



2020-2021

AMS Student Handbook

“The Future Starts Here”

Alliance Middle School
3205 South Union Avenue
Alliance, OH 44601

Phone: 330-829-2254

Fax: 330-823-0872

Website: <http://www.alliancecityschools.org/o/middle-school>

NAME:	
HOMEBASE TEACHER/ROOM #:	

Vision

All aviators will graduate prepared for life, college and careers.

Mission

Our mission is for all students to reach their fullest potential and become productive citizens through teachers who establish high expectations; a safe, positive, and engaging learning environment; and content that supports critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity.

Aviator International Baccalaureate Learner Profile

Principled
Risk-Takers
Open-Minded
Reflective
Inquirers
Caring
Thinkers
Communicators
Knowledgeable
Balanced

Board of Education	District Administration
Elayne Dunlap Sally Ailes Teresa Caserta Buddy Gasparik William Koch	Rob Gress, <i>Superintendent</i> Kirk Heath, <i>Treasurer</i> Christine Gibowicz, <i>Director of Curriculum & Instruction</i> Nick Cowles, <i>Director of Operations</i>

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WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

To the Families and Students of Alliance Middle School,

I would like to take a moment to welcome you to Alliance Middle School. I am excited about the opportunity to be Principal of Alliance Middle School as we look forward to another great school year. We have so many fantastic opportunities for students both academically and with our extracurricular activities. The Alliance Middle School staff is dedicated to providing students with a well rounded high quality education that includes the arts, athletics, and of course a rigorous academic curriculum. Students at Alliance Middle School are encouraged to get involved in those activities that they are passionate about, take chances, and create memories. Our goal as a staff is that students at Alliance Middle School will have fun, get involved, and achieve academic success while being prepared for high school, college, and careers. I look forward to seeing your success this year. As Always Go Aviators!

Mr. Troy Russell

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That are like our Alma Mater, Hail the Red and Blue.

Alliance City Schools 2020-21

Revised 5/20/2020

August 2020						
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November 2020						
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December 2020						
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Calamity Day Make-Up Schedule:
June 1-2 - as needed

- August**
14 Teacher PD Day-no stud.
17 Teacher Work Day-no stud.
18 First Student Day
- September**
4 Teacher PD day-no stud.
7 Labor Day - No School
- October**
12 Teacher PD Day-no stud.
13 Teacher PD Day-no stud. (AMS Only)
23 Early Dismissal
End of 9 weeks (46 days)
- November**
3 Teacher PD Day-no stud.
Election Day
25 Teacher Exchange Day
26-27 Thanksgiving Break
- December**
21-31 Winter Break
- January**
1 Winter Break
14 Early Dismissal
15 Teacher Work day-no stud.
End of 9 weeks (45 days)
End of semester (91 days)
18 Martin Luther King Day
- February**
15 Presidents Day
- March**
5 Early Dismissal (AHS only)
17 Teacher Work Day-no stud. (AES only)
19 Early Dismissal
End of 9 weeks (43 days)
29-31 Spring Break
- April**
1-2 Spring Break
- May**
4 No School
Election Day
27 Last Student Day
End of 9 weeks (43 days)
End of semester (86 days)
28 Teacher Work Day-no stud.

Teacher Day-No School

First & Last Student Day

No School

Early Dismissal

Teacher Day-AMS Only

Teacher Day-AES Only

February 2021						
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March 2021						
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April 2021						
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May 2021						
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June 2021						
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July 2021						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

<small>Student Hours</small>	<small>Elementary - 1144.5 (based on 6.5 hours per day)</small>	<small>Student Days - 177</small>
<small>AMS - 1091.4 (based on 6.2 hours per day)</small>	<small>Teacher Days - 185</small>	
<small>AHS - 1089.4 (based on 6.2 hours per day)</small>		

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International Baccalaureate Program at AMS

What is an International Baccalaureate (IB) education?

The IB continuum of international education, for students aged 3 to 19, is unique because of its academic and personal rigour, challenging students to excel in their studies and personal growth. The IB program aims to inspire a quest for learning throughout life that is marked by enthusiasm and empathy. The IB program aspires to help schools develop well-rounded students, who respond to challenges with optimism and an open mind, are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real-world, complex and unpredictable situations. IB offers high-quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision. An IB education:

- focuses on learners – the IB's student-centred programmes promote healthy relationships, ethical responsibility and personal challenge
- develops effective approaches to teaching and learning – IB Programmes help students to develop the attitudes and skills they need for both academic and personal success
- works within global contexts – IB programmes increase understanding of languages and cultures, and explore globally significant ideas and issues
- explores significant content – IB programmes offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced, conceptual and connected.

What is the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)?

The MYP is designed for students aged 11 to 16. It provides a framework of learning that encourages students to become creative, critical and reflective thinkers. The MYP emphasizes intellectual challenge, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and the real world. It fosters the development of skills for communication, intercultural understanding

and global engagement—essential qualities for young people who are becoming global leaders. The MYP is flexible enough to accommodate most national or local curriculum requirements.

The IB Middle Years Programme

- addresses holistically students’ intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being
- provides students opportunities to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need in order to manage complexity and take responsible action for the future
- ensures breadth and depth of understanding through study in eight subject groups
- requires the study of at least two languages (language of instruction and additional language of choice) to support students in understanding their own cultures and those of others
- empowers students to participate in service within the community
- helps to prepare students for further education, the workplace and a lifetime of learning.

1 to 1 TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The mission of the 1-to-1 program in the Alliance City School District is to create a collaborative learning environment for all learners. This environment will enable and support students and teachers to implement transformative uses of technology while enhancing students’ engagement with content and promoting the development of self-directed and lifelong learners. Students will transition from consumers of information to creative producers and owners of knowledge. The team will establish collaborative professional learning communities, based on integrative professional development for teachers, so that this program enhances classroom environments implementing high quality instruction, assessment and learning through the integration of technology and curriculum. Technology immersion does not diminish the vital role of the teacher. To the contrary, it transforms the teacher from a director of learning to a facilitator of learning. The Board of Education, district staff and community members will all play a key role in the development of effective and high quality educational experiences.

AFTER SCHOOL

All students are to leave the building within 10 minutes after dismissal unless they are under the direct supervision of a staff member, advisor, or coach. Students are not to remain after school for activities that occur after the end of the school day. If a student is assigned or chooses to stay after school for a school sanctioned activity, it is the student’s responsibility to notify their parents in advance, along with providing an estimated time of completion and setting up appropriate transportation at the duration of the activity.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING (NAVIGATORS)

Through a partnership with Synergy Alliance and ACS, after school programming is provided for elementary and middle school students. Navigators is an after school program that offers a variety of academic assistance with enrichment activities. Students are offered a snack, receive homework help, develop reading and math skills through hands-on activities and enjoy music, art, sports and a variety of youth development activities. Navigators is open to all students with sessions offered Monday through Friday with transportation provided home. For more information please contact the school at 330-829-2254.

ATHLETICS

Athletes are students first. It is the responsibility of the student, parent, coach, teachers, and administration to ensure all student athletes are academically eligible. Alliance Middle School is a member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and will comply with all rules and regulations established by the Association. In addition, we will also adhere to all rules and policies established by the Alliance Board of Education. Students who are in jeopardy of being ineligible, will be offered an after school academic intervention program until grades improve. The student may or may not participate depending on grades. In order to attend and participate in practices and games after the official start date of the season as established by OHSAA, students must have all required paperwork and FinalForms documents completed online.

You may register at <https://alliance-oh.finalforms.com>

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY (GRADES 7-8)

- Students who are enrolled in 7th or 8th grade during the 2020-2021 school year are required to pass a minimum of five (5) courses of all subjects taken in the preceding grading period in accordance with OHSAA (Ohio High School Athletic Association) guidelines.
- A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the 8th grade must have passed a minimum of five (5) of all subjects carried the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled.

- A student enrolling in the 7th grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of the previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grade 7 or 8 must have been currently enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in a minimum of five of those subjects in which the student received grades.
- Once the athletic season begins, athletes will need to maintain grades and exemplary behavior throughout the season. Failure to do so could result in game suspensions or possibly removal from the team. Specific guidelines will be reviewed during a required parent meeting before each athletic season.
- Student-Athletes are not permitted to stay after school prior to their games or practices unless accompanied by a coach or teacher. Any student-athlete in violation of this expectation may forfeit playing time for that day's contest or additional contests.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS

Regular attendance is essential to good schoolwork. It is the expectation that parents and guardians see to it that children regularly attend school.

ABSENTEEISM

It is the expectation that when a child is absent, parents are to notify the school office before 8:00 a.m at 330-829-2254 and provide a written statement for cause of absence upon the student's return to school. When a parent does not report the absence, the school will contact the home. However, it is the parent's responsibility to notify the school on the morning of the child's absence. A letter will be mailed to the home if parents do not contact the school on the day of the child's absence.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

In accordance with statute, the school shall require from the parent of each student who has been absent from school or from class for any reason, a statement of the cause of such absence. The Board of Education reserves the right to verify such statements and to investigate the cause of each absence. A principal may excuse the student if the parent has notified the school by telephone or if the student presents a written note from the parent or physician upon return to school indicating one of the following reasons:

With written notice, the following is an excused absence:

- a. Personal illness: If there is a pattern of frequent absence for personal illness, the parents will be required to provide a statement from a physician describing the health condition that is causing the frequent illness and treatment that is being provided to rectify the condition. The principal may require a physician's written confirmation within twenty-four (24) hours of the absence if he/she deems it advisable.
- b. Illness in the family: If he/she deems it advisable, the principal may require a physician's written confirmation of the family illness within twenty-four (24) hours of the student's absence.
- c. Quarantine of the home: This is limited to the length of the quarantine as fixed by the proper health officials.
- d. Death of a relative: The absence arising from this condition is limited to a period of three (3) days unless reasonable causes may be shown for a longer period of absence.
- e. Medical or dental appointment: The principal may require the written statement of a physician or dentist if it's deemed appropriate.
- f. Observance of religious holidays: Any student shall be excused for observing a religious holiday consistent with his/her creed or belief.
- g. Family emergency or set of circumstances which, in the judgment of the superintendent, constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence from school.

Students who intend to be absent from school for any reason other than illness must confer with the school office before being absent from school to determine whether the absence will be excused. Absence for any reason other than those cited above presumably is illegal and constitutes truancy.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

Students will be permitted to make up their assignments when they have an excused absence. Students will have the same amount of days they were absent to complete their make-up work and receive full credit. Teachers will provide academic assignments to ensure exposure to board adopted curriculum. For example, if a student is absent three consecutive days, the student has three days to make up the assignments.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE AND TRUANCY

All absences, other than those listed under "Excused Absence", are considered truantries. For example, a student's absence from school will not be excused if it is for oversleeping, missing the bus, etc. A student shall be considered "truant" each day they are absent from their assigned location without the knowledge of a parent and/or school official. This includes unexcused absences from class, study hall, or any other properly assigned area or activity. Truancy demonstrates a deliberate disregard for the educational program and is considered a serious matter. A student is deemed

a "habitual truant" when they are absent without a legitimate excuse for thirty (30) consecutive school hours or forty two (42) hours in one month or seventy-two (72) hours in one school year. (ORC 2151.022(C) Excessive absent is defined as a student that misses 38 or more hours of school in a single month, or 65 or more hours in one school year, with or without a legitimate excuse. Chronic absenteeism is defined as any student missing 10% or more of the school year for any reason.

The following procedures will be followed for students are habitually truant:

ATTENDANCE INTERVENTION TEAM

The purpose of an attendance intervention is to design and implement a plan to address the student's attendance concerns. A variety of factors will be considered when designing a specific plan to meet the needs of the student. A copy of all notifications, letters, and any attendance intervention plans will be kept in the student's file.

- **Step 1:** Parents of students that have accumulated 38 (or more) hours in one month or 65 (or more) hours in one school year of excused and/or unexcused absences will be considered excessively absent and will be required to participate in an attendance conference with a building representative at the student's home building.. This attendance conference will be used to discuss the issue(s) surrounding the student's attendance. An informal plan may be developed.
- **Step 2:** Parents of students that have accumulated 30 (or more) consecutive hours at any time, 42 non consecutive in one month, or 72 (or more) hours in one school year of unexcused absences will be considered habitually truant and will be required to participate in an attendance intervention team planning meeting with a building representative at the student's home building. Students who have been identified with an attendance intervention plan will then be monitored over the next 60 school days by building administration and the Office of Student Services. Those students who have not shown a significant amount of progress on an attendance intervention plan will then be considered to be habitually truant and referred to juvenile court.
- **Step 3:** Once a student has been placed on an attendance intervention 60 day plan they will automatically be referred to the Attendance Community Response Team. This team will continue to support the attendance intervention plan by offering support to families to reduce attendance barriers.
- **Step 4:** If at any time, an attendance intervention plan is deemed to be unsuccessful, a formal complaint may be filed with the Stark County Family Court against the student and/or parent(s) for habitual truancy.
- **Step 5:** A truancy hearing will then be scheduled with the Stark County Court to serve as an opportunity for parents and school representatives to present prior documentation of records and attempted interventions by the school district.

VACATIONS AND PRE-ARRANGED ABSENCES

Parents are encouraged not to take their child out of the school for family vacations as this is an interruption in their academic instruction. Whenever a proposed absence-for-vacation for five (5) or more days is requested, parents must submit the request to the Director of Student Services. For less than five (5) days, the request is submitted to the principal. The length of absence should be made clear, and those involved should have an opportunity to express their views on the potential effects of the absence. Parents will be notified by a letter from the principal or the Director of Student Services either approving or denying the parent request.

Approval or denial is defined as follows:

Unexcused Absence (No Grade Penalty): Permission is granted for the student to be absent during the stated time.

1. The student will be responsible for notifying all teachers of the absence.
 2. The student is responsible for all assignments that will be missed.
 3. Arrangements were made prior to leaving.
 4. The absence will be counted as an unexcused absence, but will not be a factor in determining the course grade unless the make-up work is incomplete.
- Unexcused Absence (No Penalty with a Condition): The same conditions as stated above except the approval letter will contain that the parent accepts the responsibility for the effect that the student's absence could have on the student's grades.
 - Unexcused Absence: Permission was not granted by the Principal or Director of Student Services for the student to be absent. The student will not be permitted to make up missed assignments.

TARDINESS TO SCHOOL

Students that are not present in homebase by 7:20 a.m. are considered late to class. If arriving late to school students must report to the Main Office before going to class. Students that arrive between the following times will have their records marked as follows. Students will start to receive consequences after the 3rd tardy in a semester and will continue to receive consequences for every 3rd tardy thereafter.

TARDY AM: 7:20-9:30 a.m.

ABSENT AM: 9:31-11:30 a.m.

ABSENT AM & TARDY PM: 11:31-12:30 p.m.

ABSENT PM: 12:31-2:20 p.m.

AVIATOR TIME/ADVISORY PERIOD

Aviator Time and Advisory Period is a designated period designed for students to receive academic intervention and enrichment as well as for 8th graders to complete work on their IB community project. During AT students will complete I-Ready lessons in Reading and Math and Achieve 3000 science and social studies lessons based on their current level to best meet their academic needs. In addition students will work with their teachers in small groups and whole group reteaching and instruction. A grade will be assigned for Aviator Time/Advisory Period as follows:

10 point assignment for behavior weekly (Students are on task & on time)

10 points per week for ELA I-Ready lesson completed

10 points per week for Math I-Ready lesson completed

Students can replace any lower scores with a higher score after they have passed all required lessons.

Students are required to score an 80% for the lesson to count as passed.

BUILDING-WIDE BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

The expectations are designed to be concise and promote fairness and consistency so that major and minor offenses are kept to a minimum. The expectations support the Board approved Student Code of Conduct and apply during any and all time spent on school property. The four expectations for students at Alliance Middle School are:

1. Be Safe

2. Be Respectful

3. Be Responsible

4. Be a Learner

To foster Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS), expectations at Alliance Middle School are designed to:

1. Provide a clear understanding of expected student behavior
2. Be few in number
3. Be positively stated and structured
4. Use familiar language
5. Include example behaviors defined for purposes of instruction. These expectations are defined as "Aviator Pride."

The staff at Alliance Middle School will work to ensure behavior expectations are defined, taught, and encouraged throughout the year. The staff will regularly reinforce these behaviors on a daily basis through the school adopted behavior system, and intervene with a variety of supports as needed. Major Code of Conduct violations by students will result in administrative referral.

BEHAVIOR CARDS & INCENTIVES

The Behavior Program/System is built on weekly incentives or rewards that students can earn for appropriate behavior that meets expectations. Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade may earn the "Top Gun" behavior level by earning the "Ace" status for nine consecutive weeks. Usually only Top Guns, Aces, Level 1, and Level 2 students receive rewards and/or incentives for meeting the behavior expectations.

- **BEHAVIOR CARD REMINDERS**

If a student is in need of a "reminder" for one or more of the behavior expectations for a minor classroom incident, the staff member issuing the "reminder" will use the incident as a teachable moment to explain how the behavior of the student does not meet the behavioral expectations for the particular expectation and place a "reminder" on the student's behavior card under the appropriate class period. If there is a dispute about the "reminder" being given, students are expected to politely ask the teacher if they can discuss the issue after class so not to disrupt the educational process of the classroom. Failure to comply or arguing with the teacher during this process may result in additional "reminders" for disruption, or possibly an administrative referral.

- Reminders are considered to be our Tier 1 interventions for students. Reeducation of the expectation that the student failed to meet should occur after each reminder. Discipline is defined as "The training that develops self-control, character, and efficiency." It is a key to good conduct and proper consideration for other people.

- **Three “reminders” in the course of one day will result in an immediate consequence.** When a student has reached 3 behavioral reminders, an email will be sent to amsdiscipline@alliancecityschools.org by the teacher issuing the 3rd “reminder” to inform the administration. Students will then meet with an administrator to receive their consequence, which will be assigned in accordance to their student discipline card.
 - **Students: Please remember that everyone occasionally makes mistakes, has bad days, or sometimes even bad weeks. However, one reminder will never make or break your day, or even your week because it takes several reminders to change a behavior level. Reminders are simply warnings that indicate areas where you can improve.**
- **“LOST” OR MISPLACED CARDS**
Students who lose or misplace their behavior card during the day will be issued a “Lost Card” by a staff member. Students that are issued “Lost Cards” during the day are expected to turn this card into their homebase teacher, even if the original behavior card is found. The teacher issuing the “Lost Card” will communicate with the student’s homebase teacher about the period the “Lost Card” was issued and any special circumstances of the student misplacing his/her card. **Students will receive a referral for every five (5) Lost Cards they are issued.**
- **CLASS TARDIES**
If a student is late to class, students should receive one card reminder. The card reminder given to the student should be marked with an “L.” This will help the homebase teacher keep track of class tardies. **If a student is late to class 3 or more times in a semester period WITHOUT a pass, they will be given a Discipline Referral.** Upon receiving a Discipline Referral for class tardies, the student will be assigned a consequence in accordance to their student discipline card. After the initial 5 days of class tardiness, if the student continues to demonstrate tardiness, they will serve time in the Student Improvement Lab.
- **HALLWAY PASSES**
 - Student Passes: Teachers will write passes on the back of behavior cards. If a student does not have possession of their behavior card, a “lost card” will be issued by the teacher, which must be turned in at the end of the school day. It is the responsibility of the students to always have a pass whenever they leave a classroom.
 - Special Excuse Passes: The office issues special excuse passes for students who need to be excused from school for special reasons such as a doctor’s appointment. A written request or a personal visit by the parent is required for the student to receive this pass. Students carrying a special excuse pass should first go to their lockers and then report to the office at the appointed time to be signed out. Upon returning to school from an appointment, the student should present a return slip. The special excuse pass will then be used to readmit the student to class.
 - If a student is in the hallway during their scheduled class time for any reason, they should be carrying a pass. **If a student is not carrying a pass and is found in the hallway, they will receive 1 card reminder or an office referral if appropriate.**
 - Students will be permitted **TWO (2)** hallway passes throughout the day. One pass may occur before lunch, the other after lunch. Once the student has used both of their passes, they will no longer be permitted in the hallway for any reason. Students who are issued a Lost Card will be denied hall passes.
Pass exceptions include: Passes to/from administration/counselors, visits to the Clinic, teacher-written passes for tardies, and/or passes to the High Flyer Cafe.
 - **Passes will not be written during the “First 10 Last 10” (first 10 minutes and last 10 minutes) of class.**

MATRIX OF BEHAVIOR CARD SYSTEM

Level	5 Day Week	4 Day Week	3 Day Week	2 Day Week	1 Day Week
Top Gun (Blue)	0 - 2	0 - 2	0 - 1	0	0
Ace (Green)	0 - 2	0 - 2	0 - 1	0	0
Level 1 (Yellow)	0 - 4	0 - 3	0 - 2	0 - 1	0 - 1
Level 2 (Pink)	5 - 10	4 - 8	3 - 6	2 - 4	2
Level 3 (White)	11+	9+	7+	5+	3+

Students will drop to a Level 3 card upon a return from a suspension.

INCENTIVES & INTERVENTIONS

● **TOP GUN INCENTIVES**

Students who carry a Top Gun card (blue) have proven their ability to be successful in the classroom, both behaviorally and academically. These students have demonstrated their engagement in learning and are positive role models to their peers. All students are capable of attaining and should aspire towards Top Gun behavior.

- If a student carries a Top Gun card, they will be allowed the following social privileges:
 - Students may sit outside at the picnic tables, weather permitting.
 - Students will be allotted game time on their Chromebooks when permitted by the teacher.
 - Students can visit High Flyer Cafe when permitted.
 - *Any of these privileges can and may be revoked if the student is not demonstrating "Top Gun" behavior while holding a Top Gun card.*

● **MULTIPLE WEEKS OF LEVEL 3 BEHAVIOR**

If a student routinely exhibits Level 3 behavior for multiple consecutive weeks, the student is evidently in need of additional support and guidance. Therefore, the administration and staff will work collaboratively to implement a series of positive behavior intervention supports to improve the student's behavior. In each of these measures, the student's needs will be assessed before any interventions/consequences are officially implemented. In each of these interventions listed below, parents are encouraged to contact a teacher of record to receive updates on the progress of their student's behavior.

- **LEVEL 3 PRIVILEGE LOSSES/CONSEQUENCES**

If a student carries a Level 3 card for 2 consecutive weeks, they will no longer be permitted the following privileges and will start to follow the progression below.:

- Conversation from Administration at 2 weeks of Level 3
- 1st time at 3 consecutive weeks at Level 3: 1 day of SIL,
- 2nd time at 3 consecutive weeks at Level 3: 2 day of SIL and behavior plan
- 3rd time at 3 consecutive weeks at Level 3: 1 Day OSS
- 4th time at 3 consecutive weeks at Level 3: 3 Day OSS
- Students will not be permitted to participate in the weekly incentive.

OTHER LEVEL 3 INTERVENTIONS - INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Check-In Check-Out (CICO)
- iCare Team Referrals
- Weekly Academic, Attendance, and/or Behavior Reports
- Behavior Contracts (BIP)
- Lunch Detention Sessions - Lunch detention may be assigned by a teacher as long as the teacher's lunch coincides with the student's. If the student fails to attend the assigned lunch detention, they will be assigned an after-school detention.
- Extended Day Sessions (After school)
- Navigators Excel Referrals
- Response to Intervention Referral (RTI)
- Transitions Academy

MAJOR VIOLATIONS

A student will earn an office referral when they pose a safety threat to themselves or others, violate a rule repeatedly, or disrupt the educational process. The teacher will follow up with a parent contact to discuss the issue. Examples of majors are as follows but not limited to:

Abusive and Inappropriate Language or Profanity
Bomb Threat and/or False Alarms
Defiance, Disrespect, Insubordination, Non-Compliance
Disruption—Major
Multiple Dress Code Violations
Fighting and/or Physical Aggression

Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
Inappropriate Display of Affection
Inappropriate Location and/or Left School Grounds
Lying, Cheating, and/or Plagiarism
Property Damage and/or Vandalism
Skip class and/or truancy

REFERRALS AND CONSEQUENCES

For incidents causing a major disruption to the educational process or school climate either through one of the “major” behavior violations or a series of “minor” behavior violations, administrative referrals will be written and consequences will follow.

Administrative Consequences could include but are not limited to:

*** During School Hours:**

- “Take 5” Referral: Students will be removed from class for repeated disruptions of the educational environment. An Extended Day detention will be assigned for “Take 5” referrals. **Out of School will result from every 3 referrals to Take 5 following progression on student behavior cards.**
- Student Improvement Lab (SIL): Parents will be notified by an administrator when a child has been assigned to the Student Improvement Lab
- Restriction or Loss of Privileges: Parents will be notified if students lose common privileges (example: hall or computer privileges)
- Lunch Sessions: Students will eat lunch in a separate area of the school under the supervision of a staff member.

*** After School Hours:**

- Extended Day Detention (2:30-3:30): Parents will be notified by a staff member if a student receives an extended day detention. Bussing will be provided for students at 3:30 PM. Students will be notified of their cluster bus stop.
- **Failure to serve a re-issued Extended Day detention will result in a one (1) day suspended from school.**
- Twilight School (2:30-3:45): Parents will be notified by an administrator when their child is assigned a twilight school. Failure to serve a twilight school will result in further disciplinary actions. Parents will be responsible for transportation.
- Social Probation: The student is not permitted to attend any Alliance City Schools (including elementary or high school) co-curricular events as a result of a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
- Out-of-School Suspensions: Parents will be notified by an administrator when a child has been issued an out of school suspension. During suspension, students are not permitted on school grounds for any reason. Students suspended from school will be provided academic assignments. **Parents/Guardians may pick up the assignments in the main office after 3:00 PM at the conclusion of the first suspension day.**

**Administrative actions are subject to a case-by-case basis where several factors will go into the decision (frequency between incidents/severity/etc.).*

BEFORE SCHOOL

Students riding busses may enter the back doors of the building at 7:05 a.m. Student walkers or those who arrive by other means of transportation **may enter the front doors of the building at 7:05 a.m.** If a student is eating breakfast, they must proceed directly to the cafeteria, remaining there until they are dismissed to homebase at 7:15 a.m. Students must follow all adult directions while in the cafeteria and clean up their eating area when finished and are not permitted to go back outside for any reason. Students who are not attending breakfast must wait until they are dismissed at 7:15 a.m. and report immediately to homebase.

Students should be in their homebase classroom BEFORE 7:20 a.m. A failure to arrive to homebase on time will be considered a tardy and a “reminder” will be given. **Students are not permitted to leave school property without permission once they have arrived on school grounds in the morning.**

BICYCLES

Students are permitted to ride bikes to school provided the following criteria are met:

1. Bike is parked and locked in the designated racks
2. Completed AMS bike registration form (forms available in main office)

** It is highly recommended that helmets be worn at all times for safety purposes*

BOOK BAGS

Students are allowed to use book bags and backpacks to carry supplies, books, and materials to and from school. Book bags, backpacks, and purses are to remain in the student’s locker throughout the school day, and students are expected to carry individual books and materials to their

classrooms.

BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND INTIMIDATION

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

- A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or
- B. violence within a dating relationship.

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Building Principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the Building Principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The Building Principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such a report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

If, during an investigation of a reported act of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying/cyber-bullying, the Principal or appropriate administrator believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile learning environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the Principal will report the act of bullying and/or harassment to one of the Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers so that it may be investigated in accordance with the procedures set forth in Policy **5517** - Anti-Harassment.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above. If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

The District shall implement intervention strategies (AG 5517.01) to protect a victim or other person from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying and from retaliation following such a report.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the Building Principal or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the custodial parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

COMPLAINTS

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the Building Director for review, investigation, and action.

Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may make informal or anonymous complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel. Such complaints shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. A school staff member or administrator who receives an informal or anonymous complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the information provided. This written report shall be promptly forwarded by the school staff member and/or administrator to the Building Director for review, investigation, and appropriate action.

Individuals who make informal complaints as provided above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. Anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action shall be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

When an individual making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

CELL PHONE/ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE POLICY

Cell phones are not to be used, displayed, or turned on during the regular school day, including instructional class time, class change time, or lunch. Exceptions or waivers to this restriction may be made at the discretion of teachers or administrators in the event of an emergency. **Cell phones must be stored in student lockers and should be set to silent mode.** The school will not be responsible for electronic devices that are lost, stolen, or broken. Students are encouraged to consider the risks of bringing electronic devices to school.

If a student is caught using a cell phone or other electronic communication device (ie. Apple Watch) during class, teachers are permitted to take the phone or device and log the incident in the "Cell Phone Log." A card reminder may also be issued. A failure to comply with this process will result in further behavioral consequences.

Phone retrieval is as follows:

- 1st Incident: Students may retrieve their phone/device at the end of the class period from the teacher.
- 2nd Incident: Students may retrieve their phone/device from the Main Office at the end of the school day from the Secretary.
- Three or More Incidents: A Discipline Referral will be completed by the teacher. A Parent/Guardian must retrieve the phone/device from the Main Office at the end of the day. Students are not permitted to pick up the phone/device for a 3rd incident.

Text Messages

At times it is necessary to communicate with your child while school is in session. Please do not send a text message to your child during the

instructional day (7:30-2:20). This habit is disruptive to the learning environment and will result in consequences per the school cell phone policy. Please contact the office and staff will be happy to relay a written message. Please call the office if communication is necessary during the school day and your child will receive a message to call home.

CAFETERIA FOOD SERVICE

The school cafeteria serves breakfast and lunch for all students. After finishing eating, students are responsible for cleaning up after they finish and meet the expectations for appropriate behavior in the cafeteria. Lunches may be at full price, reduced price, or free, based on qualification. Free/reduced price lunch applications are handed out at the beginning of the school year and are available at the office all year. Students may pay with cash or use the computer-prepay system. Students may not charge lunches.

- **COMPUTER PREPAYMENT SYSTEM:** This is a prepayment system and is not a charge system. Students prepay by putting money on their account or buying prepaid meals. Benefits include:
 - * Fewer worries about forgotten money or lunches
 - * Confidentiality - no one knows who receives free, reduced or full price meals
 - * Records available to show past purchases
 - * Security - student's name and picture appear on the screen to secure each account
 - * Money is used as parents intend it
- **HOW TO PREPAY:** Students can pay the cashier in the breakfast or lunch line. Payment can be made with cash, checks or money orders. Checks must be made payable to "A.M.S Cafeteria." Please be sure to include your your child's name on the check or money order along with your telephone number. Any limits should be included on the memo section of the check. If there is no note, all the money will be put on the account with no limits.
- **MONEY ON ACCOUNT:** This is available for all students and staff. Money on your account can be used for all lunch line purchases (meals, separate food items, second lunch and milk etc.) but cannot be used for vending machines.
- **MENU:** The menu is published weekly in the newspaper, appears on Channel 11, is posted in the cafeteria, and is on the school's morning announcements. The teachers also receive the menu by email and most will post the menu in their rooms. Changes and additional choices are posted in the cafeteria. Please be advised that Alliance Middle School has a closed lunch policy. This means that outside food and beverages are not to be consumed by students in any area of the school unless special permission is granted by school personnel. This policy restricts the consumption of beverages from glass bottles, carbonated beverages, including energy drinks in all areas of the school building. The determination of what constitutes an "energy drink" will be determined by school personnel. Lastly, lunches from fast food restaurants may not be brought to school by parents. Please become familiar with the guidelines posted and procedures established by our lunch supervisors.

FOOD AND DRINK POLICY

Open food/drink containers should not be taken out of the cafeteria and placed in lockers or carried in the halls at any time.

NOTE: Energy drinks (like Monster, Rockstar, RedBull, etc.) will not be permitted at school.

Students should not have parents bring in food from fast food restaurants, nor can students order fast food themselves. Students will not be permitted to bring fast food into the cafeteria. Students may only bring snack size (1 OZ) bags of chips, cookies, etc into the cafeteria. **(NO FULL SIZE BAGS OF CHIPS WILL BE PERMITTED)**

CARE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Students are responsible for the care of their own personal property. Alliance Middle School and the individuals it employs are not responsible for any lost or stolen items. Belongings such as jewelry, cell phones, any kind of electronic devices/games, large sums of money, or irreplaceable items should not be brought to school. The administration may temporarily "hold" such items in order to return them to your parent/guardian.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

The Board of Education believes that the schools should help students learn to respect property and develop feelings of pride in community institutions. The Board charges each student with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to his/her use. Students who cause damage to school property shall be subject to disciplinary measures, and their parents shall be financially liable for such damage to the extent of the law, except that students over eighteen (18) years of age shall also be liable for damage they cause. Students and parents will be charged for willful destruction of school property ie: Chromebook. The Board authorizes the imposition of fines for the loss, damage or destruction of school equipment, apparatus, musical instruments, library material, textbooks, and for damage to school buildings and reserves the right, to the extent permitted by law, to withhold a report card or credits from any student whose payment of such fine

is in arrears. The Board may report to the appropriate juvenile authorities any student whose damage of school property has been serious or chronic in nature. A reward may be offered by the Board for the apprehension and of any person who vandalizes school property. R.C. 2151.272, 2151.411, 3109.09, 3313.173, 3313.642

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION

The purpose of co-curricular activities is to provide students with the opportunity to have wholesome and meaningful experiences outside the classroom. Those who choose to participate are usually more prepared to enter adult life, with broad interests. Students are encouraged to participate in one or more activity, as they become eligible and when the activity is available.

Students participating in home or away co-curricular activities after school or in the evening must be in attendance at least one-half of the school day on the day of the event or they need to obtain administrator approval.

All students under out-of-school suspension are not permitted to attend or participate in any co-curricular activities in or out of the district that are scheduled during the suspension period. This includes weekend events, activities, practices and/or games.

CORE PLUS

Core Plus More (CPM) is a class period designed to provide intervention for students who need extra help. The goal is to help students successfully perform on grade level in both math and reading. Students are placed in CPM based on data/information from the following: IReady scores, state test scores, grades, teacher recommendations. Students will remain in Core Plus for the entire school year. During this time students work in small groups with the teacher on various skills. For example, during Language Arts CPM, students receive intervention from a program called i-Ready, as well as small group direct instruction and independent work as determined by the students goal and data. During Math CPM, students receive instruction that focuses on pre-teaching and/or reteaching for lessons and standards covered in their regular math classes. When students are not working in a small group with the teacher, they will be doing one or more of the following rotations:

- Front loading of skills and standards
- Grade check/goal setting
- Organizing binders/materials
- Reading to self-sustained silent reading
- Study with a partner/make flashcards/study guides to study for upcoming tests
- Computer work- math facts or online remedial lessons
- Working on writing from class assignments or free writing
- Word work which may include games such as Boggle
- Working with an Intervention Assistant on class work
- Working on class assignments/homework independently

COUNTERFEIT "LOOK-ALIKE" DRUGS

House Bill 535, amended section 2929.01, and enacted section 2935.37 (Ohio Revised Code) prohibit making, selling, and possessing counterfeit drugs and related tools. Statutes provide severe criminal penalties for the sale or possession of so-called "look-alike" drugs, when sold as controlled substances, or falsely represented to be a different type of illegal drug. Section 3 of the act requires each board of education to develop a method of conveying the provisions of this law to all students in the district. Therefore, we are including the provisions of the law in the student handbook and the district calendar for students and their parents.

Specifically, the laws deal with counterfeit controlled substances, which are defined in amended Section 2925.01 (P) of the Ohio Revised Code to mean any of the following:

- Any drug or drug container or label that bears a trademark, trade name or other identifying mark used without the owner of the rights to such trademark's authorization.
- Any unmarked or unlabeled substance that is represented to be a controlled substance that is manufactured, processed, packed, or distributed by a person other than the person with legal rights to manufacture, process, pack or distribute it.
- Any substance that is represented to be a controlled substance but is not a controlled substance or is a different substance.
- Any substance other than a controlled substance that a reasonable person would believe to be a controlled substance because of its markings, label, packaging, distribution, or the price for which it is sold or offered for sale.

A controlled substance is defined as a drug, compound, mixture or substance included in Schedule I, II, III, IV, or V (Ohio Administrative Code 4729-11). Included in these schedules are narcotics such as amphetamines, depressants, and hallucinogens, as well as any other types of drugs. This also includes the possession or use of electronic cigarettes. Violation of counterfeit, controlled substances laws can result in maximum fines ranging from \$1000 to \$5000, and a possible maximum prison term ranging from 6 months to 10 years.

Students involved in any infraction dealing with counterfeit, "look-alike" drugs will be subject to suspension/expulsion procedures, consequences, and referral to law enforcement authorities.

DELAYED START DAYS

Due to inclement weather the district will determine a Delayed Start. This is to allow roads to be treated and for students to be safely transported to school. Please note your child's bus and school start time will both be delayed. Students and families will be notified by All Call, ACS Facebook and Twitter. The following TV stations : Channels 3,5,9,19, and 1022. Radio Stations: WDPN 1310, WHBC 1480. WHBC 94.1

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

ACS provides teachers and support staff on-going professional development throughout the school year. On Early Dismissal Days all students will be served lunch and dismissed at 12:20 Please see the following dates:

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

It is the policy of Alliance City Schools to provide an equal education opportunity for all students. Any person who believes that the school or any staff person has discriminated against a student on the basis of race, color, creed, disability, religion, gender, ancestry, national origin, place of residence within the boundaries of the District, or social or economic background, has the right to file a complaint. A formal complaint can be made in writing to the School District's Compliance Officer, Mr. Jason Dixon, at 200 Glamorgan St., Alliance, OH, 44601. The complaint will be investigated and a response, in writing, will be given to the concerned person within 10 days. The Compliance Officer can provide additional information concerning access to equal opportunity. Under no circumstance will the District threaten or retaliate against anyone who raises or files a complaint.

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate to the school environment and does not cause disruption to the academic process. Research has shown a correlation between appearance and behavior, especially in the school setting. Cleanliness and appropriateness are the two most important aspects of personal appearance. While the standard of cleanliness is rather obvious, the standard of appropriateness raises some questions. What is appropriate for a formal occasion relative to what the activity is and the activity's purpose. In the District, the activity is education and the purpose is learning.

To assist parents, students, staff, and administrators, general guidelines for appropriate dress and appearance include the following:

- Parents and students maintain responsibility for their dress and personal appearance.
- Any dress or grooming which interferes with the cleanliness, health, welfare, or safety of students, or when any dress or grooming disrupts the educational process by being distracting, indecent, or inappropriate to the educational process, is prohibited.
- Sponsors and teachers of elective programs or elective activities (such as sports, music or clubs) may require more strict standards regarding dress and appearance for participants in their program or activity.
- The principal, with the assistance of the staff, has the responsibility of uniformly administering the dress code. The decision of the principal is final.
- As new trends in fashion or dress are accepted or become out of date, the District reviews the changing standards of the community served.

In order to minimize misunderstanding in terms of what is appropriate for the District, the following regulations will define appropriate standards for dress while at school or school sponsored activities:

1. No shorts or mini skirts that end above mid-thigh.
2. No shirts or blouses that expose the midriff or come off the shoulder.
3. No Spaghetti straps, tube tops, tank tops, mesh tops, sleeveless shirts, shirts worn off the shoulder that expose bra straps, muscle shirts, half shirts or any tops that allow bare midriffs .

4. Items which obscure your identity such as hats, bandannas, sunglasses, sweatbands, hoods on the head and headwear are not permitted to be worn in the building during the school day. Head coverings for religious purposes are permissible.
5. No dress that promotes hate, violence, profanity, vulgar, or negative messages, anything advertising or related to alcohol, tobacco, and drugs or anything sexually explicit.
6. No transparent garments, open mesh garments, or garments with large open sides may be worn without an under liner.
7. No slippers. Shoes or sandals must be worn and must not present a safety hazard.
8. No pajama pants, bike pants, spandex, or tights worn as pants.
9. Hair must be clean, worn out of the eyes, and groomed at all times; free of grooming tools such as picks, rollers, combs, and other such articles.
10. Lower garments are to be worn at waist level; if a belt is worn, it must be of proper length; undergarments are not to be exposed or worn as outerwear.
11. No 'dog collars', spiked bracelets or chains that could be dangerous to persons or destructive to school property.
12. No gang or cult-related items of any kind.
13. No inappropriate and excessively tattered clothing
14. No pants with holes above mid-thigh.
15. No outerwear, coats, blankets, cloaks, etc may be worn during the school day.

Student violations of the dress code can result in removal from class (until the violation can be resolved) and disciplinary action. Parents will be contacted to bring appropriate clothing for their student to change attire.

FAMILY SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Through a partnership with the Stark County Educational Service Center and ACS each school building has a Family Support Specialist (FSS) assigned to each building. The FSS supports students who face obstacles or struggle to be successful in the school setting. This is a collaborative effort with the school, student, and family working together to provide needed support.

GRADING SCALE

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility for providing a system of grading student achievement that can help the student, teachers and parents properly judge how well the student is achieving the goals of the District's program and are consistent throughout all buildings in the District. The Board believes that the District's grading system should be a reliable system and one that ensures each student's grades accurately signify his/her degree of accomplishment of those expected learning outcomes. In some cases, an elective class may issue a Pass (P) /Fail (F) grade, which does not impact final GPA. Board Policy 5421 establishes the grading scale for grades 6-12 as:

Classroom Average	Grade	GPA Value for All Classes		Classroom Average	Grade	GPA Value for All Classes
93-100	A	4		73-77	C	2.2
90-92	A-	3.9		70-72	C-	1.9
88-89	B+	3.5		68-69	D+	1.5
83-87	B	3.2		63-67	D	1.2
80-82	B-	2.9		60-62	D-	0.9
78-79	C+	2.5		59 and below	F	0

GRADING POLICY- Testing Retakes

Students have 3 opportunities to demonstrate mastery of standard.

Students must complete a retake ticket or other teacher directed activity and demonstrate how they are going to prepare for the retake. Teachers pick an Aviator period, lunch period, or other time to facilitate students making up and doing retakes. **Retakes are Mandatory for any student scoring below 70% on an assessment and are not optional for students.** If a student refuses a retake that the student will be referred to administration and the teacher will contact parents.

Grading Policy for math classes

65% Summative- (Retake with up to 90% credit)

25% Formative- (Retake with 100% credit)

10% HW

Grading Policy for all other classes

65% Summative- (Retake with up to 90% credit)

35% Formative- (Retake with 100% credit)

HW is practice

HALLWAYS AND HALL PASSES

Students must have a hall pass and/or planner anytime they are out of the classroom this includes but not limited to restroom, clinic, main office, guidance counselor, etc.. **If a student is found to be in the hallway or other location without permission or a hall pass they will be issued a consequence. Hallway sweeps (building-wide tardy accountability event) may occur periodically and consequences may be enforced.**

HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (HIB)

The Alliance Middle School staff is committed to providing a physically safe and emotionally secure school environment for all students. It is our goal to promote a positive learning climate which emphasizes and recognizes positive behaviors, evokes non-violence, cooperation, teamwork, understanding and acceptance toward all students and staff. Any form of harassment, intimidation and bullying, (aka HIB) behavior, whether in the class, on school property, to and from school or at a school sponsored event, is expressly forbidden. If your child feels a HIB incident has occurred, they need to report it to their grade level counselor and, if necessary, complete a HIB Incident Report. Students found guilty of HIB incidents will meet with an administrator and sign a HIB Safety Plan agreement.

HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC)

Parents/guardians will receive a letter at the beginning of the school year that will enable them to access their child's grades on a daily basis.

This application is accessible by way of the Alliance City Schools website under Parent Information. Please keep in mind that while Alliance Middle School will make every attempt to provide accurate feedback on student progress, grades do not update automatically and must be entered by the teacher. If parents/guardians have questions about their students progress, grades or assignments please contact the teacher.

HOMEWORK POLICY

The Board of Education acknowledges the educational value of out-of-school assignments as extensions of the instructional program of the schools. "Homework" shall refer to those assignments to be prepared outside of the school by the student or independently while in attendance at school.

The guidelines of homework are stated below:

1. Homework should be a properly planned part of the curriculum, extending and reinforcing the learning experience of the school.
2. Homework should help students learn by providing practice in the mastery of skills, experience in data gathering and integration of knowledge, and an opportunity to remediate learning problems.
3. Homework should help develop the student's sense of responsibility by providing an opportunity for the exercise of independent work and judgment.
4. The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments should be based on the ability and needs of the student and take into account other activities which make a legitimate claim on the student's time.
5. As a valid educational tool, homework should be assigned with clear direction and its product carefully evaluated.
6. The schools should recognize the role of parents by suggesting ways in which parents can assist the school in helping a student carry out assigned responsibilities.
7. Homework should always serve a valid learning purpose and should never be used as a punitive measure.

iCARE TEAM

iCare teams are available for all students and families to ensure that academic, behavioral, and social programs and services meet students' individual needs to achieve their best potential. Teams are comprised of teachers, staff, administrators, and community agencies. The Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Mental Health are supporters of Ohio's Stark County CARE Team Initiative (iCARE)

LATE WORK POLICY

Students will have an opportunity to turn in late or missing assignments for partial credit as follows:

- For assignments that are turned in on the following school day, the student will receive a minimum of 75% of the assigned grade or higher.
- For assignments that are turned in two (2) or more school days after the due date but within the same marking period, the student will receive a minimum of 50% of the assigned grade or higher.

LOST AND FOUND

Students should be sure to write your name on your personal possessions. If items are lost, students should check with their various teachers and make repeated trips to the “Lost and Found” area located in the school cafeteria during designated times (during the student’s lunch period or before/after school)

LOCKERS

Lockers are the property of the Alliance Board of Education. The locker and the contents are subject to random searches by school personnel at any time without regard to any reasonable suspicion. Students may be disciplined for any item that is found in their locker that is prohibited by the student Code of Conduct. Students should be sure their locker is always secured (never preset the locker combination and keep the combination confidential). Under no circumstances should students share lockers or combinations. The lockers are designed and assigned in order to keep personal belongings and school materials safe. Students are responsible for the appearance and condition of the lockers. At no time, should students have food or beverages in their lockers. Broken locks should be reported immediately to the school office. Use of tapes, glue, paints, inappropriate pictures, and/or lettering is prohibited. Students will be required to make monetary restitution for any damage.

MEDICATION

All medications, prescription or over-the-counter drugs, must be checked into the clinic. Medications must be in a new/unopened container. Students are NOT allowed to carry ANY type of medication, i.e. cough drops, eye drops, aspirin, Tylenol, Orajel, inhalers, and etc. unless issued through the Nurse’s office, Parent permission forms must be on file to have medication stored in the clinic. There are no exceptions to the policy. **Unauthorized possession of medications will result in disciplinary action.**

NURSES OFFICE (Clinic)

The school district employs a nurse who is on duty at the middle school. Parents must provide the school with unopened bottle/packages of over the counter medications, which they wish their child to receive. Parents also need to sign a permission form if their child is on medication that requires administration during the school day. All medication taken at the Middle School must be kept in the clinic. **Students are required to have a signed pass or planner to visit the Nurse’s Office**

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH & BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Alliance City Schools participates in the National School Lunch and Breakfast program. Beginning in school year 2016, Alliance schools were approved for the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). The CEP is a Federal program that allows us to offer meals at No Cost to all of our students and provides funding to help support the cost of the Food Service Program. Alliance City Schools follows the Offer versus Serve policy sponsored by the USDA. Offer vs. Serve is intended to decrease waste and costs by allowing students to refuse up to two components in a lunch and one component in a breakfast. The lunch components consist of a meat/meat alternative (cheese, beans or yogurt), grain (bread, rice, or noodles), vegetable, fruit, and milk. The breakfast components consist of an entrée, fruit/juice and milk. All students are required to take a fruit or vegetable when buying lunch.

Pay-For-It

Our Point of Sale system is setup to take credit/debit cards and electronic checks via the Pay-For-It system found at www.payforit.net. An account needs to be set-up for your child(ren) using their PIN (student ID) number. This system will allow you to view the purchases your child(ren) have made for the past 14 days as well as allow you to add money to their account. The system can also send email reminders of your child’s account balance when you set up the information. You do not have to pay online to view your child’s account.

Point of Sale Software

Food services operate under a Point of Sale (POS) system, which means EVERY student must type in their student ID number (PIN) in order to purchase any items. Under POS, each student has an account and the correct amount is removed (debited) from the account when the child purchases an item. Parents are encouraged to send money in the form of checks to be placed on student accounts or on our on-line payment

system (see pay-for- it above). Please place the child's name or PIN number in the memo portion of the check. All money left on the account at the end of the school year, stays with the student and will transfer to the next grade. Refunds are only granted if a student withdraws from the school district. Please contact the Food Services Dept for any questions.

PRICING

Breakfast- No Cost/Adult- \$2.00

Elementary, Middle, and High School Lunches – No Cost

Extra Entrée \$1.50

Extra Milk- \$0.50

Adult Lunch- \$3.00

Charge Policy

Should our No Cost Meals change, Alliance City Schools will allow a child to charge a meal in the event that the child forgets his/her lunch money. At this time, we do not allow charging for a la carte items. Please set-up an account in the Pay-For- It system to view your child's balance and purchases in order limit your child from having to charge. Grades Pre-K-5 are permitted to charge a total of three meals with a letter accompanying the child home, explaining that a charge took place. Grades 6-8 only three charges permitted per year with a letter accompanying the child home. There will be no charging at the High School. All charges must be paid in full prior the Memorial Day holiday. There is no charging permitted after the Memorial Day holiday.

Special Dietary Needs and Food Allergies

Food Service is happy to accommodate students with special dietary needs and food allergies within our abilities. Students must provide written medical documentation from the treating physician in order to provide for this accommodation. This documentation must include, but is not limited to, a statement of the allergy, what dietary changes from the traditional school meal are necessary, what specific foods must be omitted or substituted and what dietary items can be used to replace the items. This documentation should be given to the school nurse. We are unable to substitute any item for milk except in the case of an allergy or disability according to the USDA and the Ohio Department of Education [USDA Final Rule Fluid Milk Substitutions in the School Nutrition Program (73 FR 52903)]. We will provide a cup and water to any student that asks, as well as sell bottled water and juice cups a la carte. This Institution is an equal opportunity provider.

NON DISCRIMINATION POLICY

In accordance with all federal, state, and local laws Alliance City Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age, religion, military status ancestry, genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes"), or any other legally protected category, in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. (In accordance with Policy 4122). Alliance City Schools Section 504 Coordinator is Mrs. Jane Stoner and the Title IX Coordinator is Mr. Jason Dixon, 200 Glamorgan St. Alliance, OH 44601.

OLWEUS BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program is the most researched and well-known bullying prevention program available today. It is a whole school program that has been proven to prevent and reduce bullying in the school setting. It is used at the school, classroom, and individual levels and includes methods to reach out to parents and the community for involvement and support. School administrators, teachers, and other staff are primarily responsible for introducing and implementing the program. These efforts are designed to improve peer relations and make the school a safer and more positive place for students to learn and develop. The goals of the program are to reduce existing bullying problems among students, to prevent the development of new bullying problems, to achieve better peer relations at school. For questions about the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, please contact Alliance Middle School counselor Katina Parks.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONCERNS

Concerns about school policies or practices are best resolved by addressing them at the level where the concern originated through communication with the appropriate staff members. Please contact our office to schedule an appointment with a teacher, an administrator, or the counselors. Walk-in requests for meetings will be considered, but may or may not be possible.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

PROMOTION

In order to be promoted, the student must successfully earn a minimum of three points and passing grades in the majority of the core academic subjects for two or more of the nine week grading periods. The required core academic subjects for 6th-8th graders are: English/Language Arts, Science, Mathematics, and Social Studies. In determining earned grade points the following scale will be used:

A=4 points B=3 points C=2 points D=1 point F= 0 points

RETENTION

Failure to successfully earn a minimum of three points and passing grades in the majority of the core academic subjects for two or more of the nine week grading periods. Students that exhibit habitual or chronic truancy may be retained. The required core academic subjects are English/Language Arts or Humanities, Science, Mathematics, and Social Studies. In determining earned grade points the following scale will be used:

A=4 points B=3 points C=2 points D=1 point F= 0 points

RETENTION PROTOCOL

- If a student is being considered for retention a meeting will be held with the principal, guidance counselor, teacher, and parent(s)
- If a student has “failed” the school year, a retention letter will be mailed and the student will have to attend summer school.
- Students must successfully complete summer school earning at least in a C in the classes they failed during the school year.
- If a student “fails” or does not attend summer school, he or she may be retained.
- If retained, the student may have a modified schedule or placement with non-traditional learning strategies to address students needs and gaps in learning (the student will also be considered for Navigators/Excel program)
- After each grading period, the administration will re-evaluate the schedule and placement of the student to determine if the academic, behavior, and attendance requirements have been met to issue placement to the next grade level.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Registration for courses is a most important part of a student's educational experience. Constant care and consideration must be given to selecting the schedule that will best prepare the student for post middle school plans. When students select their courses, this affects the total master schedule of the school, staffing, and textbook needs. Therefore, schedule changes will be made only when absolutely necessary. **No requests for specific teachers or lunch periods will be honored unless for valid academic concerns.**

Students are encouraged to meet with their school counselor if they have any questions regarding schedule changes by filling out a request to see. Parents/guardians are also encouraged to call the school if they have schedule concerns.

Once school has begun, a student's request to drop or add a class will be considered only during the first ten school days of the first nine-week grading period of school.

SCHOOL BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental Health Services are provided for individual and family counseling, case management, and consultation to student and families the goal is for positive changes in a student's academic performance and decreases in disciplinary issues.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

School counselors are here for you when you need to discuss class schedules, problems or concerns, but you must first complete a “Request To See” form, the online “AMS Speak Up” form on the Alliance Middle School website, or receive a pass from a teacher to visit your counselor. Your parent/guardian may also contact the counselors by phone or in person.

* In the event of an emergency outside of the school day, please contact the Crisis Center at (330) 452-6000.

SCHOOL DANCES

Dances shall be regulated by the school administration. The school will be responsible and rule on the type of dance, proper style and environment. Only students who attend Alliance Middle School may attend dances. Once a student enters the dance, he/she may not leave the building; if the student does, he/she may not return to the dance, and the parent/guardian will be notified. A student must be in attendance during the school day to attend the dance at night. Students who are suspended from school or are on “Social Probation” are not permitted to attend any co-curricular activities.

SOCIAL PROBATION

Social Probation means that a student **MAY NOT** attend any Alliance City School sponsored or related function as a spectator. This includes, but is not limited to, clubs, athletics, competitions, dances, and trips. A student may be placed on Social Probation as a result of academic, attendance, or disciplinary reasons.

A student will be placed on Social Probation for the following academic, attendance or disciplinary:

1. Combination of two or more D's and/or F's at the end of a grading period/quarter.

If a student is placed on Social Probation for academic reasons, Social Probation will start at the beginning of the next quarter and last until the quarter ends.

2. Seven or more absences from school at the end of a grading period/quarter.

If a student is placed on Social Probation for attendance reasons, Social Probation will start at the beginning of the next grading period/quarter and last until the grading period/ quarter ends.

Absences for school related activities e.g. field trips, and/or athletic participation, will not count against the student for Social Probation. Absences for which students have a doctor's excuse will not count.

3. Five or more Take 5 referrals during a grading period/quarter.

If a student is placed on Social Probation for Take 5 referrals, Social probation will start the following day and will last for 9 weeks from that date.

4. Three or more days of Out-of-School Suspension

If a student is placed on Social Probation for 3 or more days of out-of-school suspension, Social Probation will start when he/she comes back to school from suspension and will last for 9 weeks from that date.

5. Administrator discretion.

If students are not following building expectations an administrator may place the student on social probation for the remainder of that sports season.

* If a student violates Social Probation by attending an after school event, he/she will be on Social Probation for an additional grading period/quarter.

If a student is placed on Social Probation for academic reasons (Combination of two or more D's and/or F's at the end of a grading period/quarter), Social Probation will start at the beginning of the next quarter and last until the quarter ends (9 weeks).

If a student is placed on Social Probation for attendance reasons (7 or more absences or tardies at the end of a grading period/quarter), Social Probation will start at the beginning of the next quarter and last until the quarter ends (9 weeks).

If a student is placed on Social Probation for disciplinary reasons (3 or more days of suspension during a grading period/quarter, or disruptive/noncompliant behavior at an extracurricular event), Social Probation will start when he/she comes back to school from suspension or the day after the event and will last for 9 weeks from that date. Social Probation may carry over to the following school year.

A student who has a combination of two or more D's and/or F's, and/or 3 or more days of suspension during the 4th grading period/quarter will be on Social Probation during the 1st grading period/quarter the following school year.

STUDY TABLE (After school academic assistance)

Academic Intervention for all students who have earned D's and/or F's in both their ELA and Math classes on their Interim Report and/or Report Card. Students will automatically be enrolled in the Navigators Program until the next Interim Reports or Report Cards are released. Program will run Monday through Wednesday, 2:30 PM-3:15 PM in accordance with the Navigator schedule. Students in attendance will receive a snack prior to the start of academic intervention. At 3:15 PM, students may go home via parent pick up, walk home, attend athletic practice or stay for the two other Navigators blocks ending at 4:45 PM. Transportation home is provided at 4:45 PM at the conclusion of Navigators if enrolled in the program. It's highly recommended your child attend the rest of the Navigators Program to take advantage of the other great classes offered.

Tutoring Expectations:

1. Intervention tutoring is an extension of the school day. All school rules apply.

2. Students must attend all 3 days of intervention tutoring.

3. Students must remain in intervention tutoring for the entire time scheduled (2:30-3:15).

TITLE I

Alliance City School parents may request policies regarding student participation in state mandated assessments as well as information on each assessment. Please see your building principal for this information and/or BOE Policy #po2623. Information on mandated State Assessments can also be found at the following website web address: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing>.

TITLE IX

The Alliance City School District has developed policies that focus on the right of pupils and the right to participate in academic, athletic, and any other extra curricular activities without regard to sex, race, color, national origin or disability.

VALUABLES

Items of great personal or monetary value shouldn't be brought to school. Personal valuables such as purses, cell phones, watches, wallets, electronics, clothes, etc. should always be secured in your locker when not in use. Alliance Middle School is not responsible for lost, missing, or stolen items.

ALLIANCE CITY SCHOOLS STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE OF CONDUCT

The Alliance Board of Education recognizes the rights of students as individuals and therefore seeks to balance and protect those rights by establishing the rules and regulations necessary to create a suitable curricular climate as well as a suitable co-curricular climate. Students in Alliance City Schools have the responsibility to act in such a way as not to interfere with the right of others to the same educational opportunity. By accepting the right to participate in school programs on or off school property, the students shall also accept the responsibility to conduct themselves accordingly to the rules, regulations, and provisions governing the operation of these programs.

Enforcement of the Code of Conduct: All school personnel are charged with the responsibility to enforce proper discipline. A variety of techniques and methods are employed to enforce the Student Code of Conduct. It is easy to punish, but more difficult to change behavior. Efforts are designed to change the negative behaviors and to enable students to learn respect, responsibility, self-discipline, and a positive attitude for learning. The building Administrator has the discretionary authority to use or authorize other school personnel to use the following disciplinary measures. The order of this listing does not connote a procedural order or degree of severity.

Some disciplinary measures which may be used are: student conferences, parent conferences, detentions, reduced schedule (shortened school day), behavior contracts, before or after school detentions, financial restitution, restricted lunch, exclusion from school programs or events, or special programs (before, during, and after school). Some behaviors require a removal from the classroom as a means of limiting the disruption of school for other students. In other cases, behavior may be so severe and intolerable that out of school suspension, emergency removal, expulsion, and/or police referral may be necessary.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The following descriptions are potential consequences for violations of the student code of conduct. In addition to the consequences specified here, school officials may notify law enforcement and document the violation on the student's discipline card. In addition consequences are progressive over the course of the school year meaning that if the behavior continues the consequence will move systematically. While this list is extensive it is not exclusive and administration reserves the right to modify and determine the appropriate consequence.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Student Code of Conduct describes the misconduct that will lead to disciplinary action and procedures to be employed in the removal, suspension, and expulsion of students. The Code of Conduct is provided in the Student Handbook and posted in a central location within the school. Types of misconduct for which a student may be suspended, expelled, and/or removed from school or from school sponsored supervised activities are as follows:

1. Aiding or Abetting Violation of School Rules: If a student assists another student in violating any school rule, he/she will be disciplined. Students are expected to resist peer pressure and exercise sound decision-making regarding their behavior. At no time should a student lie, mislead, or withhold information regarding any problems or other actions that are in violation of school rules.

First Offense: Principal/Student conference, Detention, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Subsequent Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

2. Alcoholic Beverages, Drugs, or Other Look-Alike Substances – Possessing, using, selling, buying, transmitting, or secreting an alcoholic beverage, intoxicant, narcotic, or hallucinogenic drug, marijuana, barbiturate, amphetamine, related drugs or look-alike substances, or related paraphernalia or intoxicant on school property, including Board of Education owned vehicles, or while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored and supervised activities is not permitted. (Students will be referred for assessment and the police authorities may be notified.) Proper use of a drug authorized by a medical prescription from a registered physician shall not be considered a violation of this rule.

First Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion, law enforcement officials may be notified.

Subsequent Offense: 10 days out-of-school suspension with recommendation for expulsion, law enforcement officials may be notified.

3. Cheating – Plagiarism and cheating are forms of falsification and subject the student to academic penalties as well as disciplinary action. Cheating is prohibited and may result in a zero (no credit, no points) being recorded for the article of work involved. Additional penalty may also be given.

First Offense: Nullification of the forged document or assignment, Principal/Student conference, Detention, SIL

Subsequent Offense: Detention, SIL, 1 day out-of-school suspension.

4. Criminal Acts – Any criminal acts toward or related to the school will be reported to law enforcement officials and students will be disciplined by the school. It is not considered double jeopardy (being tried twice for the same crime) when school rules and the law are violated.

First Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion, law enforcement officials may be notified.

Subsequent Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension with possible recommendation for expulsion, law enforcement officials may be notified.

5. Disrespect – Willful intimidation, insult, or other abuse, verbally or written, of school personnel or other students is not conducive to learning and will not be permitted.

First Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 day out of school suspension

Subsequent Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

6. Disruption – Engaging in any conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption of any school function or activity is prohibited. This includes conduct that interferes or creates a reasonable likelihood that it will interfere with the health, safety, or well being of the rights of the other students. Some examples include running, throwing an object, horseplay, littering, being persistently unprepared for classes, eating food in classes, note writing, failure to follow rules established in the classroom, and other disruptive actions as determined by the Principal.

First Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 day out of school suspension

Subsequent Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

7. Electronic Devices and Communication Devices – No students shall be permitted to use electronic communication devices such as pagers, beepers, or cell phones during school hours. Devices that are confiscated may not be returned until the end of the school year.

First Offense: Loss of User Privileges, confiscation of the device, Detention, SIL, out of school suspension, restitution

Subsequent Offense: Loss of User Privileges, confiscation of the device, Detention, SIL, out of school suspension, restitution

8. False Alarms and/or Inducing Panic – The act of initiating a fire alarm or initiating a report warning of a fire or an impending bombing or other catastrophe without cause is a violation of state law and is subject to discipline by the school and possible contact of police authorities. (Reference: Ohio Revised Code)

First Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension, Restitution if appropriate.

Subsequent Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension with possible recommendation for expulsion. Restitution if appropriate.

9. Fighting – Hostile contact toward a student or other person associated with the District that may or may not cause injury is inappropriate. The act of hostile bodily contact among two or more students in or on school property, including Board of Education owned vehicles, or while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored activity, which is likely to result in physical harm, and/or a substantial disruption will not be

tolerated for any reason. Any fight may result in police charges being filed. Most fights can be stopped if the students involved will simply inform a staff member of the pending problem. Rarely is a fight spontaneous. Usually, several students are aware of a situation that may lead to a fight before it occurs. These students are responsible for making the problem known to the school staff. Additionally, any students who instigate a fight will be disciplined accordingly.

First Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension and/or recommendation for expulsion
Subsequent Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension and/or recommendation for expulsion

10. Fire – The unauthorized use of any fire while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored activity or on Board of Education property or vehicles is not permitted. Anything, such as fire, that endangers school property and its occupants will not be tolerated.

First Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension with possible recommendation for expulsion. Restitution if appropriate.
Subsequent Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension with possible recommendation for expulsion. Restitution if appropriate.

11. Forgery – Forgery is the act of falsely using, in writing, the name of another person, or falsifying times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms, or correspondence directed to the school. Using another student’s planner is a violation of this rule. Forgery of hall/bus passes and excuses or false identification are not acceptable.

First Offense: Nullification of the forged document or assignment, Principal/Student conference, Detention, SIL,
Subsequent Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

12. Gambling – The act of illegal gambling for money or valuables on school premises or at school events is prohibited. Gambling includes casual betting, betting pools, organized sports betting, any other form of wagering, or activities/items that promote gambling. Students who bet on an activity in which they are involved will be disciplined and may be banned from that activity.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1 day out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 day out of school suspension

13. Grooming and Attire/Violation of Dress Code – Dress or appearance that constitutes a threat to the student’s health or safety, disrupts the educational process, damages school property, or is blatant exhibitionism shall be prohibited. (See District Dress Code for further explanation.)

First Offense: Detention ,SIL,
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1 day out of school suspension

14. Harassment –Every individual deserves to be able to come to school without fear of demeaning remarks or actions. The harassment of other students or members of staff, or any other individuals is not permitted. Harassment is any speech or action that creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive learning environment. Physical, verbal, or sexual harassment on the basis of religion, race, ethnicity, gender, age, and or disability will not be tolerated. Some forms of sexual harassment of a student by another student may be considered a form of child abuse, which requires that the student-abuser be reported to proper authorities in compliance with State law.

First Offense: Principal/Student conference, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Principal/Student conference, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion

15. Hazing – No student, including, but not limited to, leaders of student organizations shall plan, encourage, or engage in the hazing of any person. As used in this policy, “hazing,” means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person.

First Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension
Subsequent Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion

16. Inciting Others to Violence or Disruption – Students will be disciplined if they by words, acts, or deeds directly incite others to commit violence or a disruption to the atmosphere of order and discipline necessary for effective learning.

First Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension
Subsequent Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion

17. Insubordination – Insubordination is the non compliance of directions or reasonable requests made by any school authority, including intentional interference with a teacher’s conducting of the class or failure to identify oneself to school personnel when requested.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 day out of school suspension

Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

18. Loitering and Trespassing – Although schools are public facilities, the law does allow the school to restrict access on school property. When a student has been removed, suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded, the student is not allowed on school property without authorization of the Principal. Willful presence in a school building or a restricted area of a school building at unauthorized times is also be considered trespassing and subject to discipline.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 day out of school suspension

Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

19. Misuse of the Internet – Students are expected to comply with Board Policy regarding use of technology and Internet services. Using technology to access, view, possess, or transmit offensive or slanderous materials is not acceptable.

First Offense: Loss of User Privileges, confiscation of the device,Detention ,SIL, out of school suspension, restitution

Subsequent Offense: Loss of User Privileges, confiscation of the device,Detention ,SIL, out of school suspension, restitution

20. Offensive, Violent. or Sexual Materials/Actions – Possessing, using, selling, buying, transmitting, doing, and secreting any of the following is not permitted: Materials or actions, which appeal predominantly to base or other prurient sexual interests, which are offensive to prevailing standards in the community, and which are without redeeming social value. OR Materials or actions, which contain language offensive to prevailing community standards. OR Materials which are lies or slanderous to any person or institute, or which are intended to hold any student, teacher, or other employee, race, ethnic group, or religion, as such, up to scorn, ridicule, or contempt.

First Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension

Subsequent Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion

21. Persistent and/or Expanded Misbehavior – Students who repeatedly violate school rules are showing a blatant disregard for the right of other students to receive a quality education. This will result in the acceleration of the typical system of disciplinary consequences. The student could be suspended or expelled for repeated violations of regulations governing student conduct.

First Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension

Subsequent Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion

22. Physical Attack and/or Threat Thereof – The act of physically assaulting or threatening to assault any person on school property, including Board of Education owned vehicles or while in attendance at any Board of Education sponsored activity is prohibited. A student shall not by words, acts, or deeds threaten to commit, or have committed, acts of violence against persons or property. Statements of threat are considered acts of violence with intent to affect the welfare and safety of others. Threats are taken seriously and will not be condoned.

First Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension

Subsequent Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion

23. Possession of Fireworks or Explosives – Explosives, fireworks, and chemical reaction objects such as smoke bombs, small firecrackers, and poppers are dangerous and forbidden. The act of unauthorized possession, use, or threatened use of any fireworks, explosives, or other such instruments capable of inflicting bodily injury will not be tolerated.

First Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension

Subsequent Offense: SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion

24. Possession or Use of Weapons – The act of transporting, possessing, using, or threatening to use a weapon will not be tolerated. A weapon includes conventional objects like guns, pellet guns, knives, or club-type implements. It may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. Students who violate this rule will be suspended and may be recommended for expulsion. Criminal charges will be filed for this violation.

First Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion, law enforcement officials may be notified.

Subsequent Offense: 1-10 days out-of-school suspension possible recommendation for expulsion, law enforcement officials may be notified.

25. Profanity – The use of profane or obscene language or gestures is not acceptable.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 day out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

26. Public Display of Affection (PDA) – Public display of affection is not permitted. Demonstration of affection is personal and not meant for public display. This includes touching, petting, or any other contact that may be considered sexual in nature.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

27. Refusing to Accept Discipline – The school may use informal discipline to prevent the student from being removed from school. When a student refuses to accept the usual discipline for an infraction, the refusal can result in sterner action. This includes refusing to take a detention slip from a staff member, throwing the detention slip away or refusing to serve a detention.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

28. Sale of Articles – Students may not sell or offer for sale within the school or on school grounds any articles or services to fellow students or employees, or solicit contribution of such persons. This is not to be interpreted as a restriction of approved school fundraising activities.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

29. Shakedown and/or Strong Arm – Extortion is the use of threat, intimidation, force, or deception to take, or receive something from someone else and it is against the law. Students who engage in the act of extortion or borrowing or attempting to borrow any money or thing of value from a person in the school, upon Board of Education owned vehicles, or while in attendance at a Board of Education sponsored activity, unless both parties enter into the agreement freely and without the presence of either implied or expressed threat, will be disciplined and authorities may be contacted.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

30. Theft – Theft is the act of taking or acquiring the property of others without their consent including personal or school belongings, testing/evaluation materials and school forms (building passes, etc.). When a student is caught stealing school or someone's property, he/she will be disciplined and may be reported to law enforcement officials. Students are encouraged not to bring anything of value that is not needed for learning to school without prior authorization from the Principal. The school is not responsible for personal property.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension, law enforcement officials may be notified.
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension, law enforcement officials may be notified.

31. Tobacco – The use or possession of tobacco or tobacco products, on school premises or at school-sponsored functions, including Board of Education owned vehicles is prohibited.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

32. Truancy and/or Persistent Tardiness – Ohio attendance laws require students to be in school all day or have a legitimate excuse for absence. Excessive tardiness to school, excessive tardiness to class, truancy from school, truancy from class, and truancy from detention are considered violations of this rule and subject to discipline.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension
Subsequent Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension

33. Use of an Object as a Weapon – Any object that is used to threaten or harm another may be considered a weapon. This includes, but is not limited to, padlocks, pens, pencils, chairs, jewelry, and so on or an object converted from its original use to an object used to threaten or injure another. Students who violate this rule will be suspended and may be recommended for expulsion. Police charges may be filed for this violation.

First Offense: Detention ,SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion.
Subsequent Offense: SIL, 1-10 out of school suspension, possible recommendation for expulsion, law enforcement officials may be notified.

34. Vandalism and/or Destruction of Property – The act or attempted act or willful destruction or defacement of school or private property either on school grounds, or during a school activity, function, or off-site school event will be cause for discipline by the school and possible contact of police authorities.

First Offense: Detention, SIL, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension, Restitution if appropriate.

Subsequent Offense:1-10 days out-of-school suspension with possible recommendation for expulsion. Restitution if appropriate.

35. Violation of Bus Rules – Students are expected to comply with bus rules. Rules for the bus include the following: no throwing any object inside or outside of the bus; no body parts hanging outside a window or door; no consumption of food or beverages; riders must remain seated until the driver gives permission to leave; using the emergency exit door without permission; and leaving or boarding a bus at locations other than the assigned stop unless parental and administrative authorization has been given. Students may be denied bus privileges for not following the bus rules.

First Offense: Principal/Student conference,Detention, SIL,,Bus Suspension, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension, Restitution if appropriate.

Subsequent Offense: Principal/Student conference,Detention, SIL, Bus Suspension, Loss of Bus privileges, 1-10 days out-of-school suspension, Restitution if appropriate.

NOTE: If a student is told to report to or go to the Office by any staff person or school personnel, including teachers, secretaries, custodians, cafeteria workers, or administrators, they should do so immediately without discussion or argument. Explanations can be given after the student reaches the Office at the appropriate time. It is the student’s responsibility to deliver all communications concerning discipline and other school business to their parent.

Emergency Removal By Administrator

If a student’s presence and behavior poses a continuing danger to persons or property or is an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process taking place either within a classroom or elsewhere on the school premises the Superintendent, Principal, or Assistant Principal may without notice or hearing, remove the student from the school premises, curricular or co-curricular activity.

If it is intended that the student be removed for more than twenty-four (24) hours, within three school days after the initial removal, the student shall be given written notice and provided with a due process hearing. If it is probable the student is going to be recommended for expulsion, the due process hearing shall be held in accordance with the established procedures outlined by the Ohio Statutes.

NOTES

STUDENT HANDBOOK ADDENDUM

The Alliance Board of Education, based on the best available scientific evidence and recommendations, believes that, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the wearing of masks by students is a critical part of the layering of protection which also includes the washing of hands and physical distancing. Since physical distancing may not always be possible in a school setting, the wearing of masks becomes even more important.

Acknowledging the importance of following protocols to attempt to reduce the likelihood of infection of students and staff, the Board requires students to wear a mask on the bus, in the building, classroom(s) and at other times deemed necessary by the administration, unless students are unable to do so for a health or developmental reason. Breaks will be determined by the administration or designee.

If no exception is applicable, the student may be reassigned by the Superintendent to an online/virtual learning environment if the Superintendent determines that reassignment is necessary to protect the health and safety of the student and/or others. If the student /parent(s) refuse to participate in the online/virtual learning option, truancy and or disciplinary policies will apply.