otherwise not supported by facts.
 10. **False Identification:** A student will not use another person's identification or give false identification to any school official with intent to deceive school personnel or falsely obtain money or property.
 11. **Fighting:** A student will not physically fight with another person.
 12. **Forgery:** A student will not sign the name of another person for the purpose of defrauding school personnel or the Board of Education.
 13. **Fraud:** A student will not deceive another or cause another to be deceived by false or misleading information in order to obtain anything of value.
 14. **Gambling:** A student will not engage in any game of chance or contest wherein money or other items of monetary value are awarded to the winner, except for those games and contests authorized as official school functions.
 15. **Gang Activity:** A student will not, by use of violence, force, coercion, threat of violence, or gang activity, cause disruption or obstruction to the educational process. Gangs are defined as organized groups of students and/or adults who engage in activities that threaten the safety of the general populace, compromise the general community order, and/or interfere with the school district's education mission. Gang activity includes any one of the following:
 - A. Wearing or displaying any clothing, jewelry, colors, or insignia that intentionally identifies the student as a member of a gang, or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang.
 - B. Using any word, phrase, written symbol, or gesture that intentionally identifies a student as a member of a gang, or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang.
 - C. Gathering of two or more persons for purposes of engaging in activities or discussions promoting gangs.
 - D. Recruiting student(s) for gangs.
 16. **Harassment/Intimidation:** A student will not engage in or participate in any behavior that is included in the definition of harassment or intimidation.

"Harassment or intimidation" means any gesture or written, verbal, or physical act that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, should know will have the effect of harming a student or damaging the student's property, placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or damage to the student's property, or that has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission or the education of any student. Harassment or intimidation includes, but is not limited to, a gesture or written, verbal, or physical act.
 17. **Hazing:** The act of hazing is a crime in Michigan and will not be tolerated in the district. A student will not engage in or participate in any behavior that is included in the definition of hazing. The term "hazing" means "an intentional, knowing, or reckless act by a person acting alone or acting with others that is directed against an individual and that the person knew or should have known endangers the physical health or safety of the individual, and that is done for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, participating in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization." The term "organization" means "a fraternity, sorority, association, corporation, order, society, corps, cooperative, club, service group, social group, athletic team, or similar group whose members are primarily students at an educational institution." [MCL 750.411t].
 18. **Improper, Negligent, or Reckless Operation of a Motor Vehicle:** A student will not intentionally or recklessly operate a motor vehicle so as to endanger the safety, health, or welfare of others on school property.
 19. **Insubordination/Unruly Conduct:** A student will not willfully ignore or refuse to comply with directions or instructions given by school authorities. Refusing to open a book, write an assignment, work with another student, work in a group, take a test or do any other class or school-related activity not listed herein, refusing to leave a hallway or any other location when instructed by a school staff member, or running away from school staff when told to stop constitutes unruly conduct.
 20. **Leaving School Without Permission (Skipping):** A student will not leave the school building, classroom, cafeteria, assigned area, or campus without permission from authorized school personnel.
 21. **Loitering:** A student will not remain or linger on school property without a legitimate purpose and/or without proper authority.
 22. **Possession of Inappropriate Personal Property:** A student will not possess personal property that is prohibited by school rules or that is disruptive to teaching and learning, including, but not limited to, pornographic or obscene material, laser lights, or personal entertainment devices. Certain devices may be permitted for health or other reasons, if approved by the administration.
 23. **Profanity and/or Obscenity:** A student will not verbally, in writing, electronically, or with photographs or drawings use profanity, racial slurs, or insulting, obscene gestures.
 24. **Public Display of Affection:** Students will not engage in inappropriate displays of affection.

25. **Recording/Photography:** Students will not record or capture unauthorized images.
26. **Sexual Harassment (Level 1):** A student will not use words, pictures, objects, gestures, recordings, or other actions relating to sexual activity or a person's gender that cause embarrassment, discomfort, or a reluctance to participate in school activities.
27. **Sexual Harassment (Level 2):** A student will not, in person or through the use of an ECD, make unwelcome sexual advances, request sexual favors or engage in verbal communication or physical conduct of a sexual nature with or toward any other student, school district personnel, or adult volunteers.
28. **Smoking/Vaping:** A student will not smoke, vape, use, or possess e-smoking devices, use tobacco, or alternative cigarette options, or possess any substance containing tobacco or nicotine in any area under the control of a school district, including all activities or events supervised by the school district.
29. **Tardiness:** Tardiness to class is defined as not being physically present in the room when the bell/tone stops. After 10 minutes of class has passed, the student will be considered absent for that period. A student will not fail to be in his or her place of instruction at the assigned time without a valid pass. Tardies may only be excused with a teacher to teacher approved pass or if approved by an administrator. Students will be allowed 3 tardies per class, per semester without consequence. The following action will be taken in the event of student tardiness:
The teacher will notify the student when they are marked tardy. After the 3rd tardy, the student will face the following consequences:
-Upon receiving the 4th tardy, the teacher will review the tardy policy with the student and contact the parent/guardian.
-Upon receiving a 5th, 6th, or 7th tardy, the student will be assigned a detention for each tardy.
-Upon receiving their 8th tardy and every tardy thereafter, the student will be assigned a detention and will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular events or athletics until their detention time is served.
30. **Technology Abuse:** A student will not violate the district's "Acceptable Use Policy".
31. **Theft or Possession of Stolen Property:** A student will not, without permission of the owner or custodian of the property, take property or have in his or her possession property which does not belong to the student.
32. **Threat/Coercion:** A student will not threaten another with bodily harm. A student will not coerce another to act or refrain from acting.
33. **Trespassing:** A student will not enter upon the premises of the school district, other than the location to which the student is assigned, without authorization from proper school authorities. If removed, suspended, or expelled from school, a student will not return to the school premises without permission of the proper school authorities.
34. **Truancy:** A student will not willfully and repeatedly fail to report to the school's assigned class or activity without prior permission, knowledge, or excuse by the school and parent/guardian.
35. **Weapon Look-A-Likes:** A student shall not possess, use, sell, or distribute a toy weapon, a look-a-like or replica

Very Serious Violations

The school community will persistently check that students understand what is respectful and accountable conduct toward themselves, their peers, adults, and property. In the event that students violate the following rules, the school community will apply any of the options listed below with the support and guidance to increase the opportunity for the student to offer restitution, learn from mistakes, and restore both the offender and the offended.

1. **Alcohol and Drugs:** A student will not possess, use, offer to buy or sell, or purport to buy or sell, a controlled substance, dangerous drug, prescription drug, over the counter (OTC) drug, counterfeit drug, intoxicating substance, or alcohol. A student legally in possession of prescribed medication will not be in violation of this section as long as his/her use and possession of the prescribed medication is authorized at school and the student follows the required possession and use protocols as defined by the school. (See Medication Usage)
2. **Arson/Attempted Arson (Starting a Fire):** A student will not intentionally, by means of starting a fire, cause harm to any property or person, or participate in the burning of any property or person. If a student commits arson in a school building or on school grounds or other school property, the school board or its designee shall expel the student from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement, pursuant to MCL 380.1311(5) [MCL 380.1311(2)]. "Arson" means a felony violation as set forth in Chapter X of the Michigan Penal Code [MCL 750.71 to MCL 750.80].
3. **Extortion:** A student will not make another person do any act against his or her will, by force or threat, expressed or implied.
4. **False Fire Alarm or Report of Threat; Tampering with Fire Alarm System:** Unless an emergency exists, a student will not intentionally sound a fire alarm or cause a fire alarm to be sounded, nor will a student falsely communicate or cause to be communicated that a catastrophic event will occur in a building or on school property, or at a school-related event. These acts are prohibited, irrespective of the whereabouts of the student. A student will not destroy, damage, or otherwise tamper with a fire alarm system in a school building.
If a student enrolled in grade six (6) or above makes a bomb threat or similar threat directed at a school building, other school property, or a school-related event, then the school board or its designee shall suspend or expel the student from the school district for a period of time as determined at the discretion of the school board, or its designee [MCL 380.1311a(2)].
5. **Felony:** A student will not commit a criminal act that results in being convicted of a felony offense.
6. **Fireworks, Explosives, and Chemical Substances:** A student will not possess, handle, transmit, conceal, or use any substance or prepared chemical that can explode, is capable of inflicting bodily injury, or is reasonably likely to cause physical discomfort to another person.
7. **Interference with School Authorities:** A student will not interfere with administrators, teachers, or other school personnel or volunteers by threat or violence.
8. **Physical Assault:** A student will not physically assault another person. If a student enrolled in grade six (6) or above commits a physical assault at school against another student, then the school board or its designee shall suspend or expel the student from the school district for up to 180 school days [MCL 380.1310(1)]. If a student enrolled in grade six (6) or above commits a physical assault at school against a person employed by or engaged as a volunteer or contractor by the school board, then the school board or its designee shall expel the student from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement under MCL 380.1311a(5) [MCL 380.1311a(1)]. "Physical assault" means intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence [MCL 380.1310(3)(b), MCL 380.1311a(12)(b)].
9. **Robbery:** A student will not take or attempt to take from another person any property, by force or threat of force, expressed or implied.
10. **Sexual Assault:** A student will not sexually assault another person. If a student commits criminal sexual conduct in a school building, on school grounds or any other school property, the school board or its designee shall expel

the student from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement, pursuant to MCL 380.1311(5) [MCL 380.1311(2)]. "Criminal sexual conduct" means a violation as set forth in Chapter LXXVI of the Michigan Penal Code [MCL 750.520b to MCL 750.520g].

11. **Weapons- Dangerous Instruments:** A student will not possess, handle, transmit, or use a dangerous instrument capable of harming another person. A "dangerous instrument" means any device intended to cause injury or bodily harm, any device used in a threatening manner that could cause injury or bodily harm, or any device that is primarily used for self-protection. Dangerous instruments include, but are not limited to, Chemical Mace, pepper gas or like substances, stun guns, BB guns, pellet guns, razors, box cutters, batons, martial arts equipment, or paint ball guns, etc.
12. **Weapons- Dangerous Weapons:** A student will not possess, handle, transmit, or use as a dangerous weapon an instrument capable of harming another person. A "dangerous weapon" means a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, ~~or~~ brass knuckles, or any other object or instrument that can be considered a weapon or is capable of inflicting bodily injury. [MCL 380.1313]. Note that under Michigan law, school boards are not required to expel a student for weapons possession if the student can establish in a clear and convincing manner at least one of the following:
 - The object or instrument possessed by the student was not possessed for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon.
 - The weapon was not knowingly possessed by the student.
 - The student did not know or have reason to know that the object or instrument possessed by the student constituted a dangerous weapon.
 - The weapon was possessed by the student at the suggestion, request or direction of, or with the express permission of school or police authorities.
13. **Weapons- Use of Legitimate Tools as Weapons:** A student will not use a legitimate tool, instrument, or equipment as a weapon with the intent to harm another. These items include, but are not limited to, pens, pencils, compasses, or combs.

Misconduct Prior To Enrollment

An otherwise eligible resident may be suspended or expelled for an act of misconduct committed while the student was: (a) a resident of another district; (b) enrolled in another school; (c) outside of school hours; or (d) off school premises if the misconduct would have constituted a sufficient basis for suspension or expulsion if it had occurred while the student was enrolled in the School District.

SECTION V: SCHOOL COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO VIOLATIONS

The school community will maintain a safe and supportive environment and persistently check that students can identify respectful and accountable conduct toward themselves, their peers, adults, and property. In the event that students violate any part of the Code of Student Conduct, the school community will apply support and guidance to increase the opportunity for the student to both offer restitution and learn from mistakes.

School administrators and staff may use mutually respectful and accountable intervention strategies, as determined by local district policies including, but not limited to, restorative practices, staff and student/parent conferences, auxiliary staff intervention and counseling programs, student programs for conflict resolution and peer mediation, and programs for anger management and violence prevention. They may also refer students and/or their families to community-based services such as mental health care, substance abuse prevention and diversion, and others.

Any of the following intervention strategies and disciplinary actions may be used alone or in combination:

- Restorative Practices
- administrator/student conference or reprimand
- administrator and teacher-parent/guardian conferences
- referrals and conferences involving various support staff or agencies
- daily/weekly progress reports
- behavioral contracts
- Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)
- behavior intervention teacher training
- coordinate behavior intervention strategies among all personnel who work with the student
- consultation with a behavioral specialist
- cooperate with the parent/guardian to ensure follow-through on behavior intervention
- counseling and psychological services
- change in student's class schedule
- school service assignment
- confiscation of inappropriate item
- support restitution of offense
- before- and/or after-school detention
- denial of participation in class and/or school activities
- weekend detention
- lunch detention
- loss of extracurricular activities or field trips
- educational intervention
- in-school suspension
- other intervention strategies, as needed
- teacher "snap suspensions" (see Section III)
- out-of-school suspension (short-term) from one (1) school day up to and including five (5) school days

- law enforcement agency notification
- long-term suspension (6 – 59 days)
- expulsion (60 – 180 days)

SECTION VI: OTHER STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The school community encourages student responsibility in other areas. The expectations for these are defined below.

Attendance

The school district emphasizes the value of regular attendance in enabling students to benefit from the school's education programs. Michigan law places responsibility on each student to attend school on a daily basis, and on each parent or guardian to send their child to school on a daily basis. More important, however, is the effect of regular and punctual attendance on the student's scholastic achievement. Not only is each day's lesson important to the individual student, the student's participation in class contributes to the education of others. Frequent absences and tardiness, for any reason, are certain to adversely affect the student's schoolwork. Each student is expected to be in school every day except when illness, injury, or some providential condition beyond the student's control prevents attendance.

Recognizing that grades should reflect learning rather than behavior, when suspension is used, students have the right to complete, turn in, and receive any credit earned on assignments and tests scheduled during their disciplinary absences. The Grosse Ile Board of Education and the school staff expect every student to attend every class during the school day. If circumstances prevent a student from being in school, he/she will be charged with an absence.

Three types of absences will be recorded:

1. **Required Absence** –an absence caused by the student participating in any school sanctioned activity. Absences that are school related or otherwise approved by administration will be indicated on the student's record as required (R) and will not count against the student.
2. **Excused Absence**- an absence excused by the parent/guardian via contact with the attendance secretary. These will be indicated on the student's record as excused (E), but will still count against the student. Exceptions:
 - Medically documented illnesses/health related absences (documentation within 2 weeks of absent)
 - Court required appearances
 - College/Career related visits
 - Family vacations with a parent
 - Family Commitments (funerals)
3. **Unexcused Absence**- an absence not excused by the parent/guardian via contact with the attendance secretary. These will be indicated on the student's record as unexcused (A), and will count against the student skipping class or not reporting to class is an unexcused absence.

Chronic Absences: The U.S. Department of Education considers chronic absenteeism to be 10% or greater days absent of the 180 day total (90 per semester).

Therefore, students are allowed up to 9 excused and/or unexcused days off absences per semester with no consequences. When a student exceeds 9 excused and/or unexcused absences in a semester, the student is no longer eligible to participate in extracurricular activities/events. Health related and other exceptions can be made on an individual basis through building administration.

Please Note:

At Grosse Ile Middle School, 9 days absent equal 72 total missed periods because attendance is taken for 7 class periods and 1 advisory period/day.

At Grosse Ile High School, 9 days absent equal 63 total missed periods because attendance is taken for 7 class periods/day.

Closed Campus

Grosse Ile secondary schools operate under a closed campus policy. Students are expected to spend their entire school day, including lunch, in the school building. Only those students who have medical or legal appointments and have been excused through the office by a parent/guardian prior to their departure will be permitted to leave the building.

Technology Use Guidelines

The student will respect school district technology by adhering to the district's technology use policy that follows:

7540.03 - STUDENT NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY

Technology has fundamentally altered the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. As a result, educators are continually adapting their means and methods of instruction, and the way they approach student learning, to incorporate the vast, diverse, and unique resources available through the Internet. The Board of Education provides Technology Resources (as defined in Bylaw 0100) to support the educational and professional needs of its students and staff. With respect to students, District Technology Resources afford them the opportunity to acquire the skills and knowledge to learn effectively and live productively in a digital world. The Board provides students with access to the Internet for limited educational purposes only and utilizes online educational services/apps to enhance the instruction delivered to its

students. The District's computer network and Internet system does not serve as a public access service or a public forum, and the Board imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent with its limited educational purpose.

The Board regulates the use of District Technology Resources by principles consistent with applicable local, State, and Federal laws, the District's educational mission, and articulated expectations of student conduct as delineated in the Student Code of Conduct. This policy and its related administrative guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct govern students' use of District Technology Resources and students' personal communication devices when they are connected to the District computer network, Internet connection, and/or online educational services/apps, or when used while the student is on Board-owned property or at a Board-sponsored activity (see Policy 5136).

Users are required to refrain from actions that are illegal (such as libel, slander, vandalism, harassment, theft, plagiarism, inappropriate access, and the like) or unkind (such as personal attacks, invasion of privacy, injurious comment, and the like). Because its Technology Resources are not unlimited, the Board has also instituted restrictions aimed at preserving these resources, such as placing limits on use of bandwidth, storage space, and printers.

Users have no right or expectation to privacy when using District Technology Resources (including, but not limited to, privacy in the content of their personal files, e-mails, and records of their online activity when using the District's computer network and/or Internet connection).

First, the Board may not be able to technologically limit access, through its Technology Resources, to only those services and resources that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study and research related to the curriculum. Unlike in the past when educators and community members had the opportunity to review and screen materials to assess their appropriateness for supporting and enriching the curriculum according to adopted guidelines and reasonable selection criteria (taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students who would be exposed to them), access to the Internet, because it serves as a gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, opens classrooms and students to electronic information resources that may not have been screened by educators for use by students of various ages.

Pursuant to Federal law, the Board has implemented technology protection measures that protect against (e.g., filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions/materials that are obscene, constitute child pornography, and/or are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. At the discretion of the Board or the Superintendent, the technology protection measures may be configured to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access. The Board also utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. The technology protection measures may not be disabled at any time that students may be using District Technology Resources, if such disabling will cease to protect against access to materials that are prohibited under the Children's Internet Protection Act. Any student who attempts to disable the technology protection measures will be subject to discipline.

The Superintendent or Technology Director may temporarily or permanently unblock access to websites or online educational services/apps containing appropriate material, if access to such sites has been inappropriately blocked by the technology protection measures. The determination of whether material is appropriate or inappropriate shall be based on the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the protection actions of the technology protection measures.

Parents are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services and/or resources on the Internet that the Board has not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their parents may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial.

Parents of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the Internet. Pursuant to Federal law, students shall receive education about the following:

- A. safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of direct electronic communications
- B. the dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally identifiable information
- C. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking", "harvesting", digital piracy", "data mining", etc.) cyberbullying and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online, and
- D. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally-identifiable information regarding minors

Staff members shall provide instruction for their students regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified above. Furthermore, staff members will monitor the online activities of students while at school.

Monitoring may include, but is not necessarily limited to, visual observations of online activities during class sessions; or use of specific monitoring tools to review browser history and network, server, and computer logs.

Building principals are responsible for providing training so that Internet users under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board expects that staff members will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of District Technology Resources. Such training shall include, but not be limited to, education concerning appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social media, including in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. All users of District Technology Resources (and their parents if they are minors) are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students will be assigned a school e-mail account that they are required to utilize for all school-related electronic communications, including those to staff members, peers, and individuals and/or organizations outside the District with whom they are communicating for school-related projects and assignments. Further, as directed and authorized by their teachers, they shall use their school-assigned e-mail account when signing-up/registering for access to various online educational

services, including mobile applications/apps that will be utilized by the student for educational purposes.

Students are responsible for good behavior when using District Technology Resources – i.e., behavior comparable to that expected of students when they are in classrooms, school hallways, and other school premises and school sponsored events.

Communications on the Internet are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communication apply. The Board does not approve any use of its Technology Resources that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students may only use District Technology Resources to access or use social media if it is done for educational purposes in accordance with their teacher's approved plan for such use.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked, and disciplinary action taken against them. Users are personally responsible and liable, both civilly and criminally, for uses of District Technology Resources that are not authorized by this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

The Board designates the Superintendent and Technology Director as the administrators responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to students' use of District Technology Resources.

P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000

P.L. 110-385, Title II, Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act

18 U.S.C. 1460

18 U.S.C. 2246

18 U.S.C. 2256

20 U.S.C. 6777, 9134 (2003)

20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (2003)

47 U.S.C. 254(h), (1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended (2003)

47 C.F.R. 54.500 – 54.523

Board of Education Adopted 8/27/07 Revised 12/12/2017

Property/Lockers

The student will respect the school-district-provided lockers by adhering to the district's policy.

5771 - SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The Board of Education has charged school authorities with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, school authorities may search school property such as lockers used by students or the person or property, including vehicles, of a student, in accordance with the following policy.

School Property

The Board acknowledges the need for in-school storage of student possessions and shall provide storage places, including desks and lockers, for that purpose. Where locks are provided for such places, students may lock them against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall students have an expectation of privacy as to prevent examination by a school official. The Board directs the school principals to conduct a routine inspection at least annually of all such storage places. In the course of any search, student's privacy rights will be respected regarding any items that are not illegal or against Board policy.

The Board also authorizes the use of canines, trained in detecting the presence of drugs or devices, when the Superintendent has reasonable suspicion that illegal drugs or devices may be present in a school. This means of detection shall be used only to determine the presence of drugs in locker areas and other places in the school where such substances could be concealed. Canine detection must be conducted in collaboration with law enforcement authorities or other certified organizations and is not to be used to search students unless either a warrant or parental permission has been obtained prior to the search.

Student Person and Possessions

The Board recognizes that the privacy of students or his/her belongings may not be violated by unreasonable search and seizure and directs that no student be searched without reasonable suspicion or in an unreasonable manner. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction, the student's age, and the student's disciplinary history.

This authorization to search shall also apply to all situations in which the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board.

Administrators are authorized to arrange for a breath-test instrument, according to the Superintendent's guidelines, for the purpose of determining if a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. It is not necessary for the test to determine blood-alcohol level, since the Board has established a zero tolerance for alcohol use.

Except as provided below, a request for the search of a student or a student's possessions will be directed to the principal. S/He shall attempt to obtain the freely-offered consent of the student to the inspection; however, provided there is reasonable suspicion, s/he may conduct the search without such consent. Whenever possible, a search will be conducted by the principal in the presence of the student and a staff member other than the principal. A search prompted by the reasonable belief that health and safety are immediately threatened will be conducted with as much speed and dispatch as may be required to protect persons and property.

Search of a student's person or intimate personal belongings shall be conducted by a person of the student's gender, in the presence of another staff member of the same gender, and only in exceptional circumstances when the health or safety of the student or of others is immediately threatened.

The principal shall be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each student search, including the reasons for the search; information received that established the need for the search and the name of informant, if any; the persons present when the search was conducted; any substances or objects found and the disposition made of them; and any subsequent action taken. The principal shall be responsible for the

Parking Passes

Only students who purchase an annual parking pass will be permitted to park in the student parking area. Vehicles that do not display a parking pass and are not registered with the office may be ticketed and/or towed at the owner's expense. The parking lot is off limit to students during the school day unless prior approval from an administrator is granted.

Medication Usage

When a student must take prescribed medication during the school day, the following guidelines are to be observed:

- A. A medication permission form and/or authorization form must be completed and filed with counseling office before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours. (Prescribed or "Over the Counter" medications)
- B. The parent/guardian is responsible for instructing their child to take the medication at the prescribed time and the student has the responsibility of presenting himself/herself to the designated staff member in charge of administering their medication.
- C. Students with the appropriate documentation from a physician will be permitted to carry their own inhalers. This must be indicated on the medication permission form and/or the authorization form that is filed in the counseling office.

Fines

Students are responsible for all materials issued to them during the course of the year. If these materials are lost or damaged, it is the student's responsibility to make restitution. All fines must be cleared in order participate in the graduation ceremony or to receive next year's class schedule during registration. Students may be withheld from other extracurricular events/activities (e.g. dances, athletics, field trips, etc.) if outstanding fines exist.

-Outstanding balances carry over to the following school year.

Backpacks

Backpacks are stored and kept in the student's locker until the end of the day.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Grosse Ile Township Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender and gender identity, disability, age, and national origin (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964), gender (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972), disability (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973), or age (Age Discrimination Act of 1975) in its programs or activities. The following person(s) have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Audrie Kalisz, Curriculum Director
23276 E. River Rd.
Grosse Ile, MI
48138 734-362-
2555

Clif Whitehouse, Principal
Grosse Ile Middle School
23270 East River
Grosse Ile, MI
48138 734-362-
2500

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, see the following website:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/nondisc.html>.



Grosse Ile Township Schools Athletic Handbook

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THE PURPOSE OF ATHLETICS AT GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

The athletic program shall serve as a potential educational media through which optimum growth - physical, mental, emotional, social, and moral - of the participants will be fostered.

The athletic program shall provide well-planned and well-balanced interscholastic athletic activities for as many boys and girls as possible, consistent with available facilities, personnel, and financial support.

The athletic program shall be concerned with the total development of the student and shall promote competitive activity as a portion of the total educational program.

The athletic program shall be planned so as to present a minimum amount of interference with the academic program.

The athletic program shall have a three-fold value: for the participants, for the student body, and for the community.

The athletic program shall be organized in a manner most consistent with needs, interest, maturity, and abilities of the student.

The athletic program shall provide an educational activity with professional leadership, established educational objectives, and acceptable standards of behavior.

The purpose of this handbook is to help students and parents understand the role of Athletics in the Grosse Ile Township Schools. A student who wishes to participate on an athletic team voluntarily submits to school and team rules, which are in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 12 months a year, whether on or off school property. Consequently, it is crucial that student athletes and their parents understand the athletic program's expectations, as well as what they may expect from the Athletic Program.

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS & COMPETITIVE SPORTS

The Athletic Program is an integral part of the extensive extracurricular offerings found at Grosse Ile Township Schools. The Athletic Program offers students a wide variety of opportunities to participate in interscholastic competition. Athletics, like all other extracurricular activities, must fulfill the proper role in the total educational program. It is a privilege, not a right, to represent Grosse Ile Township Schools in athletic competition.

As with other parts of the district's educational program, athletics are governed by the policies of the Board of Education, and all students have an equal opportunity to compete for positions on the athletic teams. Athletic opportunities are available to all, not just a few, and every attempt will be made to encourage as many students as possible to share in the benefits of athletic competition and participation. The athletic program will only succeed when it has the support of the community, parents and students. To merit this support, our athletes must demonstrate good behavior in both school and the community.

When an athlete chooses to participate on a team sport, she/he assumes a role on that team. Many people work together to achieve several common goals. Each person has a specific job. Some will be starters, others will be substitutes, and still others will be practice players. An athlete's role on that team may change throughout the season, based on work habits, attendance, improvement of skills, readiness to play when called, and demonstration of an appropriate attitude at practice and during the game. The coach determines what role an individual will play in the best interest of the team. This is the coach's job. Each athlete will be provided with an opportunity to share in the team's success or failure. In order to participate, an athlete must be willing to assume his/her role on the team.

At the middle school level, every effort is made to spark student interest in athletic participation and competition. As many students as possible are kept on each team. The focus is on learning the fundamentals and the enjoyment of participation. This philosophy is carried through to high school; however, athletes and their parents must understand that the philosophy is different at the more competitive high school level. When competing against other schools at the varsity level, every effort — within the guidelines of good sportsmanship and fair play — will be made to win.

At each level the coaching staff makes decisions based on team needs. The coach employs the team approach. Coaches are willing to spend many hours preparing for competition in order to field the best team possible. Player participation in competition is not guaranteed, but is earned through effort and the development of skills. Participation at the freshman and junior varsity level, does not guarantee you a spot on the varsity team. Athletes who have participated previously on a varsity team are not guaranteed a spot on the varsity team for the next season. Teams are selected at the start of every athletic season.

TITLE IX

Title IX, 20 USC - 1681, et seq., prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities by recipients of federal funds. Title IX states, in part:

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance....

The regulations provide, in part

No person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, be treated differently from another person or otherwise be discriminated against in any interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics offered by a recipient [of federal funds] and no recipient shall provide any such athletics separately on such basis.

ACTIVITIES FEE AT GROSSE ILE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS **ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES**

It has been determined by the Board of Education to assess an activity fee concept for athletics in accordance with the following guidelines:

Program Management

The Grosse Ile Township Schools District Administration will manage the athletic programs. In athletics where a selection process is used (i.e. basketball), the fee will not be collected until the squad has been determined. In these cases, payment will be made on the first day after the squad is announced. If an athletic team does not have a squad selection process (i.e. football), the fee must be paid by the first contest. Grosse Ile Schools will allow a payment plan such that 50% of the fee is due before the first contest and the remaining 50% is due by the midpoint of the season.

Program Content

The Grosse Ile School District Administration will determine program content. The administration reserves the right and has the responsibility to evaluate each program based on the following criteria:

- The minimum number of participants needed to make the program cost effective.
- Whether the program/activity has appropriate sponsorship.
- Whether facilities are available to accommodate program need.

Collection of Fees

The District Athletic Director's office will collect all participation fees for the High School and Middle School.

Any student that is eligible for free/ reduced lunch may also be eligible to have their fee waived or reduced in accordance to a sliding scale after completion of the Athletic Fee Adjustment Application.

Minimum Participation Threshold

The Grosse Ile Township Schools Administration will cancel any sport that does not have the prerequisite numbers for cost effectiveness. The administration will set the minimum threshold for each sport.

Refunds

Refunds will not be made for any reason including, but not limited to; drop out, discharge from the team by the coach, academic ineligibility, or transfer. Exception: If an athlete has played less than 50% of the season, a doctor's release stating that the athlete cannot finish the season will be needed for a refund.

Athletic Program

High School--The participation fee for each sport activity will be \$175.00. There are additional charges for those student athletes who choose to play two or more sports; along with any cost associated with all sports who may have, but not limited to, tournaments, travel, personal clothing, or equipment.

Middle School--The participation fee for each sport activity will be \$100.00.

There are additional charges for those student athletes who choose to play two or more sports; along with any cost associated with all sports who may have, but not limited to tournaments, travel, personal clothing, or equipment.

Family Rate--There are no family rates for two or more student athletes in the same family.

Payment of the participation fee in no way guarantees that the student will participate in athletic contests.

STUDENT-ATHLETE ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

To be deemed eligible for athletic participation during the season of a sport, the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) requires that student athletes earn credit in at least 66% of courses. Grosse Ile students must pass at least 5 of 7 classes the previous semester and be passing 5 classes during the present semester. Additionally, Grosse Ile Township Schools has further requirements for weekly academic eligibility:

The Athletic Department will run weekly grade checks of the students on all athletic teams currently in season. Students must be passing 5 of 7 classes in order to participate.

The Athletic Director will notify the coach with students who are academically ineligible prior to the following Monday's practice.

Athletes who receive three (3) failures in a week will continue to be required to participate in practices, but will be ineligible for participation in that week's contest(s) including scrimmages versus other schools. Athletes who are ineligible a second time, will result in termination from the team.

MAKING THE GRADE – Tips for Academic Success (as seen in the Student-Athlete Handbook)

The three basic tools of education are (1) TIME, (2) TEACHERS, and (3) TEXTBOOKS. Learn to use these tools correctly. Good students come from continuous work and study; they are not "born". Make an academic game plan. The following activities have proven to be successful for many athletes. How many of them are you currently doing? If not all, then you have an idea of where to start in your new commitment to academic success.

- Go to class.
- Get a notebook or a folder for each class.
- Get a calendar and write in all important information such as: due dates for assignments, dates of quizzes and tests, appointments with teachers, counselors, coaches, etc., practice times, game schedule, and work schedule.
- Know your due dates.
- Organize your time.
- Plan and budget the hours in a day.
- Commit to getting organized.
- Analyze your time habits.

- Know your best “work time”.
- Pick a place to study.
- Quiet is far more effective than television or music.
- Study your hardest subject first.
- Study with a friend.
- Do your own work; use a friend for comparison and help.
- Form a study group.
- Use the library.
- Make lists. Devise a schedule.
- Set goals and deadlines.
- Stick with it!!! Don’t procrastinate.
- Take your books to class.
- Listen in class.
- Take notes. Copy everything the teacher puts on the board...and MORE.
- Tune in, ask questions.
- Ignore other students and distractions.
- Take responsibility for becoming interested in your subjects.
- Read your textbooks.
- Study for tests. Pick out the important material. Make up your own questions. Review your notes.
- Short review sessions are better than one long one.
- Get to the test early, ready to go and focused.
- Get enough sleep.
- Take tests with confidence.
- Scan the whole test first. Answer all questions. Check your answers. Answer easy questions first. Stick with your first answer. Budget your time.
- If you don’t know an answer, try to reason it out.
- Before writing an essay jot an outline of major points.
- Be prepared - take your materials to class, arrive early, read the assignment, review your notes.
- Keep ALL class handouts and notes and periodically review them.
- Meet with your counselor for a tutor.
- Get help from a teacher. Get to know your teachers.

STUDENT-ATHLETE ATTENDANCE POLICY

Practices are essential for proper conditioning, improvement of techniques, and acquisition of teamwork skills. Once a student-athlete has chosen to participate and has made the team, that student is expected to commit to attending all team activities. Failure to do so will have consequences. Failure to finish the sport season, whether the student-athlete quits or is removed from the team, except for injury, illness or similar reasons, will result in loss of credit for participation, such as a varsity letter and ineligibility for any local athletic awards for that sport season. Therefore, athletes are required to attend scheduled practices.

Athletes who are excused from school are not excused from practice on the same day as the absence. It is the responsibility of the athlete to communicate with the coach to determine practice or competition participation.

Athletes who are suspended from school may not participate in practices or competition until the day they return to school.

All detention hours owed by an athlete will be made up at the first available scheduled opportunity or else the athlete will not be permitted to compete until all time owed has been made up at scheduled detention make-up sessions. NOTE: Detentions not served/completed by the end of one semester will carry over and apply to the next season.

On the day of competition, athletes must attend a full day of classes in order to participate. Any exceptions due to extenuating circumstances require prior written approval from the athletic director or administration.

Students must be present in school on Friday in order to compete on Saturday. Any exceptions due to extenuating circumstances require prior written approval from the athletic director or administration.

DISCIPLINE FOR ATTENDANCE VIOLATIONS

First and second unexcused absence from practice, as determined by the coach, will result in a one (1) contest suspension.

Third and any subsequent unexcused absence from practice, as determined by the coach, will result in a three (3) contest suspension or suspension from the team for the remainder of the season.

Unexcused absence from a contest, as determined by the coach, could result in suspension from the team for the remainder of the season.

Attendance—Vacation Practice: All athletes are required to be aware of their coaches’ vacation practice policy.

Coaches’ vacation practice policies have been developed for the protection of the athlete and for the orderly progression and development of the total team. Athletes who do not train under the direct supervision of their coaches during an extended vacation could be seriously injured if allowed to participate under highly competitive game conditions. Teams cannot be developed to their fullest potential when all members are not present.

STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

NOTE: The Grosse Ile Township Schools Secondary Code of Conduct will supersede the athletic code of conduct.

Interscholastic athletics plays a vital role in the overall education of children, including developing skills, fostering recognition of the essential dignity of people, and building capacity to achieve self-realization. This Athletic Code of Conduct provides guidelines to achieve the kind of environment in which individuals can acquire the skills and the maturity, which will allow each to maximize his/her potential abilities. The delicate balance between the rights of individuals and the well-being of the whole community must be maintained if the school community is going to provide meaningful, positive, educational athletic experiences for students and staff. This requires recognition of the rights of others and the desire on the part of everyone to develop a spirit of respect and cooperation in a common cause-- that being the best educational athletic opportunity possible for all concerned.

Inappropriate actions or behavioral patterns will result in consequences for both athletics and academics. This includes any and all actions, in or out of school, which could bring disfavor to the school. Consequences suggested for offensive behavior are based on the concept that the consequences must be related to the offense and the action taken should be aimed at modifying behavior rather than being merely punitive. To that end, Grosse Ile High School/Middle School will assist students in seeking whatever counseling or behavior modifying treatment is available; however, the cost for these optional programs is the responsibility of the athlete and/or their parent/guardian.

Certain types of persistent or serious behavior problems cannot be tolerated if the goals stated above are to be achieved. Individuals can and will be temporarily or permanently removed from the environment. Such offenses include, but are not limited to, the types of student conduct that administration determines to be inappropriate as is described in the Secondary Code of Conduct.

VIOLATIONS

See violations as listed in the Student Code of Conduct.

Behavior unbecoming an athlete -- behavior on or off the playing field which, in the opinion of the coaching staff, and/or the Athletic Director, is considered insubordinate or inappropriate to standards of conduct, attitude or sportsmanship. This applies to any misbehavior or misconduct before, during or after school whether on or off school grounds.

HAZING – It is simply NOT allowed. HAZING IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE! On August 18, 2004, the Michigan Legislature enacted legislation that prohibits hazing activities at educational institutions and provides penalties. (Public Act 750.411t) What is hazing?

Hazing is any intentional, knowing or reckless act, occurring on or off school property, by one person who acted alone or with others, that is directed against an individual and that person knew or should have known would endanger the physical health or safety of the individual, and was done for the purpose of affiliation with, participation in, or maintaining membership in any organization. The law does not apply to an activity that was normal and customary in an athletic program sanctioned by the educational institution. Examples of hazing might include, but are not limited to the following:

- Any type of physical brutality.
- Any type of physical activity that subjects a student to unreasonable risk of harm.
- Any type of activity involving the consumption of alcoholic beverages or drugs.
- Any activity that intimidates or subjects a student to extreme mental stress, shame or humiliation.
- Any activity that induces a student to break the Athletic Code of Conduct, Student Code of Conduct, or the law.

If the violation resulted in physical injury, the person would be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days, a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both. A violation resulting in impairment of a body function would be a felony resulting in imprisonment of up to five years and a fine up to \$2,500, or both. A violation resulting in death of the person hazed would be punishable by up to 15 years imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$10,000 or both.

What are some myths about hazing?

Unity Builder - Hazing does not build unity. It separates the team into the "hazers" and the "hazees".

Motivator - Hazing does not motivate team members. It hinders achievement, damages self-esteem, causes emotional strain, and physical harm.

Harmless Fun - Hazing damages people and teams. Hazing doesn't just hurt the people who were targets; it hurts everyone!

How do you know if it's hazing?

Is this activity an educational experience?

Does it conform to the values and ideals of high school sports?

Would you be willing to allow your parents to witness this activity?

Would you be able to defend this activity in a court of law before a judge and jury?

Who is responsible for reporting hazing?

You are. If you witnessed a hazing incident or were hazed, you are responsible to report it. Take it to your coach, your parents, your athletic director, your counselor, or some other responsible adult. When you report a hazing incident, you are protected from retaliation. Reporting it is the first step to stopping it.

CYBER-BULLYING --It is against the LAW! PA 478 amended on January 13, 2015

Definition - Any electronic communication that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one or more pupils either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- Substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one or more pupils.

- Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the school district's educational programs or activities by placing the pupil in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on the pupil's physical or mental health.
- Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Reporting-An individual who reports an act of bullying (cyber-bullying is a form of bullying) is assured of confidentiality. Any instance of bullying is to be reported to the coaching staff and then administration in a timely manner (preferably within 24 hours).

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR VIOLATIONS

The athletic director and/or building administrator will meet with the athlete and issue the following disciplinary action upon determining an athlete has committed a violation:

1st offense - Exclusion from all athletics for 25% of the scheduled competition dates and scrimmages OR exclusion from 10% of the scheduled competition dates and scrimmages AND the learning opportunity as described below.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The following educational opportunity pertains to 1st offenses only.

- If a student chooses the learning opportunity, they are responsible for all costs associated with the program approved.
- Immediate and monitored attendance and completion of a program that supports positive behavior modification approved by Grosse Ile Township Schools i.e. substance abuse, mental health, etc.

2nd offense - Exclusion from all athletics for 50% of the scheduled competition dates and scrimmages.

3rd offense - Exclusion from all sports for one calendar year. The months of June, July and August will count during this disciplinary period.

If any athletic violation occurs during the sports season in which the athlete is participating, the athlete will not be eligible to receive any post-season awards, a varsity letter, or any school athletic honors.

Athletic Consequences for Tobacco, alcohol, and drugs, or other Reportable Offenses:

All offenses will be in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 12 months a year, whether on or off school property and will accumulate over the student athlete's entire high school career.

SELF-REPORTING

In the cases of a 1st or 2nd offense violation, if the student or student's parent voluntarily informs school officials of the violation, the disciplinary action may be reduced up to 50%. Athletes who, when questioned deny responsibility, and later are found "guilty", may have their penalty increased.

ATHLETIC CONSEQUENCES FOR SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Any student who is suspended from school (in school or out of school suspensions) for behavior punishable under the Grosse Ile Township Schools Secondary Code of Conduct shall be prohibited from any athletic involvement on the days he/she is suspended. Any student who is suspended from school for behavior may also receive additional scrimmage and/or contest suspension.

GUIDELINES GOVERNING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

1. In the event an athletic suspension is imposed, the number of contest dates will be determined by multiplying the percentage by the total number of contests (competitions and scrimmages) allowed for that sport.
2. During periods of suspension from competition dates, attendance at team practice and contests is mandatory. Suspended athletes, due to school or team violations, are not to be dismissed from school to attend contests, and they may not be in team uniform at any time during a suspension.
- 3 If a violation under these provisions occurs before the competitive season or during the "off" season, the suspension will begin during the athlete's next competitive season. (If a violation occurs during an interscholastic athletic event, it will be considered an in-season offense.)
4. Failure to complete a learning opportunity, once started, or to attend practices regularly during a suspension period will result in removal from the team for the remainder of the season. The learning opportunity must be completed before joining another athletic team.
5. An athlete who quits a team in order to avoid serving a suspension has not met his/her obligation and is ineligible to compete for any team until the suspension has been fully served. An athlete who completes a suspension must complete the sports season in order to regain eligibility for future sports seasons. In no case shall an athlete incur more than one athletic suspension for the same offense, except as noted above.
6. An athlete suspended for substance abuse cannot join another team during that same season. If an athlete plays more than one sport in a season, the Athletic Code of Conduct will apply to both sports.
7. Athletes are expected to attend the awards program; however, an athlete suspended out of school (OSS) may not attend any awards program during the suspension.

8. If an athletic suspension is not completed in one sport, or detentions are not served in one semester, they will be carried over in the next sport/semester in which the athlete participates. The athlete may try out for a team, but may not begin to compete until the suspension/detentions have been fully served.

IN AND OUT OF SEASON INFORMATION

All athletes must have a physical exam by a medical doctor (MD, DO, PA) in order to be eligible to try out or practice with any athletic team. A signed copy of this physical form must be on file in the athletic office before a student attends tryouts. A physical exam given after April 15th is valid for the next school year.

The Sports Fee Contract confirms that the athlete and parents understand and agree to abide by the Athletic Code of Conduct, policies, procedures and rules set forth within the Secondary Code of Conduct and must be signed by the parent/guardian(s).

Each sport will conduct a pre-season parent meeting, no later than the end of the first week of practice, with the coaching staff or athletic director. Each athlete must be represented by a parent/guardian at this meeting. The agenda for the pre-season meeting will include, at a minimum, introduction of coaches, schedules, practice times, player commitment, player responsibilities, parent responsibilities, costs and expenses, Athletic Code of Conduct, coach's philosophy, trainer's role, methods for addressing concerns, and a question/answer session.

Any athlete who is found to have forged or otherwise faked any of the above documents is subject to disciplinary action up to and including removal from the team.

SPORTSMANSHIP

All individuals attending or participating in athletic events should model good sportsmanship, show integrity, and display ethical behavior. Failing to abide by the school, league, and/or MHSAA expectations for sportsmanship will result in removal from the facility without reimbursement.

Admission to an interscholastic event is a PRIVILEGE, and with the PRIVILEGE comes the RESPONSIBILITY to conduct oneself in a manner where the contest is enjoyable for others. In the athletic arena, there is no place for profanity, booing of players, coaches, or officials. Appropriate behavior includes cheering positively for your team and avoiding negative behavior.

Gate receipts are an important component of the athletic revenue budget. Ticket and season pass sales help balance the budget. Single game tickets at Grosse Ile Middle School are \$2 for adult spectators, \$1 for students. Single game tickets at Grosse Ile High School range from \$1 - \$5 (dependent on the level of play and number of contests). The MOST COST EFFECTIVE way for you to attend athletic competitions is to purchase the All-Sports Pass. Passes can be purchased at the athletic department office. Ticket prices are set by the Huron League. When we participate with schools in other leagues, prices may vary. The All-Sport and season passes are only valid for home games and are not valid at any MHSAA tournament or at tournaments a team uses as a fundraiser.

SCHOOL COLORS

Our school colors center around Red and White; Red and Grey; Red, White & Grey. Black is NOT a school color and should not be used in uniforms or spirit wear without prior approval from the athletic director.

IN SEASON INFORMATION

Academics—The priority for a student athlete is: academics, first; athletics, second. Athletes will be required to meet the eligibility standards described in the, "Academic Eligibility Requirements" section.

Appearance—A Grosse Ile Township Schools athlete should represent the best of Grosse Ile schools. Appearance affects attitude, behavior, and the perception of others. Our athletes are expected to be well-groomed, neat and well-dressed. Coaches may set specific grooming and dress guidelines for the teams. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension from the team until the athlete complies. We expect our athletes to dress appropriately and project a favorable image of our schools. The school dress code applies at all athletic events. It is the coaches' responsibility to monitor students' grooming and dress.

Attendance—All team members are required to meet the attendance rules described under Student Athlete Attendance Policy. Additionally, all team members are to be present and on time to all team functions, unless they are excused in advance by the coach. This includes injured, ill, suspended, and ineligible athletes unless their attendance is otherwise prohibited by the Athletic Code of Conduct or unless other arrangements are made in advance.

Dual Sport Participation – Athletes who wish to participate in more than one school sponsored sport per season must have written approval of the head coaches involved, parent/guardians, and the Athletic Director. Dual sport forms are available in the Athletic office.

Facilities—No athlete is allowed to use any facilities (weight room, gym, locker room, etc.) without direct supervision from a member of the coaching staff. No inappropriate behavior will be tolerated in any of the facilities. Athletes found using facilities alone, without permission, or in inappropriate ways will be disciplined per the Athletic Code of Conduct.

Injury & Illness—Grosse Ile Township Schools has a professional athletic trainer available to treat our athletes. The trainer is here to help the athletes when needed, and perform as a member of the athletic staff. All injuries should be reported immediately to the coach and trainer. The trainer will evaluate and treat minor injuries and refer more serious ones to the athlete's doctor or to the sports medicine doctors available through the training service. Athletes returning to competition or practice must be cleared by the trainer for minor injuries and by a doctor for serious injuries (in writing, with a copy to the trainer). Any athlete who sees a doctor for treatment of any injury or illness must obtain written clearance to resume participation.

Training Room—The training room is off-limits unless you are injured or the trainer has invited you into the room. Training facilities and supplies are off limits to all athletes without permission of the trainer. The training room is co-ed and proper dress is required at all times (a minimum of shorts and shirt).

Training Recommendations—Three important areas outside normal team activities through which athletes can improve their performance and their value to their team are sleep, nutrition and conditioning weight training.

- Proper rest is very important for optimal athletic performance. Eight hours per night is the minimum for an athlete in season. This is the time when the body rejuvenates and repairs itself; give your body time to heal itself. Athletes should be in their home resting by 10:30 p.m. on weeknights and 9:00 p.m. on the day before competition. The athletic department recommends a curfew of 11:30 p.m. on weekends.
- Proper nutrition is essential if your body is to run at optimum levels in season. Consuming good food (fruit, vegetable, pastas and rice) can be beneficial for your athletic performance. An athlete should consume as much water as possible. Stay away from soda and heavily sugared beverages. Instead, consider sports drinks and natural fruit juices. If you need help, ask the coach or trainer to set up a program for you.
- The best way to avoid injury, maintain stamina and improve performance is through a year-round program of conditioning and weight training. All athletes can benefit greatly from weight training. Each team should have a weight program specific to the sport. If you need help, ask the coach or trainer to set up a program for you.

Transportation-Grosse Ile Township schools will provide one-way transportation to all athletic events scheduled Monday – Friday.

- Teams with thirty (30) members or more, along with all middle school teams will be provided return transportation.
- It is the responsibility of the parent to provide or arrange transportation for their student when district transportation is not utilized. Coaches or any district representative will not arrange for transportation without athletic director/administration approval. Parents are responsible for transporting their son/daughter to and from all season contests scheduled on Saturdays. If transportation is required for a school activity and the activity has a drop off and pick up location that is not the GITS, the parent is still responsible for the transportation of their child.

Parent Driver/Alternative Driver

In the event that student cannot travel via GITS transportation, a parent/guardian may provide transportation or an alternative designated driver may transport the student athlete to or from an away contest or event provided all school district policies are followed. The alternative driver MUST be 18 or older and be willing to show identification. All drivers must sign-out with the coach or advisor upon departure from the event sight.

General Guidelines

- When GITS provides transportation it is required that all athletes ride to the event with the team and it is highly recommended the athlete ride home on the team bus. In extreme situations, this may be exempt with the completion and submission of the driver approval form to be completed and signed by a parent/guardian, signed by an administrator, and submitted to the coach.
- The school system provides:
 1. School buses
 2. Van and/or car (when available)
- When parents are unable to make arrangements for their child to be transported to the event, it still the responsibility of the parent to get their child to the event.
- Student/athletes are not permitted to drive themselves to a contest, unless accompanied by a parent/guardian. (Disciplinary action may be taken per student handbook if infringed upon.)
- In the event, there is an abundance of athletes that do not have parental transportation, school bussing may be considered at the expense of the parent.

Team Membership

Once an athlete has decided upon a sport he/she wishes to try a sport, he/she may not change to another sport without permission from the coach for the sport he/she is dropping and permission of the coach for the sport he/she is adding. The Athletic Director must also approve the change. The length of the time the athlete has participated in the sport he/she is dropping and/or wanting to participate in will be a factor in deciding if the change will be permitted.

If an athlete wishes to change from one sport to another, he/she must do so prior to the first game of that season.

If an athlete is dropped from a team for disciplinary reasons, he/she may not go out for a next-season sport until after the last game his/her team plays in the dropped sport during that season.

Athletes are required to be in school when school begins on the morning following a previous night's game. Coaches and parents should impress this on their athletes.

National Anthem Etiquette

Proper etiquette includes looking at the flag and standing still. Hands should be down by your sides, together behind your back, or right hand over the heart.

Handshake

Each sport has a different way of acknowledging the opponents / officials either pre-game or post game.

Become familiar with what is expected and customary for your sport and make that part of what you practice with your team. The expectation is that Grosse Ile Township Schools athletes will always demonstrate good sportsmanship by looking the

opponent in the eye and offering a firm handshake. Unsportsmanship behavior by athletes will not be tolerated and may result in suspension or removal from the team.

Overnight Trips

All overnight trips must receive school board approval. The approval process may take up to eight weeks. All expenses associated with trips are the responsibility of the athlete or parent. The coach will make hotel reservations and details will be submitted to the athletic director. The coach will assign rooms and athletes will be given a curfew. Coaches should encourage parents who are also staying in the hotel to set a good example for the athletes (i.e. they should not be partying in the bar all evening/night).

COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

Parenting and coaching are each rewarding, yet challenging endeavors. Parents want what is best for their children; coaches want what is best for their teams. Communication between parents and coaches is very important to the success of a student participating in extracurricular activities.

The communication parents can expect from their son's or daughter's coach includes:

- Coach's philosophy and expectations;
- Location and times for all practices and contests;
- Team rules and policies;
- Guidelines to earn a varsity letter;
- Procedure if an athlete is injured during participation;
- Special requirements, fees, equipment needs.

The communication coaches can expect from their athletes and their parents includes:

- Advance notice if the athlete is unable to attend practice, competitions, or team functions;
- Notice of all injuries and illnesses and athlete's status for participation;
- Situations or concerns at home which may affect an athlete's performance or participation.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

It is the policy of the Athletic Department that athletic events will be conducted in a manner that provides optimum safety for students during inclement weather.

Prior to the game, the athletic director, with input from the coach, will be responsible for determining cancellations. (They will get input from the principal and/or superintendent if necessary.)

During an athletic contest, the responsibility for continuation of a game during inclement weather will be determined by the officials. If a storm should erupt during a contest and it is deemed a safety hazard, the athletic director will confer with the officials regarding continuation of the contest.

Crowd control will be the responsibility of the athletic director or in their absence the game manager. This responsibility includes giving direction for those in attendance.

During a practice session, the coach will be responsible for determining continuation or cancellation of that practice.

Storm "warning" issued during or prior to practice/contest = practice or contest will be cancelled.

WARNING = there is definitely a storm in the area.

Storm "watch" issued prior to practice = athletic director and coach will determine whether or not to cancel or continue the practice. If "watch" issued during practice = coach will determine whether or not to cancel or continue the practice. WATCH = conditions are right for the possibility of inclement weather.

At the high school level, in the event of school being closed for hazardous weather (snow day, flood, ice storm, etc.) administration and coach will determine if practice is to continue or be cancelled. ALL FRESHMAN and JV PRACTICES AND CONTESTS WILL BE CANCELLED. VARSITY PRACTICE OR CONTEST MUST HAVE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AND ADMINISTRATION APPROVAL.

At the middle school level, in the event of school being closed for hazardous weather (snow day, flood, ice storm, etc.) PRACTICES AND CONTESTS WILL BE CANCELLED.

POST SEASON INFORMATION

Equipment—The equipment and uniforms issued to our athletes for their use during the season represent an investment of thousands of dollars annually by the school district. The proper treatment and care is the responsibility of the athlete. This equipment is for his/her use only, and is not to be used outside the school team. The athlete will be held financially responsible for replacement of any item that is lost or damaged through negligence.

Athletes who do not return or pay for lost or damaged equipment will be ineligible for any other sport until the equipment is returned or the financial responsibility is met.

Awards—The head coach and Athletic Director will determine the requirements for earning a varsity letter in the sport. The requirements will be provided and discussed at the pre-season parent meeting, and a copy will be maintained in the athletic department office. An athlete must complete the entire season, including post-season play, equipment return, and any post-season award ceremony or banquet, in order to be eligible for an award.

Varsity letter guidelines to be considered but not limited to the following:

Attendance at all practices, scheduled scrimmages, and contests; behavior, criterion based standard achieved during a competition. (Established in writing by athletic director and coach.)

Awards Night--All athletes are obligated to attend the Athletic Booster Club sponsored awards night and remain for the entire program in the name of sportsmanship and to support fellow athletes. Each varsity sport may award a MVP, Most Improved, and Coaches' Award, which is given at the Athletic Booster Club awards night at the conclusion of each season (fall, winter and spring). The criteria for these awards are the responsibility of the coaching staff for each sport.

MHSAA REGULATIONS-AWARDS

The following information has been taken from the most recent MHSAA Handbook.

- Section 11 #116 - A student may accept, for participation in athletics, a symbolic or merchandise award which does not have a fair market value or cost in excess of \$25.
- Section 11 #117 - Awards for athletic participation in the form of cash, merchandise certificates, or any other type of negotiable documents are never allowed.
- Section 11 #118 - Banquets, luncheons, dinners, non-competitive trips, and fees or admissions to be a spectator at events, if accepted in kind, are permitted under this Regulation.
- Section 11 (C) A student shall be ineligible under this Regulation if he/she accepts awards in violation of its provisions only in the following activities: baseball, basketball, bowling, competitive cheer, cross country, football, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, alpine skiing, soccer, girls' softball, swimming, tennis, track & field, volleyball, or wrestling.
- Section 11 (D) A student violating this Regulation shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of not less than one full semester from the date of the student's last violation.
- Section 11 #154 A student may remedy a violation of this Section by promptly reimbursing or returning to the originating party the payment, merchandise, gift certificate, valuable consideration and awards in excess of the stated limitations.

OFF-SEASON INFORMATION

Behavior—The Athletic Code of Conduct, all of its disciplinary consequences and other provisions, are in effect and enforced from the first day a student joins a district athletic team. In order to foster development of beneficial character traits such as commitment, dedication, and mutual respect, the Code remains in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 12 months a year, whether on or off school property (regardless of the time of day, week, month, or year, location of events and/or the particular sports season) until completion of the student's participation in athletics. Making positive decisions and positive behavior during the off-season, when out of daily contact with team and coaches, builds character and integrity which benefits both the individuals and the team.

Conditioning—One of the best ways to stay in condition in the off season is to participate in another sport. Athletes who participate in multiple sports are the most well-rounded and can use techniques learned in one sport to cross over and improve performance in another. If you are a single-sport athlete, it is imperative that you maintain your conditioning year-around.

PERTINENT RULES OF THE MHSAA AND NFHS

The Grosse Ile Township Board of Education has adopted the MHSAA and National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) guidelines regarding eligibility and other aspects of athletic programs. The MHSAA and NFHS governs all high school athletic programs and sets eligibility rules for participation. It is important for athletes, parents and coaches to remain informed of applicable MHSAA and NFHS rules. Sports and activities approved by the Grosse Ile Township Schools Board of Education will abide by the MHSAA and NFHS policies.

COLLEGE BOUND STUDENT ATHLETE

If interested in participating in a Division I or Division II school, please refer to the NCAA Eligibility Center (www.eligibilitycenter.org). Please notify your counselor and Athletic Director in writing if you are interested.