

# MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT

210 High School Drive

Mountain View, AR 72560

<http://mountainviewschooldistrict.k12.ar.us>

**2025-2026**

## MIDDLE and HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK:

MOUNTAIN VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

RURAL SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOL

TIMBO HIGH SCHOOL



Mountain View Middle School

210 High School Drive

Mountain View, AR 72560

Grades: 5-8

Principal: Michelle Moody

870 269-4335

<https://www.mvms.k12.ar.us/o/mvms>

Assistant Principal: Ronnie Jones

Mountain View High School

210 High School Drive

Mountain View, AR 72560

Grades: 9-12

Principal: Matthew Sullivan

870 269-3943

<https://www.mvhs.k12.ar.us/o/mvhs>

Assistant Principal: Ashley Dearien

Rural Special High School

13237 HWY 263

Fox, AR 72051 870 363-4365

Grades: 7-12 <http://ruralspecial.k12.ar.us>

Principal: Tanya Stewart

Timbo High School

23747 HWY 263 North

Timbo, AR 72680 870 746-4303

Grades: 7-12 <http://timbotigers.k12.ar.us>

Principal: Sheila Mitchell

### Mission:

Creating lifetime learners through educational excellence

### Vision:

Cultivating a positive culture where students and staff engage at high levels of achievement in order to become productive members of the community

# Mountain View School District Calendar 2025-2026 SY

## Mountain View School District Calendar



### Mountain View School District Academic Calendar

MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL, RURAL SPECIAL & TIMBO SCHOOLS

2025  
2026

July 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11*	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7*	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19*	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16*	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2*	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14*	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

WEEKENDS AND SUMMER BREAK	*Flex Days:	Inclement Weather/Missed Days:
Professional Development (non-student day)	8/11: PD or No School (no student day)	We have scheduled in 13 hours of student time beyond the required amount. If we miss days (for any reason) we will first use those 13 extra hours. Beyond the 13 extra hours, the following dates will be used to make-up time as necessary: 11/7, 1/19, 2/16, 3/2, 5/14, 5/15 MVSD encourages parents to schedule vacations June 1-August 8.
PD Day & Open House (5-7pm)	11/7: PD (no students) or Make-Up Day	
1 <sup>st</sup> day/Start of the 9 weeks	1/19: No School or Make-Up Day	
Parent Teacher Conference: 3-7pm School Dismissed at 1:40pm	2/16: No School or Make-Up Day	
NO SCHOOL	3/2: PD (no students) or Make-Up Day	Teacher School Day: 7:30am-3:30pm
AAA ATHLETIC DEAD PERIOD	5/14: PD (no students) or Make-Up Day	Student Day: 7:50-3:20=392mins=6.53hrs
Snow/Weather Make-Up Day	1 <sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks: 8/12-10/10=43days=280hrs 2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 Weeks: 10/13-12/19=41days=267hrs	State Required Student Time: 1068hrs

### At First Thought:

Students remember to these rules for a smooth school day:

- For the safety of all, students should respectfully follow all directions given by school staff members.
- Any student who fails to follow all or any part of the assigned schedule, without checking in or out at the school office, will be considered truant. Disciplinary action will be taken.
- Dress appropriately for the school day.

**RECEIPT OF HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

**THE STATEMENT BELOW MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL WITHIN THREE (3) DAYS AFTER ENROLLMENT.**

We have received the Mountain View School District Handbook which includes the District's discipline policies, attendance policies, home study policies, Smart Core Curriculum Policies, extracurricular activity policies, Academic Improvement Plan policies, computer use policies, bus policies, and a summary of the Parental Involvement Plan. We realize that the student must adhere to these and to the other policies, rules, and procedures contained in the Handbook. In the event that we are not entirely certain of some aspects of school policy, we will contact the principal for clarification.

Visitors to the campus are asked to bring a driver's license with them and present it to the office personnel upon entering campus. After the ID is presented, visitors will be issued a temporary badge to wear, which identifies them and where they are going on campus.

I understand that a copy of the student handbook is on the school website.

<http://mountainviewschooldistrict.k12.ar.us>

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

.....  
In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 123g; 34 CFR Part 99)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, give permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_'s

(Parent/Guardian Name)

(First and Last Name)

Personally identifiable information/student education records to be disclosed to a Third Party Billing Agent for the purpose of billing Medicaid and/or private insurance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

## OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION FORM

(Not to be filed if the parent/student has no objection.) (Ref. ASBA 4.13F)

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

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

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

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

Deny disclosure to military recruiters \_\_\_\_

Deny disclosure to Institutions of postsecondary education \_\_\_\_

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

Deny disclosure to all public and school sources \_\_\_\_

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

Deny disclosure to all public sources \_\_\_\_

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the first three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), but permit the student's directory information **to be included** in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

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Name of student (Printed)

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Grade

---

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

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

**STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND INTERNET USE AGREEMENT FORM** Required for each student.  
(Ref. ASBA 4.29F)

**Note:** Signatures required at the end of this form

**Student's Name (Please Print)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade Level** \_\_\_\_\_

**School** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

The Mountain View School District agrees to allow the student identified above ("Student") to use the district's technology to access the Internet under the following terms and conditions which apply whether the access is through a District or student owned electronic device. As used in this Agreement, "electronic device" means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

1. Conditional Privilege: The Student's use of the district's access to the Internet is a privilege conditioned on the Student's abiding to this agreement. No student may use the district's access to the Internet whether through a District or student owned electronic device.
2. Acceptable Use: The Student agrees that he/she will use the District's Internet access for educational purposes only. In using the Internet, the Student agrees to obey all federal and state laws and regulations. The Student also agrees to abide by any Internet use rules instituted at the Student's school or class, whether those rules are written or oral.
3. Penalties for Improper Use: If the Student violates this agreement and misuses the Internet, the Student shall be subject to disciplinary action.
4. "Misuse of the District's access to the Internet" includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - \*using the Internet for other than educational purposes;
  - \*gaining intentional access or maintaining access to materials which are "harmful to minors" as defined by Arkansas law;
  - \*using the Internet for any illegal activity, including computer hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
  - \*making unauthorized copies of computer software;
  - \*accessing "chat lines" unless authorized by the instructor for a class activity directly supervised by a staff member;
  - \*using abusive or profane language in private messages on the system; or using the system to harass, insult, or verbally attack others;
  - \*posting anonymous messages on the system;
  - \*using encryption software;
  - \*wasteful use of limited resources provided by the school including paper;
  - \*causing congestion of the network through lengthy downloads of files;
  - \*vandalizing data of another user;
  - \*obtaining or sending information which could be used to make destructive devices such as guns, weapons, bombs, explosives, or fireworks;
  - \*gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to resources or files;
  - \*identifying oneself with another person's name or password or using an account or password of another user without proper authorization;
  - \*invading the privacy of individuals;
  - \*divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student's academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, address, and phone number.
  - \*using the network for financial or commercial gain without district permission;
  - \*theft or vandalism of data, equipment, or intellectual property;
  - \*attempting to gain access or gaining access to student records, grades, or files;
  - \*introducing a virus to, or otherwise improperly tampering with the system;
  - \*degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance;

- \*creating a web page or associating a web page with the school or school district without proper authorization;
- \*providing access to the District's Internet Access to unauthorized individuals;
- \*failing to obey school or classroom Internet use rules; or
- \*taking part in any activity related to Internet use which creates a clear and present danger of the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the district or any of its schools.
- \*installing or downloading software on district computers without prior approval of the technology director or his/her designee.

5. Liability for debts: Students and their cosigners shall be liable for any and all costs (debts) incurred through the student's use of the computers or access to the Internet including penalties for copyright violations.

6. No Expectation of Privacy: The Student and parent/guardian signing below agree that if the Student uses the Internet through the District's access, that the Student waives any right to privacy the Student may have for such use. The Student and the parent/guardian agree that the district may monitor the Student's use of the District's Internet Access and may also examine all system activities the Student participates in, including but not limited to email, voice, and video transmissions, to ensure proper use of the system. The District may share such transmissions with the Student's parents/guardians.

7. No Guarantees: The District will make good faith efforts to protect children from improper or harmful matters which may be on the Internet. At the same time, in signing this agreement, the parent and Student recognize that the District makes no guarantees about preventing improper access to such materials on the part of the Student.

8. Signatures: We, the persons who have signed below, have read this agreement and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### **PERMISSION TO DISPLAY PHOTO OF STUDENT ON WEB SITE**

I hereby grant permission to the \_\_\_\_\_ School District to display the photograph or video clip of me/my student (if student is under the age of eighteen (18)) on the District's website, including any page on the site, or in other District publications without further notice. I also grant the \_\_\_\_\_ School District the right to edit the photograph or video clip at its discretion.

The student's name may be used in conjunction with the photograph or video clip. It is understood, however, that once the photograph or video clip is displayed on a web site, the District has no control over how the photograph or video clip is used or misused by persons with computers accessing the District's website.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of student (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of student (only necessary if student is over eighteen (18))

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent (required if student is under eighteen (18))

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

## **Parent/Guardian and Student Transportation Agreement 2025-2026 School Year**

For the safety and well-being of all travelers, it would be safer if drivers could concentrate on driving, not discipline. Therefore, it is important to note that **riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right**. For that reason, students are expected to abide by the following school bus rules and regulations:

Be ready when the bus comes to pick you up.

During pick-up and drop-off times, electronics should be turned off and put away.

When you get on the bus, go immediately to a seat and sit down in a bus seat. Ride facing the front.

Do not move around on the bus while it is in motion; stay seated.

Do not throw things, and do not be loud while riding in a school bus.

Talk in a conversational tone only. Never use bad language.

Always pass in front of the bus if you must cross the road.

Do not put your hands and arms outside the windows of the school bus.

Never hit other students.

If you notice an unusual incident on the bus, please notify the driver immediately.

**Incidents that happen at the bus stop are subject to school disciplinary policies.**

**If you fail to follow the rules, you may be suspended from riding the bus.**

### **MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT BUS POLICY**

The school bus discipline code below classifies unacceptable behavior into two classes, with consequences dependent upon grade level. The examples are not exhaustive, but illustrative. Additionally, all consequences are dependent on the severity and frequency of the misbehavior. Your cooperation in obeying all the rules on the bus will make your trip to and from school much more enjoyable.

#### **CLASS I OFFENSE**

1. Eating or drinking on the bus without the bus driver's permission.
2. Out of seat or in the aisle while the bus is in motion.
3. Turned around in a seat.
4. Horseplay, yelling out the bus window, loud noise.
5. Possession of unacceptable material, objects or obscene gestures.
6. Rudeness, improper language.
7. Unauthorized transportation.
8. No Blankets or Pillows without prior approval

#### **CONSEQUENCES CLASS I GRADES K-6**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Offense: Warning/School Discipline
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 1-3 day bus suspension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: 4-7 day bus suspension
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense: 8-10 bus suspension
- 5<sup>th</sup> Offense: Bus suspension for remainder of school year.

#### **CONSEQUENCES CLASS I GRADES 7-12**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Warning or 3 day bus suspension
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 5-7 day bus suspension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: 10 day bus suspension
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense: Bus suspension for remainder of school year

### CLASS II OFFENSE

1. Profanity, verbal abuse and harassment (directed at driver or student).
2. Body parts out of the window (head, hands, legs, etc...).
3. Throwing/shooting any objects (paper, pencil, paper clips, etc). This applies to throwing things inside or outside of the bus.
4. Physical Aggression.
5. Destruction of bus/vandalism (suspension until restitution is made) min. 3 day suspension.
6. Loading or unloading buses improperly or tampering with any portion of the bus.
7. Lighting of matches, fireworks or any flammables.
8. Riding of any bus after being suspended from bus privileges.
9. **Fighting of any kind, treated as a Class II 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> offense.**
10. Other offenses as reported by the driver.
11. Failure to follow driver direction/insubordination.

**\*Possession/use of tobacco, inhalants or vaping devices, controlled substance or firearm:  
ZERO TOLERANCE: Bus suspension for the remainder of the school year.**

#### CONSEQUENCES: Class II Grades K-6

1<sup>st</sup> Offense: 3-5 day bus suspension.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 5-7 day bus suspension.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: 8-10 bus suspension.  
4<sup>th</sup> Offense: Bus suspension for remainder of school year.  
(Subject to Principal's discretion)

#### CONSEQUENCES: Class II Grades 7-12

1<sup>st</sup> Offense: 3-5 day bus suspension.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: 7-10 day bus suspension.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Bus suspension for the remainder of the school year.  
(Subject to Principal's discretion)

The list of above infractions is a limited list of offenses. The building principal may determine that other actions would fit into this category.

If a parent/guardian consistently does not pick up a student, MVSD Resource Officers, local law enforcement, or DHS may be contacted.

Any student that is suspended from the bus must serve all of the days assigned to him/her until all days have been fulfilled regardless of absenteeism.

We, (Student Name)\_\_\_\_\_ and  
(Parent Name) \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the Parent and Student Transportation Agreement and understand that riding the bus is a privilege and bus riding privileges may be revoked, if the student does not follow the rules of the Student Transportation Policy.

Student Name:	Student Signature:	Date:
Parent/Guardian Name:	Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents	Page Number
Signature Pages/ Calendar	1-7
<b>General Information</b>	10
Antisemitism Policy	16
Change of Address and Phone Number	10
Closed Campus	10
Complaint Resolution	12
Emergency Drills	12
Equal Educational Opportunity	10
Interruption of Instruction	15
National Anthem	13
Parent, Family, and Community Engagement: District	16
Parent, Family, and Community Engagement: School	15
Placement of Multiple Birth Siblings	14
Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence	13
Privacy of Student Records/Directory Information	10
School Meals	13
School Meal Modifications	14
Student Name, Title, or Pronoun	17
Student Religious Expression	17
Student Use of Multiple Occupancy Room	18
<b>Admissions</b>	19
Entrance Requirements	19
Home Schooling	27
McKinney Vento Information	29
Permanent Records	28
Residence Requirements	19
Students in Foster Care	28
Student Transfers/ School Choice	22-23
<b>Attendance</b>	31
Absences	31
Attendance (Grades 9-12)	34
Compulsory Attendance Requirements	31
Make- Up Work	33
<b>Academics</b>	35
Arkansas Direct Admissions Program	43
Arkansas Course Choice Program	43
Accelerated Learning	43
Concurrent Credit	42
Grading	38
GT Program Identification Process	41
Homework Policy	37
Smart Core 2026	44
Smart Core 2027	46
Special Education	39
Student Acceleration	40
Student Promotion and Retention/Course Credit	35
Student Use of Artificial Intelligence	40
<b>Health Services</b>	48
Communicable Diseases and Parasites	53
Immunizations	48

Immunization Requirements for Arkansas Schools.	48
Physical Exams or Screenings	53
Student Illness/Accident	52
Student Medications	50
504 Students with Special Health Care Needs	53
<b>Extracurricular Activities</b>	54
Extracurricular Activity Eligibility- Home School Students	57
Extracurricular Activities -Secondary Schools	54
Student Organization- Equal Access	54
<b>Code of Conduct</b>	58
Bullying	68
Conduct To-and-From School/Transportation Eligibility	60
Corporal Punishment	71
Disruption of School	60
Drugs and Alcohol	62
Expulsions	72
Gangs and Gang Activity	63
Laser Pointers	68
Prohibited Conduct	59
Student Assault/ Battery	61
Student Discipline	58
Student Dress and Grooming	63
Student Sex Discrimination/ Sex-Based Harassment	63
Suspension From School	71
Tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems	62
Weapons	61
<b>Additional District Policies</b>	73
Artificial Intelligence Information	73
Contact with Students While at School	75
Curriculum Development	81
Internet Safety and Electronic Devices	76
Planning for Educational Improvement	80
Possession of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices	77
Search, Seizure, and Interrogations	77
Selection of Instructional Materials	81
Student Media and Distribution of Literature	73
Title I Program Policy	82
Video Surveillance and Other Student Monitoring	79
Visitors	74
Student Vehicles	83
Voluntary Drug Test Policy/MVSD Student Chemical Screen Test	83
Transportation Policy	6
Middle and High School Student Behavior Policies	85
Information for Middle School	89
Information for High School	91

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Students are not to arrive at school before 7:30 a.m. Students are to leave school upon the last bell of the day.
- The office phone may be used by students only in case of illness.
- After arriving at school, students are not to re-enter the parking lot except when leaving for the day.
- The Mountain View School District has limited-coverage accident insurance for students during school hours. This insurance is supplementary in nature and should not be expected to pay full costs on an accident. The insurance is provided at no cost to the student, parent and/or guardian.
- In compliance with state regulations, the board policy manual for the Mountain View School District is maintained in the Superintendent's office.

## **CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS**

It is extremely important that the schools of Mountain View School District have CORRECT and active telephone numbers and addresses of parents/guardians on file in the school office in case of an emergency. Parents/guardians MUST notify the school if there are changes in your address, home phone number, or your work phone number throughout the school year.

## **CLOSED CAMPUS** (Ref. ASBA 4.10)

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

High School students will not be allowed to leave campus during lunch or other times in the school day unless signed out and signed back in by a parent/guardian. Notes or phone calls will not be accepted.

Date Adopted: June 11, 2012

## **EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY** (Ref. ASBA 4.11)

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

Inquiries on non-discrimination may be directed to the district Equity Coordinator, Mark Rush, who may be reached at (870)269-3443. Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, to the Title IX Coordinator in person or by using the mailing address, telephone number, or email address provided on page 2. A report may be made at any time, including during non-business hours, and may be on the individual's own behalf or on behalf of another individual who is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination or to file a complaint, visit

<http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm>; for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

Mountain View School District's current policies, procedures, and practices used to identify students for special education are sound and free of bias with regard to a student's race, ethnicity, or linguistic diversity. The District will designate a person to serve as Equity Coordinator to deal with any grievances concerning this section.

Legal References: 28 C.F.R. § 35.106, 34 C.F.R. § 100.6, 34 C.F.R. § 104.8, 34 C.F.R. § 106.9, 34 C.F.R. § 108.9, 34 C.F.R. § 110.25; 34 C.F.R. § 106.8

## **PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION** (Ref. ASBA 4.13)

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students' education records are available for inspection and copying by the parent of his/her student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18), the right to inspect and copy a student's records transfers to the student. A student's parent or the student, if over the age of 18, requesting to review the student's education records will be allowed to do so within no more than forty-five (45) days of the request. The district forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The district shall receive written permission before releasing education records to any agency or individual not authorized by law to receive and/or view the education records without prior parental permission. The District shall maintain a record of requests by such agencies or individuals for access to, and each disclosure of, personally identifiable information (PII) from the education records of

each student. Disclosure of education records is authorized by law to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A personal record kept by a school staff member is not considered an education record if it meets the following tests.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Unless the parent or guardian of a student (or student, if above the age of eighteen [18]) objects, "directory information" about a student may be made available to the public, military recruiters, post-secondary educational institutions, prospective employers of those students, as well as school publications such as annual yearbooks and graduation announcements. "Directory information" includes,

but is not limited to, a student's name, address, telephone number, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, his/her placement on the honor roll (or the receipt of other types of honors), as well as his/her participation in school clubs and extracurricular activities, among others. If the student participates in inherently public activities (for example, basketball, football, or other interscholastic activities), the publication of such information will be beyond the control of the District. "Directory information" also includes a student identification (ID) number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems and a student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student's ID badge, provided the ID cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user. A student's name and photograph will only be displayed on the district or school's web page(s) after receiving the written permission from the student's parent or student if over the age of 18.

The form for objecting to making directory information available is located in the front of the student handbook and must be completed and signed by the parent or age-eligible student and filed with the building principal's office no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of each school year or the date the student is enrolled for school. Failure to file an objection by that time is considered a specific grant of permission. The district is required to continue to honor any signed-opt out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district. The right to opt out of the disclosure of directory information under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) does not prevent the District from disclosing or requiring a student to disclose the student's name, identifier, or institutional email address in a class in which the student is enrolled.

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

Student Privacy Policy Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20202 Legal References: A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(6), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, 20 U.S.C. § 7908 (NCLB Section 9528), 34 CFR 99.3, 99.7, 99.21, 99.22, 99.30, 99.31, 99.32, 99.33, 99.34, 99.35, 99.36, 99.37, 99.63, 99.64 Date Adopted: June 11, 2012

### **EMERGENCY DRILLS (Ref. ASBA 4.37)**

All schools in the District shall conduct fire drills at least monthly. Tornado drills shall also be conducted not fewer than three (3) times per year with at least one each in the months of September, January, and February. Students who ride school buses, shall also participate in emergency evacuation drills at least twice each school year.

The District shall annually conduct an active shooter drill and school safety assessment for all District schools in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel. Students will be included in the drills to the extent that is appropriate to the age of the student and grade configuration of the school and the drills may be conducted during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods. Drills may be conducted during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods.

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted to test the implementation of the District's emergency plans in the event of an earthquake or terrorist attack that might include the use of biological or chemical agents. Students shall be included in the drills to the extent practicable.

The purpose of the training is to allow participants to:

- \* Assess the plan and ability of the district to prevent and respond to a threat on campus;
- \* Clarify the roles and responsibilities of each individual when an emergency occurs;
- \* Discuss the logistics of handling an emergency on the school campus;
- \* Identify areas in which the school safety plan should be modified; and
- \* Collaborate with local law enforcement and emergency management officials.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 12-13-109, A.C.A. § 6-10-110, A.C.A. § 6-10-121, A.C.A. § 6-15-1302, A.C.A. § 6-15-1303, Ark. Division of Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing Maintenance and Operations of Ark. Public School Buses and Physical Examinations of School Bus Drivers 4.03.1 Date Adopted:

### **COMPLAINT RESOLUTION**

Any parent or guardian is encouraged to seek a resolution to any problem involving school personnel. The following procedure has been established to provide a means of addressing problems and seeking a solution. The steps are:

1. Seek a resolution with the teacher involved.
2. If the problem is not resolved in step #1, contact the principal.
3. If the problem is not resolved in step #2, contact the superintendent.

4. If the superintendent is unable to resolve the problem the parent may refer the problem to the board of education.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE** (Ref. ASBA 4.46)

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited: During the first class period of each school day;

1. At the commencement of each school-sanctioned after-school assembly; and
2. At the commencement of each school-sanctioned sporting event; however, if two (2) or more school-sanctioned sporting events occur on the same day at the same school, then the Pledge may be recited at only one (1) of the school-sanctioned sporting events.

Students choosing to participate in the recitation of the Pledge shall do so by facing the flag with their right hands over their hearts, or in an appropriate salute if in uniform, while reciting the Pledge. Students choosing not to participate shall either stand or sit quietly while the other students recite the Pledge.

Students shall not be compelled to recite the Pledge, but students who choose not to recite the Pledge shall not disrupt those students choosing to recite the Pledge. Students choosing not to recite the Pledge who do not disrupt those students who choose to recite the Pledge shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

Following the recitation of the Pledge, there shall be an observance of one (1) minute of silence. During the one (1) minute of silence, each student may reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity that is not likely to interfere with or distract another student. Students who do not disrupt the one (1) minute of silence shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-10-115 A.C.A. § 6-16-108 Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-16-108 Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

#### **NATIONAL ANTHEM** (Ref. ASBA 4.44)

Each school in the District shall broadcast The Star-Spangled Banner at:

- The commencement of each school-sanctioned sporting event; however, if two (2) or more school-sanctioned sporting events occur on the same day at the same school, then the broadcast of The Star-Spangled Banner may be performed at only one (1) of the events; and
- At least one (1) time each week during school hours.

The broadcast of The Star-Spangled Banner shall be selected from any recording that adheres to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Rules, or, when appropriate, performed from original sheet music that adheres to DESE rules by:

- o A school-sanctioned band program;
- o A school-sanctioned chorale program, vocal group, or vocalist; or
- o The attendees of a school-sanctioned event led by a vocalist selected by the principal of the school hosting the school-sanctioned event.

Students shall not be compelled to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner, but students who choose not to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner shall not disrupt those students choosing to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner. Students choosing not to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner who do not disrupt the participation of performance of The Star-Spangled Banner shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-10-135

#### **SCHOOL MEALS PROVISION 2- NON BASE YEAR**

The Mountain View School District is pleased to announce the district's policy for providing meals at NO CHARGE for all students participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, regardless of eligibility category, during the 2024-2025 school term unless otherwise notified. This is made possible through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Special Assistance Certification and Reimbursement Provision 2 Alternative. Federal reimbursement for meals is based on applications on file for the 2019-2020 Base Year for the district. These applications are filed and maintained at the central office to ensure the strict confidentiality of each document and must remain safely filed for the entirety of the school district's Provision 2 status. The information on the applications will be made available only to State and Federal officials for review. All adults, e.g., visitors, teachers, support staff members, and administrators of the district must assume the full cost of the meal which is set by the state guidelines for Breakfast and Lunch.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, and American Sign Language) should contact the

responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877- 8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online, at <https://www.ascr.usda.gov/sites/default/files/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17%20Final.pdf>, from any USDA office by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to the USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov) This institution is an equal opportunity provider. | For more information contact Dusty Mitchell at 870 269-3443.

### **SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS** (Ref. ASBA 4.50)

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

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

The medical statement should include:

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

If the information provided in the medical statement is unclear, or lacks sufficient detail, the district's Director of Child Nutrition<sup>1</sup> shall request additional information so that a proper and safe meal can be provided.

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

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

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

Legal References: Commissioner's Memo FIN-09-044, 7 CFR 210.10(g); Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-008

Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-023 Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

### **PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS** (Ref. ASBA 4.53)

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

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

- Disruptive to the school's educational or disciplinary environment.

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

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-106 Date Adopted: July 11, 2011

## **INTERRUPTION OF INSTRUCTION**

Interruption of instructional activities due to school announcements, assemblies, visitors on campus, or other activities shall occur only during those rare instances deemed necessary by the school's administration.

## **PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: SCHOOL (Ref. ASBA 6.12)**

Mountain View School understands the importance of involving parents, families, and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the school and those it serves. Therefore, all school buildings in the Mountain View School District shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parent, family, and community engagement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, families, and the community. To achieve such ends, the school shall work to:

1. Involve parents, families, and the community in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school;
2. Have a coordinated engagement program where the engagement activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPIY, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers, ABC, ABC for School Success, area Pre-K programs, and Even Start;
3. Explain to parents, families, and the community the State's academic and achievement standards; State and local student assessments; and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the state's academic standards and assessments; and how parents, families, and the community can work with the school to improve students' academic achievement;
4. Provide parents and families with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The school may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
5. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent, family, and community engagement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents, families, and the community;
6. Keep parents, families, and the community informed about parent, family, and community engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand;
7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents and families from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
8. Find and modify other successful parent, family, and community engagement programs to suit the needs of our school;
9. Train parents, families, and the community to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents, families, and members of the community;
10. Provide reasonable support for other parent, family, and community engagement activities as parents, families, and the community may reasonably request.

To help promote an understanding of each party's role in improving student learning, all schools in the Mountain View School District shall develop a compact that outlines the responsibilities of parents, students, and the school staff in raising student academic achievement and in building the partnerships that will enable students to meet the State's academic standards.

All schools in the Mountain View School District School shall convene an annual meeting, or several meetings at varying times if necessary to adequately reach parents and families of participating students, to inform parents and families of the school's participation in Title I, its requirements regarding parent, family, and community engagement, and the parents right to be involved in the education of their child.

All schools in the Mountain View School District School shall, at least annually, involve parents, families, and the community in reviewing the school's Title I program and parent, family, and community engagement policy in order to help ensure their continued improvement.

This policy shall be part of the school's Title I plan and shall be distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

The district recognizes the importance of communication between teachers and parents/legal guardians. To help promote positive communication, parent/teacher conferences shall be held once each semester. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents or guardians when they feel they need to discuss their child's progress with his/her teacher.

Teachers are required to communicate during the school year with the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of each of their students to discuss their academic progress. More frequent communication is required with the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of students who are performing below grade level.

All parent/teacher conferences shall be scheduled at a time and place to best accommodate those participating in the conference. Each teacher shall document the participation or non-participation of parent(s)/legal guardian(s) for each scheduled conference.

If a student is to be retained at any grade level, notice of, and the reasons for retention shall be communicated promptly in a personal conference.



## **PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – DISTRICT (Ref. ASBA 6.11)**

The Mountain View School District understands the importance of involving parents, families, and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the district and those it serves. Therefore, the district shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parent, family, and community engagement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, families, and the community. To achieve such ends, the district shall work to:

1. Involve parents, families, and the community in the development of the long range planning of the district;
2. Give the schools in the district the support necessary to enable them to plan and implement effective parent, family, and community engagement activities;
3. Have a coordinated engagement program where the engagement activities of the district enhance the involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPIY, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers, ABC, ABC for School Success, area Pre-K programs, and Even Start;
4. Explain to parents, families, and the community the State's academic and achievement standards; State and local student assessments; how the district's curriculum is aligned with the state's academic standards and assessments; and how parents, families, and the community can work with the district to improve students' academic achievement;
5. Provide parents and families with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The district may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
6. Educate district staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent, family, and community engagement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents, families, and the community;
7. Keep parents, families, and the community informed about parent, family, and community engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand;
8. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents and families from being involved in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
9. Find and modify other successful parent, family, and community engagement programs to suit the needs of our district;
10. Train parents, families, and the community to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents, families, and members of the community;
11. Provide reasonable support for other parent, family, and community engagement activities as parents, families, and the community may reasonably request.

To ensure the continued improvement of the district's parent, family, and community engagement program, the district will conduct an annual review of its parent, family, and community engagement policies to examine their effect on promoting higher student achievement. The review shall be done by a committee consisting of parents and other community members, certified and classified staff, and member(s) of the administration.

This policy shall be part of the school's Title I plan and shall be distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

## **4.65—ANTISEMITISM PROHIBITED**

"Antisemitism" means a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities. Antisemitism may be expressed in speech; writing; visual forms; and actions and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

The following are examples of actions, when taken as a whole, that may constitute antisemitism:

- The targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity;
- Charging Jews with conspiring to harm humanity;
- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion;
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions;
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews;
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust);
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust;
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations;
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor;
- Applying double standards by requiring of Israel a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation;

- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis;
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis; or
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Antisemitism does not include criticism of Israel similar to the criticism leveled against any other country.

Mountain View School District shall appoint an individual to act as the District's Title VI Coordinator, who shall be responsible for investigating any complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism. The MVSD shall:

1. Include contact information for the Title VI Coordinator in information that is provided to staff, students, and parents; and
2. Provide the following on the MVSD website that may be accessed through a link titled "Antisemitism/Title VI":
  - a. The District's definition of antisemitism;
  - b. A statement that antisemitism is prohibited in the district's educational programs and activities;
  - c. A statement that complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism may be filed with the Title VI Coordinator;
  - d. Contact information for the District's Title VI Coordinator; and
  - e. Information on how to file a complaint of antisemitism with the Title VI Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Education.

A student or a student's parent may contact the District Title VI Coordinator directly with any complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism. District employees are responsible for timely notifying the District Title VI Coordinator of any complaints they receive or incidents they witness of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism.

A student who is found to have violated the provisions of this policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion. The District Title VI Coordinator shall report an incident or complaint of discrimination or harassment under this policy to the Arkansas Department of Education Title VI Coordinator. In addition to the filing of a complaint under this policy, complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism may be submitted directly to the Title VI Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Education. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to diminish or infringe upon any right protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, §§ 4, 6, and 24. Complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism shall be investigated and handled in accordance with Policy 6.7—COMPLAINTS.

Notes: In accordance with A.C.A. § 6-16-2002(1), the definition for antisemitism is taken from the definition adopted on May 26, 2016, by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. Cross Reference: 6.7—COMPLAINTS; Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-16-2001 et seq.

#### **STUDENT NAME, TITLE, OR PRONOUN (Ref. ASBA 4.62)**

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

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

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

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

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-1-108 Date Adopted: Last Revised:

#### **STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION (Ref. 4.63)**

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

##### **Student Assignments**

Student assignments include, but are not limited to:

- |                |                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| o Homework;    | o Classwork;                         |
| o Artwork; and | o Other written or oral assignments. |

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

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

#### Student Presenters

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross References: 4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE 5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES

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

### **STUDENT USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY ROOM (Ref. ASBA 4.61)**

#### Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

- custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes;
- To render emergency medical assistance;
- To address an ongoing emergency, including without limitation a physical altercation;
- To accommodate individuals protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act; or

To assist young children who are in need of physical assistance when using a restroom or changing facility that is located in the District.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-21-120

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## ADMISSIONS

### RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS (Ref. ASBA 4.1)

Definitions:

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

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

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

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

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes.

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District’s schools separate and apart from his or her parents, guardians, or other persons having lawful control of him or her under an order of a court, the person must actually reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance; however, a student previously enrolled in the district whose parents move the student into another district or who is placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools. A foster child who was previously enrolled in a District school and who has had a change in placement to a residence outside the District, may continue to remain enrolled in his/her current school unless the presiding court rules otherwise.

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302, A.C.A. § 6-18-202, A.C.A. § 6-18-203, A.C.A. § 9-28-113 Date Adopted: July 8, 2013

### ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS (Ref. ASBA 4.2)

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must:

- A. Be a resident of the District as defined in District policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS);
- B. Meet the criteria outlined in Policy:
  - § 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS; or
  - § 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN;
- C. Be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4; or
- D. Participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option under Policy

A student may enter kindergarten if the student:

- Meets one of the requirements for school attendance of A through D above; and

Falls under one of the following:

- Will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 of the year in which the student is seeking initial enrollment; or

- Has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days and:
  - § Will become five (5) years old during the year in which the student is enrolled in kindergarten; and
  - § Submits a written request for enrollment to the District; or
- Was enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state or in a kindergarten program equivalent in another country and:
  - § Becomes a resident of this state as a direct result of active military orders or a court-ordered change of custody;
  - § Will become five (5) years of age during the year in which the student is enrolled in kindergarten; and
  - § Submits a written request for enrollment to the District.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the district will assign the child a nine (9) digit number designated by the department of education.
2. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
  - a. A birth certificate;
  - b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
  - c. An attested baptismal certificate;
  - d. A passport;
  - e. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian;
  - f. United States military identification; or
  - g. Previous school records.
3. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding. The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another school district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.
4. In accordance with Policy 4.57 (Immunizations), the child shall be age appropriately immunized or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health.

#### Uniformed Services Member's Children

For the purposes of this policy: "active duty members of the uniformed services" includes members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211; "uniformed services" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services; "veteran" means: a person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable. "Eligible child" means the children of:

- active duty members of the uniformed services;
- Members of the active and activated reserve components of the uniformed services;
- Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement;

- Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death;
- Dual status military technicians; and
- Traditional members of the National Guard and reserve components of the armed forces who are relocating to the state for employment or to serve as a member of an Arkansas-based reserve component unit.

"Traditional member of the National Guard or federal reserves" means an active member of the Selected Reserve subject to mobilization and deployment for which he or she attends monthly and annual training periods.

"Transition" means the:

Formal and physical process of transitioning from public school to public school; or

Period of time in which a student moves from a sending district to a receiving district.

"Uniformed services means the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Space Force, United States Coast Guard, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps, the United States Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Services, and the state and federal reserve components of each of these bodies.

"Veteran" means an individual who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released from the uniformed services under conditions other than dishonorable.

The superintendent shall designate an individual as the District's military education coordinator, who shall serve as the primary point of contact for an eligible child and for the eligible child's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the eligible child, or person standing in loco parentis. The individual the superintendent designates as the District's military education coordinator shall have specialized knowledge regarding the educational needs of children of military families and the obstacles that children of military families face in obtaining an education.<sup>5</sup>

An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

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

Following the receipt of advanced notice of the enrollment of an eligible student from a military family, the District shall treat the notice as a provisional enrollment and provide the student with materials regarding:

- a. Academic courses;
- b. Electives;
- c. Sports; and
- d. Other relevant information regarding the public school.

In the event that official copies of an eligible child's education records are not available at the time the eligible child is transferring, then the District shall:

- Pre-register and place an eligible child based on the eligible child's unofficial education records pending receipt of the eligible

child's official records. Request the eligible child's official education records from the sending district.

To facilitate a smooth transition between the student's previous coursework and the curriculum best suited to ensure educational success in the student's new school, the District may enroll an inbound transitioning eligible student in digital coursework, if available, at the request of the military family.

### International Exchange Students

"Host family" means the individual or family with whom an international exchange student is placed by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq..

"International exchange student" means a student who is placed with a host family by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq. Before an international exchange student may attend a District school, the District requires all international student exchange visitor placement organizations that are placing international exchange students within the District to:

- Be certified by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel;
- Provide documented proof of the international exchange student's English proficiency; and
- Notify the District at least three (3) weeks before the beginning of the academic semester the international exchange student plans to enroll in the District.

The District shall admit for enrollment and attendance an international exchange student who has been placed with a host family who resides within the District boundaries. The international exchange student shall attend the school in the District based on the attendance zone where the host family resides.

Upon an international exchange student's arrival, the international exchange student may be required to submit to quarantine to prevent the spread of infectious diseases as may be necessary, which shall not exceed seven (7) days unless otherwise recommended by the Arkansas Department of Health or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

International exchange students are expected to follow the District handbook and student code of conduct as the District has the authority to expel a student for violations of the school district's written student discipline policies or if the international exchange student presents a danger to the District's students or employees.

Statewide assessment results achieved by an international exchange student enrolled in the District shall be included in the District's results on the statewide assessments.

The District shall provide English-language services to international exchange students as necessary.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302, A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (c), A.C.A. § 6-18-207, A.C.A. § 6-18-208, A.C.A. § 6-18-702, A.C.A. § 6-15-504 (f), A.C.A. § 6-27-102, 105, A.C.A. § 9-28-113, Plyler v Doe 457 US 202,221 (1982)A.C.A. § 6-18-234(c)(3) Date Adopted: July 8, 2013 Revised May 2023

### STUDENT TRANSFERS (Ref. ASBA 4.4)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Department of Education to a school in this district shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school. Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable

in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities. Any student transferring from homeschool or a school that is not accredited by the Department of Education to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff to determine the student's appropriate grade placement. A student transferring from homeschool will be placed in accordance with Policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

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

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

Note: Applications are required to be placed at the earliest meeting following their receipt, whether that is the next regularly scheduled meeting or a special board meeting.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-316, A.C.A. § 6-18-510, A.C.A. § 6-15-504 (f), A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(4), A.C.A. § 9-28-205, State Board of Education Standards of Accreditation 12.05  
Date Adopted: July 11, 2011

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## **SCHOOL CHOICE** (Ref. ASBA 4.5)

### **Exemption**

The Mountain View School District is under an enforceable desegregation court order/court-approved desegregation plan that explicitly limits the transfer of students between school districts and has submitted the appropriate documentation to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). As a result of the desegregation order/desegregation plan, the District is exempt from the provisions of the Public School Choice Act of 2015 (Standard School Choice) and the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act (Opportunity School Choice). The District shall notify the superintendents of each of its geographically contiguous school districts of its exemption. The exemption prohibits the District from accepting any school choice applications from students wishing to transfer into or out of the District through standard School Choice or Opportunity School Choice.

### **Definitions**

"Lack of capacity" means, based on the maximum student to teacher ratio allowed under federal law; state law; the Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation for Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts; state rules; or other applicable federal regulations, that ninety-five percent (95%) or more of the seats at the grade level in which the student would be assigned at the nonresident school are filled on the date the school choice application is made.

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

### **Standard School Choice: Transfers into or Within the District and Capacity Determination and Public Pronouncement**

The Board of Directors will annually adopt a resolution containing the capacity standards for the District. The resolution will contain the acceptance determination criteria identified by academic program, class, grade level, and individual school. The school is not obligated to add any teachers, other staff, or classrooms to accommodate choice applications. The District may only deny a Standard School Choice application if the District or school has a lack of capacity.

The District shall advertise in appropriate broadcast media and either print media or on the internet to inform students and parents in the District and adjoining districts of the range of possible openings available under the School Choice program. The public pronouncements shall state the application deadline; the requirements and procedures for participation in the program; and include contact information for the primary point of contact at the District for school choice questions. Such pronouncements shall be made no later than January 1.

### **Application Process**

The student's parent shall submit a school choice application on a form approved by DESE to: This District and the student's resident district for students transferring into the District; or

· Only this District for students transferring to another school within the District.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, the transfer application must be postmarked, emailed, or hand delivered between January 1 and June 1. The District shall date and time stamp all applications the District receives as both the resident and nonresident district as they are received in the District's central office. Except for applications from students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, applications postmarked, emailed, or hand delivered on or after June 2 will not be accepted. Statutorily, preference is required to be given to siblings of students who are



already enrolled in the District. Therefore, siblings whose applications fit the capacity standards approved by the Board of Directors may be approved ahead of an otherwise qualified non-sibling applicant who submitted an earlier application as identified by the application's date and time stamp.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, no earlier than January 1 of each year, the Superintendent will consider all properly submitted applications for School Choice. By no later than the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) calendar day following the receipt of an application, the Superintendent shall notify the following, in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application.

- For transfers within the District, the student's parent; or
- For transfers into the District, the student's parent and the student's resident district.

### **Accepted Applications**

Applications which fit within the District's stated capacity standards shall be provisionally accepted in writing. A student's acceptance shall be effective on the earlier of:

1. The day the District provides notification to the student of the student's acceptance; or
2. The day the State Board grants an appeal of the student's application.

The written notice of acceptance shall inform the student that the student has ten (10) school days<sup>7</sup> from when the notice is received to either:

- A. Enroll in the district or in the other District school; or
- B. Inform the district that the student intends to enroll in the district or the other District school at the start of the next school year.

The acceptance shall be null and void if the student fails to enroll within the ten (10) school day period or fails to inform the district within the ten (10) school day period of the student's intent to transfer at the start of the next school year.

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

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

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

### **Rejected Applications**

The District may reject an application for a transfer into or within the District under Standard School Choice due to a lack of capacity. The District shall use the date and time stamp the District placed on a student's application to determine when the District has reached capacity. A student's application shall be used to determine capacity regardless of whether the student intends to transfer immediately or at the start of the next school year.

The decision to accept or reject an application shall not be based on the student's previous academic achievement; athletic or other extracurricular ability; English proficiency level; or previous disciplinary proceedings other than a current expulsion.

An application may be provisionally rejected if it is for an opening that was included in the District's capacity resolution, but was provisionally filled by an earlier applicant. A provisionally rejected applicant could be provisionally approved and would have to meet the acceptance requirements to be eligible to enroll in the District or another district school if:

- A provisionally approved applicant subsequently does not enroll in the District;
- A provisionally approved applicant subsequently does not enroll in the District school the District student was seeking to transfer to; or
- A District student submits a school choice application to transfer to another district or another school within the District.

The superintendent shall notify the previously provisionally rejected student within fifteen (15) days of the change in status and shall provide notice of all final rejections by July 1.

Rejection of applications shall be in writing and shall state the reason(s) for the rejection. Unless the student's application was rejected due to the application not being timely received by the student's resident district only for transfers within the District or both the resident and nonresident districts for transfers into the District or another district, a student whose application was rejected may request a hearing before the State Board of Education to reconsider the application. The request for a hearing must be submitted in writing to the State Board within ten (10) days of receiving the rejection letter from the District.

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

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

### **Annual Reporting**

The District shall report annually to the Secretary of the Department of Education:

- The number of transfer applications received;
- The number of applications accepted;
- The number of applications rejected; and
- The reason(s) for each rejection.

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

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

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

### **Opportunity School Choice: Transfers Into or Within the District**

Unless there is a lack of capacity at the District's school or the transfer conflicts with the provisions of a federal desegregation order applicable to the District, a student may transfer from the student's assigned school to another school in the District<sup>9</sup> or from the student's resident district into the District if:

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

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

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

If the District rejects the application, the District shall state in the notification letter the specific reasons for the rejection. Unless the student's application was rejected due to the application not being timely received by the District for students transferring within the District or both the resident and nonresident districts for students that are transferring into the District, a parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, may appeal the District's decision to deny the application to the State Board of Education. The appeal must be in writing to the State Board of Education via hand delivery or certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than ten (10) calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the notice of rejection was received from the District. Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, a student's transfer under Opportunity School choice is effective at the beginning of the next school year and the student's enrollment is irrevocable for the

duration of the school year and is renewable until the student completes high school or is beyond the legal age of enrollment. This provision for continuing eligibility under Opportunity School Choice does not negate the student's right to apply for transfer to a district other than the student's assigned school or resident district under the Standard School Choice provisions of this policy. The District may, but is not obligated to provide transportation to and from the transferring district.

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

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

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

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

#### **Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis of the student shall be notified in writing whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of the application. By:

- a. The District superintendent for students transferring within the District; or
- b. The superintendent of the nonresident district for student's transferring to a nonresident district.

A student's transfer under the Uniformed Services Member Dependent School Choice is effective immediately upon the written notification of an acceptance.

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

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

### **Unsafe School Choice Program**

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

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

### **HOME SCHOOLING (Ref. ASBA 4.6)**

Parents or legal guardians desiring to provide a home school for their children must give written notice to the Superintendent of their intent to do so and sign a waiver acknowledging that the State of Arkansas is not liable for the education of their children during the time the parents choose to home school. Notice shall be given:

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

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

- Electronically, including without limitation by Use of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) online system; e-mail
- Mail or In- Person

The parents or legal guardians shall deliver written notice in person to the Superintendent the first time such notice is given and the notice must include:

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

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

A student who has been temporarily issued items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District is eligible for enrollment in a home school during the school year after:

- o The items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District have been returned to the District;
- o The items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District have been paid for; or The semester has ended Enrollment or Re-Enrollment in Public School

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-503, A.C.A. § 6-41-103, A.C.A. § 6-15-504 DESE Rules Governing Home Schools

#### **PERMANENT RECORDS (Ref. ASBA 4.38)**

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-901, ADE DESE Rule *Student Permanent Records*; A.C.A. § 6-28-107; Date Adopted: July 10, 2012; July 15, 2019

#### **STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN (Ref. ASBA 4.52)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Graduates from high school; or
- Transfers to another school or school district under:
  - o The Foster Child School Choice Act;
  - o Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004;
  - o The Public School Choice Act of 2015; or
  - o Any other law that allows a transfer.

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

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

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 9-28-113 Date Adopted: July 11, 2011

### **MCKINNEY VENTO HOMELESS STUDENTS (Ref. ASBA 4.40)**

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

- Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;
- Coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services to homeless children and youths;
- Ensure that school personnel receive Professional development and other support regarding their duties and responsibilities for homeless youths;

Ensure that unaccompanied homeless youths:

- o Are enrolled in school;
  - o Have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths; and
  - o Are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that they may obtain assistance from the LEA liaison to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid;
- Ensure that public notice of the educational rights of the homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such youth, and unaccompanied homeless youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form that is easily understandable.

To the extent possible, the LEA liaison and the building principal shall work together to ensure no homeless child or youth is harmed due to conflicts with District policies solely because

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

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

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

1. Continue the child's or youth's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness:

- In any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; and

For the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or

2. Enroll the child or youth in any public school that non homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

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

o Presume that keeping the child or youth in the school of origin is in the child's or youth's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth;

o Consider student-centered factors related to the child's or youth's best interest, including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth, giving priority to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth.

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

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

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

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

a. Are:

Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;

Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;

Living in emergency or transitional shelters; Abandoned in hospitals; or

b Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

c. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

d. Are migratory children who are living in circumstances described in clauses (a) through (c).

In accordance with Federal law, information on a homeless child or youth's living situation is part of the student's education record and shall not be considered, or added, to the list of directory information in Policy 4.13.<sup>3</sup>

Legal References: 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq., 42 U.S.C. § 11431 (2), 42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(H)(I), 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(1)(J)(i), (ii), (iii), (iii)(I), (iii)(II), 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(A), (A)(i), (A)(i)(I), (A)(i)(II), (A)(ii), 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(B)(i), (ii), (iii), 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(C)(i), (ii), (iii), 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(E)(i), (ii), (iii), 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(G), 42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(4) (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), 42 U.S.C. § 11434a Date Adopted: June 11, 2012

## ATTENDANCE

### COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS (Ref. ASBA 4.3)

Every parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy (RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the District shall enroll and ensure the attendance of the child to a District school with the following exceptions.

1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.
2. The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy (HOME SCHOOLING) have been met.
3. The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
4. The child has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.
6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by the State of Arkansas. A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (b). Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-201, A.C.A. § 6-18-207 Date Adopted: July 7, 2008

### ABSENCES (Ref. ASBA 4.7)

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

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance, whether in person or digitally, at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement. Absences for students enrolled in synchronous digital courses shall be in the same manner as for District students attending courses in person.

#### Excused Absences

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

1. The student's illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of six (6) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal.
  2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family;
  3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student's faith;
  4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency;
  5. Attendance at a medical appointment;
  6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal; or
  7. School sponsored events (FFA, FBLA, FCCLA) or 4-H sanctioned activity;
  8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.
  9. Absences granted to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.
  10. Absences granted, at the Superintendent's discretion, to seventeen (17) year-old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in eleventh grade to complete basic combat training between grades eleven (11) and (12).
  11. Absences for students excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak because the student has an immunization waiver or whose immunizations are not up to date.
  12. Absences due to conditions related to pregnancy or parenting, including without limitation:
    - Labor, delivery, and recovery; Prenatal and postnatal medical appointments and other medically necessary, pregnancy-related absences; The illness or medical appointment of a child belonging to a parent who is enrolled at a District school; A legal appointment related to pregnancy or parenting, including without limitation: Adoption; Custody; and Visitation;
    - A reasonable amount of time to accommodate a lactating student's need to express breast milk or to breastfeed the student's child on the District's campus; and
- At least ten (10) school days of absences for both a parenting mother and a parenting father after the birth of a child.
13. Absences for a student who is the child of a fallen service member or fallen first responder:
    - Due to a mental health concern; or



- To attend an event from a sponsoring organization that provides support to families of fallen service members or first responders or provides support for traumatic loss, grief, or resiliency.

14. Upon the written consent of a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student, the District shall grant an excused absence for the following purposes:

- Social or public policy advocacy; or
- Attempts to influence legislation or other governmental policy-making at the local, state, or federal level.

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

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

It is the Arkansas General Assembly's intention that students having excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Excessive absences may, however, be the basis for the denial of course credit, promotion, or graduation.

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

- a. Bring a written statement to the principal or designee upon the student's return to school from the student's parent, legal guardian or treating physician stating the reason for the student's absence; or
- b. If the student is attending the District's courses digitally, upload a written statement from the student's parent, legal guardian or treating physician stating the reason for the student's absence through the District's digital course management platform for review by the principal or designee.
- c. Provide documentation as proof of a student's participation in an activity or program scheduled and approved by the 4-H program that is provided by a 4-H county extension agent, 4-H educator, or other appropriate entity associated with the 4-H activity or program, or
- d. The student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student provides written documentation that the student's absence is to attend an event from a sponsoring organization that:
  - Provides support to families of fallen service members or first responders or provides support for traumatic loss, grief, or resiliency; and
  - May be verified as an organization that provides support to the military and first responder community by reviewing the Resources Page for Military Family Engagement on the Department of Education website.

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

A student shall not be eligible to receive an excused absence for #13 above if:

- § The student is not in good academic standing;
- § The student does not have a prior record of good attendance; or
- § The absence occurs during a date on which standardized testing is administered.

The District shall annually provide a report by June 30 to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education that contains the following:

- The number of absences requested under number 14;
- The number of absences granted under number 14; and
- The stated purposes of the absence.

### **Unexcused Absences**

Absences that are not defined above or do not have an accompanying note from the parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis, the student's treating physician, or a 4-H county extension agent, 4-H educator, or other appropriate entity associated with the 4-H activity or program presented in the timeline required by this policy, shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with more than six (6) unexcused absences in a course in a semester may not receive credit for that course. At the discretion of the principal after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the unexcused absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

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

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

At any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of unexcused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's unexcused absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee.

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

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

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student's operator's license unless the former student meets certain requirements specified in the statute. Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302, A.C.A. § 6-18-209, A.C.A. § 6-18-220, A.C.A. §

6-18-222, A.C.A. § 6-18-229, A.C.A. § 6-18-231, A.C.A. § 6-18-507(g), A.C.A. § 6-18-702, A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f), A.C.A. § 7-4-116, A.C.A. § 27-16-701 Date Adopted: July 8, 2013

### **MAKE-UP WORK (Ref. ASBA 4.8)**

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

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

Work may not be made up for credit for unexcused absences after 6 unexcused absences in a semester unless the absences are part of a signed agreement as permitted by policy (ABSENCES).

Work for students serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be in accordance with the District's programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during the student's period of suspension or expulsion, including offering an expelled student an opportunity for enrollment in digital learning courses or other alternative educational courses that result in the receipt of academic credit. A student will receive credit for assignments or courses as part of this process is dependent on the student completing the work and assigned courses.

In addition to the make-up work process above, at the conclusion of a pregnancy-related or parenting-related period of absence, a student may choose from various options to make up missed work, including without limitation:

- a. Retaking a semester at the District school where the student is enrolled;
- b. Participating in an online course credit recovery program;
- c. Being granted six (6) weeks to continue at the same pace and finish the semester at a later date, provided that the student may:
  - Complete the student's coursework within the current school year; or
  - Attend previously scheduled summer school classes made available by the District Where the student is enrolled; and
- d. Receiving home-based instruction services.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-1406; A.C.A. § 6-18-502; A.C.A. § 6-18-234

### **ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 9 – 12**

Students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) are required to schedule and attend classes. Part of this requirement may be met by students taking post-secondary courses. Eligible students' enrollment and attendance at a post-secondary institution shall count toward time of school attendance. Each credit hour shall count as three (3) hours of attendance time. This means a three (3) credit hour course shall count as nine (9) hours of weekly attendance.

#### Study Halls

Students may be assigned to no more than one (1) class period each day for a study hall that the student shall be required to attend

and participate in for the full period. Such study halls are to be used for the purposes of self-study or for organized tutoring which is to take place in the school building.

#### Extracurricular Classes

Students may be assigned to no more than one (1) class period each day for organized and scheduled student extracurricular classes that the student shall be required to attend and participate in for the full class period. Extracurricular classes related to a seasonal activity shall meet for an entire semester whether or not the season ends prior to the end of the semester. Students must attend and participate in the class for the entire semester in order to receive credit for the course. For the purpose of this policy, extracurricular classes are defined as school sponsored activities which are not an Arkansas Department of Education approved course counting toward graduation requirements or classes that have not been approved by the Arkansas Department of Education for academic credit. Such classes may include special interest, fine arts, technical, scholastic, intramural, and interscholastic opportunities.

#### Course Enrollment Outside of District

Enrollment and attendance in vocational-educational training courses, college courses, school work programs, and other department-sanctioned educational programs may be used to satisfy the student attendance requirement even if the programs are not located at the public schools. Attendance in such alternative programs must be pre-approved by the school's administration. The district shall strive to assign students who have been dropped from a course of study or removed from a school work program job during the semester into another placement or course of study. In the instances where a subsequent placement is unable to be made, the district may grant a waiver for the student for the duration of the semester in which the placement is unable to be made. In any instance where a provision of a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) conflicts with a portion(s) of this policy, the IEP shall prevail.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-210, 211, Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Mandatory Attendance Requirements for Students in Grades Nine through Twelve  
Date Adopted: July 7, 2008

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## **ACADEMICS**

### **STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION (Ref. ASBA 4.55)**

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

Each time a student is assessed by use of a high-quality literacy screener, with results at least once each semester, the parents and teacher(s) of a student in kindergarten through eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade shall be notified in writing of the student's independent grade-level-equivalency in reading and, in a parent friendly manner, the student's reading progress.

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

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

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following criteria.<sup>1</sup> If there is doubt concerning the promotion or retention of a student or his/her required retaking of a course, a conference shall be held before a final decision is made that includes the following individuals:

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

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

Each student shall have a student success plan (SSP) developed by school personnel in collaboration with the student's parents and the student that is reviewed and updated annually. A student's SSP shall use multiple academic measures to personalize learning in

order for students to achieve their grade-level expectations and individual growth. The SSP will identify if the student is in need of additional support or acceleration. Academic measures to be used in creating and updating a student's SSP shall include, but are not limited to:

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

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

1. The student's specific, diagnosed reading skill needs, including without limitation:
  - Phonemic awareness;
  - Phonics decoding;
  - Text reading fluency;
  - Vocabulary-building strategies; and
  - Self-regulated use of reading comprehension strategies, as identified by high-quality literacy screener data;
2. The goals and benchmarks for the student's growth;
3. How the student's progress will be monitored and evaluated;
4. The type of additional instructional services and interventions the student may receive;
5. The intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading the student's teacher will use to address the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension;
6. The strategies the student's parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to the student are encouraged to use in assisting the student to achieve the student's reading goal; and
7. Any additional services the student's teacher determines are available and appropriate to accelerate the student's reading skill development.

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

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

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

- a. Provide at least ninety (90) minutes of evidence-based literacy instruction aligned to the science of reading during each school day;
- b. Assign the student to:

If the District has a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years, a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years; or

-If the District is unable to identify a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years, a teacher:

- o With a highly-effective rating according to the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
- o Deemed to be a high-performing teacher as defined by a Master Professional Educator designation.
- c. Provide parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to students with a "read-at-home" plan to support student early literacy growth, which shall include evidence-based science of reading strategies and tools that are aligned to a student's individual reading plan for parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to use with their student;
- d. Notify parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to a student regarding their student's eligibility for a literacy tutoring grant;
- e. Be given priority to receive a literacy tutoring grant; and
- f. Be given the option to participate in additional intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention programs aligned to the science of reading.

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

1. Provision of each student with access to high-dosage, targeted math tutoring in the subsequent school year, which shall include three (3) or more tutoring sessions a week in a one-on-one or small-group setting;

2. Assignment to:

- if the District has a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years, a teacher, with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years; or
- if the District is unable to find a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years, a teacher:
  - o With a highly-effective rating in the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
  - o Deemed to be a high-performing teacher as defined by a Master Professional Educator designation; and
- 3. Provision of each student with extended time on math instruction during or after school.

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

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

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

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

§ The student's SSP will be updated in order to assist the student with college and career readiness skills, course selection in high school, and improved academic achievement; and

§ Provide a basis for counseling concerning postsecondary preparatory programs.

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

An SSP shall be created:

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

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

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

GRADES 7-8

The district shall, at a minimum, evaluate each student annually in an effort to help each student who is not performing at grade level. Notice of student's possible retention shall be sent to parents as early as possible. Promotion/retention of a student will be based primarily on the following criteria. Any student failing 3 of the 4 core subjects for a yearly average shall be considered for retention.

Core subjects are defined as English, mathematics, science, and social studies. A yearly average will be computed by taking the final first semester average after semester exams and the second semester average after semester exams, adding them and dividing by 2. A final yearly average below 60 will result in failure for that particular subject. Students successfully completing IEP or 504 plans may be excluded from this by administrative approval. The decision will be made by a retention committee composed of the Principal, counselor, parents, and teachers of the core subjects in which the student is enrolled. If the conference attendees fail to agree concerning the student's placement, the final decision to promote or retain shall rest with the principal or his/her designee.

Summer school may be offered to students based on availability to recover a course so that a student may advance to the next grade level. Please note that only one course may be recovered during summer school. Attendance is required each day that summer school is offered. Food and transportation is not provided during summer school.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-2001; A.C.A. § 6-15-2005; A.C.A. § 6-15-2006; A.C.A. § 6-15-2907; A.C.A. § 6-15-2911; A.C.A. § 9-28-205

ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act Murphy v. State of Ark., 852 F.2d 1039 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988) Date Adopted: July 14, 2014

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

The Mountain View School District maintains the following policy regarding homework:

### **DEFINITION**

Homework is a specific activity or series of activities designed for the reinforcement or extension of school activities. Study of this variety occurs outside of regularly scheduled class periods. Homework assignments are an integral part of the teaching-learning process. Teachers within this district are expected to use homework assignments as a means of enhancing student learning experiences. Homework assignments must be educationally relevant to be acceptable as a means of complementing in-class learning experiences. A homework assignment is educationally relevant if it:

1. Reinforces a topic introduced during class by providing additional background information or promotes skill development through prescribed practice.
2. Introduces a topic that will be covered more extensively during class.
3. Meets the learning needs of individual students by encouraging the investigation of topics in which student interest has been expressed.
4. Provides opportunities for independent and shared research efforts.
5. Provides experiences utilizing varied instructional materials as a response to the differences in ability existing among individual learners.

### **GOALS**

Homework should be directed toward attainment of the following goals:

1. It should encourage development of independent study habits, skills, and responsibilities.
2. It should reinforce, enrich, and extend learning by providing additional educational opportunities outside the classroom.
3. It should provide for students a smooth gradual transition in the required amounts of homework necessary for academic success between elementary and intermediate grades and between intermediate and high school grades.

### **GRADES**

Homework assignments shall be evaluated in a manner similar to the evaluation of in-class assignments. Students are expected to complete all homework assignments and submit them for evaluation as they become due. At the discretion of the teacher, a student's homework assignment grade may be lowered proportionately for each assignment turned in after the specified due date. Provisions, without grading penalties, shall be made for students who, because of documented illness or extenuating circumstances, (1) fail to complete homework assignments, or (2) submit such assignments after the specified due dates.

### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The school principal has the responsibility to coordinate a homework plan among staff members, which implements this district policy. The principal shall communicate this plan to all parents at the beginning of each school year. The teacher has the responsibility to define and communicate expectations regarding homework to students and parents. Parents have the responsibility to cooperatively support this portion of the educational process by encouraging and becoming involved in the student's learning experiences. Each student has the responsibility to complete tasks upon the specified due dates.

### **LIMITATIONS**

The following limitations shall be followed regarding homework assignments:

1. Homework assignments shall not be used as a means of punishing inappropriate student behavior.
2. Homework assignments shall not require more time than specified for each grade level.

3. "Busywork" is not an acceptable class of homework assignment and shall not be required by any teacher.
4. Weekend homework should be limited to minimal use.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAXIMUM HOMEWORK BY GRADE LEVEL

Level	Total Minutes Per Day	Days Per Week	Study Skills
7-8	60-90	4	Reinforce basic skills. Read independently for concepts and facts. Identify main ideas and outline them in written form. Express self creatively in writing.
9-12	90-110	4	Apply, analyze, synthesize and evaluate facts and concepts. Gain comprehension of complex subject matter independently. Sustain acceptable academic performances.

#### **GRADING** (Ref. ASBA 5.15)

Parents or guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, or teachers. If the progress of a student is unsatisfactory in a subject, the teacher shall attempt to schedule a parent-teacher conference. In the conference, the teacher shall explain the reasons for difficulties and shall develop, cooperatively with the parents, a plan for remediation which may enhance the probability of the student succeeding. The school shall also send timely progress reports and issue grades for each nine-week grading period to keep parents/guardians informed of their student's progress.

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

The grading scale for all schools in the district shall be as follows:

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

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be:

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

The grade point values for accelerated learning courses-AP Courses for weighted credit shall be one (1) point greater than for regular courses with the exception that an F shall still be worth zero (0) points.

The grades of a child in foster care shall not be lowered due to an absence from school due to:

1. A change in the child's school enrollment;
2. The child's attendance at a dependency-neglect court proceeding; or
3. The child's attendance at court-ordered counseling or treatment.

The grade point values for accelerated learning courses for weighted credit shall be one (1) point greater than for regular courses with the exception that an F shall still be worth zero (0) points. The final grades of students who transfer in for part of a semester will be determined by blending the grades earned in the district with those earned outside the district. Each final grade will be the sum of the percentage of days in the grading period transferred from outside the district times the transferred grade from outside the district plus the percentage of days in the grading period while in the district times the grade earned in the district.

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

In grades K-6, the following symbols may also be used to designate student performance in a class if approved by the building principal:

O = Outstanding      S = Satisfactory      N = Needs Improvement      U = Unsatisfactory

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-902, State Board of Education: Standards for Accreditation 12.02, Arkansas Department of Education Rules and Regulations Governing Grading and Course Credit Date Adopted: July 8, 2013

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION** (Ref. ASBA 4.49)

In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and Arkansas Statutes, Mountain View School District shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities who reside:

- Within the district boundaries; or
- Outside of the District boundaries but are enrolled in the District.

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

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

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

Legal References: 34 C.F.R. 300 et seq., 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq. American with Disabilities Act, 29 U.S.C. § 794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, P.L. 108-446 The 2004 Reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, A.C.A. § 6-41-201 et seq. A.C.A. § 6-41-102, A.C.A. § 6-41-103 ; 29 U.S.C. § 794; 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq

### **STUDENT ACCELERATION** (Ref. ASBA 4.54)

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

Generally, acceleration can occur through one of two broad categories: content based and grade based. Grade based acceleration shortens the number of years a student would otherwise spend in K-12 education, while content based acceleration occurs within the normal K-12 time span. Either form of acceleration can be triggered by either a parent/guardian, student, or community member's request or by the referral of school personnel. In either case, the process of determining the appropriateness of the request shall be under the direction of the district/school<sup>1</sup> Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator. The district/school<sup>1</sup> Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator shall convene the Acceleration Placement Committee<sup>2</sup> and communicate with the individuals necessary for the Acceleration Placement Committee to make an informed decision, which shall include the student's parents or guardians.<sup>3</sup>

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

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

The parents/guardians of any student whose request for acceleration has been denied may appeal the decision, in writing to the District's GT Coordinator. The District's GT Coordinator<sup>1</sup> and the Acceleration Placement Committee will again thoroughly review the case study that was completed on the student. Upon completion of the review, the Committee will either request additional new testing



be conducted to help the Committee make its determination or it will uphold the initial decision. The Committee's decision may not be further appealed.

Legal Reference: DESE Gifted and Talented Rules

#### **4.64—STUDENT USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

Definitions “Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools” means Software applications or platforms that utilize machine learning algorithms to perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence, such as generating content, providing recommendations, or solving problems.

For purposes of this policy, AI tools do not include the use of spell check or grammar check. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the responsible use of AI tools by District students. The policy applies to all students enrolled in the district and covers the use of AI tools when completing District assignments or projects. The district shall provide teachers and students with resources and education on AI literacy and digital citizenship.

The Mountain View School District shall establish a committee who shall be responsible for the review and selection of AI tools that shall be available for students to use. All AI tools selected by the committee shall comply with applicable state and federal data privacy laws. Students shall only use AI tools that were approved by the district committee for classroom assignments or projects.

Teachers are responsible for providing instructions on when and how AI tools may be used for classroom assignments. Students may use AI tools as approved by their classroom teacher to enhance learning and develop future-ready skills. Students should use AI tools ethically and responsibly, aligning with the district’s educational objectives, and in a manner that does not harm themselves or others. As part of using AI tools responsibly, students should be cautious about the information they provide to AI tools and consult with a teacher if unsure.

At no time shall Students share personal, sensitive, or confidential information with AI tools, especially AI tools requiring data input. When a student uses AI tools, a student shall:

1. Review and verify the accuracy of content that is generated by an AI tool;
2. Cite AI tools used as part of an assignment or project as a source, following District citation guidelines; and
3. Be transparent about their use of AI in completing assignments. Students must ensure all submitted work is their own and properly acknowledge or cite any assistance from AI tools.

Students are encouraged to ask questions if they are unsure about the acceptable use of AI tools. The following actions regarding AI tools are strictly prohibited:

- Misuse of AI tools for cheating, plagiarism, or any form of academic dishonesty, including the submission of assignments that were fully generated by an AI tool and presented as original student work;
- Altering or falsifying academic documents or records using AI tools;
- Using AI tools to: o Gain unauthorized access to District systems; or o Bypass District security measures.
- Using AI tools to produce misleading or false information, imagery, or any form of false outputs about themselves, other students, or staff members.

Students should report any inappropriate content or security concerns encountered while using AI tools to a teacher or administrator. Violations of this policy shall be handled in accordance with the District’s disciplinary procedures.

Cross References: 3.58—LICENSED PERSONNEL USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; 4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS’ RECORDS/DIRECTORY INFORMATION; 5.10—ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; 7.16—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-2601 et seq.; A.C.A. § 25-1-128; 15 U.S.C. § 6501; 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED INFORMATION**

### **MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION PROCESS**

For the purposes of identification, special programming, and intervention, the Mountain View School District’s definition of *gifted and talented* is consistent with the state of Arkansas’ Department of Education’s definition:

*“Gifted and talented children and youth are those of high potential or ability whose learning characteristics and educational needs require qualitatively differentiated educational experiences and/or services.*

*Possession of these talents and gifts, or the potential for their development, will be evidenced through an interaction of above average intellectual ability, task commitment and/or motivation, and creative ability.”*

Identification of gifted and talented students in the Mountain View School District is an ongoing process extending from grades K-12. Written identification and placement procedures are available to all stakeholders. As pursuant with state rules and regulations, a public announcement is made to notify stakeholders of the nomination process.

The Arkansas Department of Education Gifted and Talented Guidelines require students to be formally evaluated and identified by an appointed placement committee before they can be placed in a gifted and talented program. Procedures for the Mountain View School District Gifted and Talented Program are as follows:

**NOMINATION PROCESS:** Students may be nominated by parents, teachers, peers, or by themselves at any time during the school year. Any nomination places the student in the talent pool. Being placed in the talent pool does not mean that the student will be placed in the G/T program. Being placed in the talent pool means that further information will be collected to determine if the student is eligible for placement in the G/T program. As there is no cut-off score pertaining to the acceptance of a student in the talent pool, data will be gathered on all nominations regardless of test scores.

A student may also be placed in the talent pool (nominated) if he/she scores at the 90th percentile on certain areas of the norm referenced test required by the state of Arkansas, or scores "Advanced" on any area of the state benchmark exam. After parent/guardian permission for GT screening is received, further information will then be obtained from parents and teachers of any student who is in the talent pool.

**INFORMATION USED IN IDENTIFICATION:** Information and scores used for identification may come from, but is not limited to, the following sources: Norm referenced test required by the state of Arkansas, Arkansas Benchmark Exams, Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test, STAR, Williams Creativity Test, Parent Nominations, Teacher Nominations, Peer Nominations, Self Nominations, Parent Ratings, and Teacher Ratings.

**NO STUDENT WILL BE INDIVIDUALLY TESTED WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT.**

**NO STUDENT MAY BE PLACED IN THE G/T PROGRAM WITHOUT HAVING TAKEN A TEST FOR CREATIVITY.**

**IDENTIFICATION:** Selection of students for the G/T program is the task of the Identification Committee which consists of at least five members chaired by a trained specialist in gifted education and including administrators, teachers, and/or counselors. Mountain View School District uses a blind screening process in determining eligibility for its G/T program. The G/T building teacher assigns a number to each child in the talent pool. That number will go on the child's profile instead of their name. When the identification committee reviews the profiles, the members of the committee will not know whose it is. This gives each child the same opportunity, reduces any perceived teacher biases, and should increase the public's trust in the selection process. However, an advocacy component in the blind screen selection process will be utilized to reexamine students who may need special services but were not identified in the initial selection process. (See Advocacy)

After all information is collected, the committee will review the collected data and determine whether the student's needs are being met in the regular classroom, or if services through the G/T program are necessary to meet that student's needs. Parents of students will be notified of the committee's decision. If the committee's decision is that a student is in need of G/T program services, then written parental consent for placement will be requested. If parental consent is granted, the student will be placed in an appropriate program.

**NO STUDENT WILL BE PLACED IN THE G/T PROGRAM WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT.**

**ADVOCACY:** If there is a student who is talented in an area which will not be measured by achievement or school ability tests (i.e. art or music), a person qualified to determine the extent of that student's abilities may be asked to give an opinion as to whether or not that student needs special services.

**APPEALS PROCESS:** The parent of a non-identified student has the right to appeal the Identification Committee's decision in writing within 10 days of receiving notification of the committee's decision.

- 1) The parent must submit a signed written appeal to the GT building administrator that contains specific reasons for the appeal and any additional information which might be helpful in a review of the placement decision.
- 2) The GT building administrator will present any new information to the Placement Committee for evaluation along with the data used during the initial placement meeting.
- 3) The Identification Committee will come to a consensus as to whether the student should  
or should not receive GT services.

- 4) The parent will be notified of the committee's decision.
- 5) The decision of the Identification Committee will be final with the understanding that future data (e.g. test scores, work samples, grades, etc.) may provide reason to reconsider student placement.

FOR INFORMATION: For more information about the G/T program, contact your local school.

## **CONCURRENT CREDIT 5.22**

A ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade student who successfully completes a college course(s) from an institution approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) shall be given credit toward high school grades and graduation at the rate of one (1) high school credit for each three (3) semester hours of college credit. Unless approved by the school's principal, prior to enrolling for the course, the concurrent credit shall be applied toward the student's graduation requirements as an elective.

As permitted by the ADESE Rules Governing Concurrent College and High School Credit, a student who takes a three (3) semester hour remedial/developmental education course shall receive a half (1/2) credit for a high school career focus elective. The remedial/developmental education course cannot be used to meet the core subject area/unit requirements in English and mathematics. Participation in the concurrent high school and college credit program must be documented by a written agreement between:

The student; The student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) if the student is under the age of eighteen (18);

The District; and The publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private institution the student attends to take the concurrent credit course.

Students are responsible for having the transcript for the concurrent credit course(s) they've taken sent to their school in order to receive credit for the course(s). Credit for concurrent credit courses will not be given until a transcript is received. Students may not receive credit for the course(s) they took or the credit may be delayed if the transcripts are not received at all or in a timely manner; this may jeopardize students' eligibility for extracurricular activities, graduation, or honor graduate status.

Students will retain credit earned through the concurrent credit program that was applied toward a course required for high school graduation from a previously attended, accredited, public school. A student failing a concurrent course will not be allowed to take a concurrent credit class (s) the following semester.

A student or a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student shall not be responsible for tuition, fees, or materials for participation in a concurrent credit course.

Acceleration Scholarship Program funds may also be used to pay for concurrent credit courses.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-902(c)(2) A.C.A. § 6-16-1201 et seq. A.C.A. § 6-18-232 DESE: Governing Concurrent College and High School Credit for Students Who Have Completed the Eighth Grade

## **5.19—ARKANSAS COURSE CHOICE PROGRAM**

District students in grades six through twelve (6-12) are eligible to take courses through the Arkansas Course Choice Program (ACCP) if the student is:

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

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

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

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

1. Required assessments, including without limitation:
  - a. Statewide assessments;
  - b. Advanced Placement; and
  - c. International Baccalaureate;
2. Participation in extracurricular or co-curricular activities; and
3. Special education services pursuant to the student's individualized education program. Credits earned through the ACCP shall appear on a student's official transcript and count fully towards the student's graduation requirements.

Notes: This language matches that in the definition of "eligible student" from A.C.A. § 6-16-1702. The State Board has until 2026 to establish the official ACCP course catalog. Cross Reference: 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES; Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-15-1701 et seq.

#### **4.66—ARKANSAS DIRECT ADMISSIONS PROGRAM**

The District shall participate in the Arkansas Direct Admissions Program. As part of the District's participation, the District shall provide data to the Division of Higher Education (DHE) that includes, without limitation:

1. A student's grade point average;
2. A student's assessment scores;
3. A student's course completion; and
4. Other information required by DHE.

The District shall inform all students about how the student may participate in the Arkansas Direct Admissions Program. The District shall not actively discourage or prohibit an eligible student from participating in the Arkansas Direct Admissions Program.

Notes: A.C.A. § 6-60-1703 requires that the Program be in place for the graduating class of 2026-2027. Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-60-1701 et seq.

#### **5.21—ACCELERATED LEARNING COURSES**

##### **Definition**

"Accelerated learning" means an organized method of learning that enables a student to meet individual academic goals and graduation requirements while pursuing higher levels of skill development, including without limitation the following coursework:

1. A College Board Pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement (AP) course;
2. An International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme course;
3. A Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education course;
4. A concurrent credit course; and
5. A substantively similar course or program approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who accelerated learning courses or other courses approved for weighted credit by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) or the Division of Career and Technical Education (DCTE) shall be graded according to the following schedule:

A = 100 – 90	B = 89 – 80	
C = 79 – 70	D = 69 – 60	F = 59 and below

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be:

A = 5 points	B = 4 points	
C = 3 points	D = 2 point	F = 0 points

For a student to be eligible to receive weighted credit for an AP, or IB course:

- The course must be taught by an Arkansas licensed teacher who has received the appropriate training required by the appropriate accrediting organization; and
- The student takes the applicable AP or IB examination after completing the entire course. Credit shall be given for each grading period during the course of the year, but shall be retroactively removed from a student's grade for any course in which the student fails to take the applicable exam. Students who do not take the applicable exam shall receive the same numeric value for the grade the student receives in the course as if it were a non-AP or IB course.

DESE shall approve additional courses, including other accelerated learning courses, for weighted credit if the course:

- a. Exceeds the curriculum standards for a non-weighted credit class;
- b. Meets or exceeds the standards of a comparable accelerated learning course; or
- c. Is identified by DESE as an honors class.

For career and technical education courses taken after July 1, 2023, career and technical courses that are eligible for weighted credit are those career and technical education courses that:

- Exceed the curriculum standards for a non-weighted class; and
- Lead to an approved industry-recognized certification or concurrent credit.

A student shall receive weighted credit for each approved career and technical education course upon the student:

- Completing the relevant career and technical pathway; and
- Earning the high-value industry credential aligned with the career and technical pathway.

A student who transfers into the district will be given weighted credit for the accelerated learning courses and other courses approved

by DESE and DCTE for weighted credit that were taken for weighted credit at the student's previous school(s) according to the preceding scale.

Notes: A.C.A. § 6-18-232 prohibits a private school or home schooled student who is attending a concurrent credit course through the district under Policy 4.59 from being charged for the concurrent course unless the district also charges the district's students for concurrent credit courses. A.C.A. § 6-15-902(c)(2)(B) and the DESE Rules stipulate that students must take the applicable AP exam to receive weighted credit for the course. Because the state now pays the total cost of the AP exams and the student's score on the exam does not affect the student's grade for the course, students can reasonably be expected to take the test. By standardizing the timing of awarding weighted credit across Arkansas, all students will be on a level playing field regarding their GPA for college applications. Legal References: DESE Rules and Regulations Governing and Course Credit; ADE Rules Governing Advanced Placement Courses in the Four Core Areas in High School A.C.A. § 6-15-902(c)(1), A.C.A. § 6-16-806; A.C.A. § 6-16-1201 et seq.

#### **4.45—GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2026**

Information regarding Graduation requirements will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade, or when a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time. This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades six (6) through twelve (12) and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. All students are required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when required by their IEP to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians as part of the creation of the student's Student Success Plan.

This policy and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents as part of the annual school district strategic plan development process to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall select the composition of the review panel. Sufficient information relating to the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding this shall be accomplished through holding an informational meeting for parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to students enrolled in grades six through twelve (6-12) with the school counselor and may be accomplished through any or all of the additional following means:

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

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

#### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation. In addition to the twenty-two (22) units required for graduation by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district. Accelerated learning courses or career education courses that are determined by DESE to be eligible for use in the place of a listed course may be substituted for the course as designated by DESE.

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

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

##### **Personal and Family Finance**

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

##### **Computer Science**

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

English: four (4) units – 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

· Algebra or its equivalent\* - 1 unit

· Geometry or its equivalent\* - 1 unit

· All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills. (Comparable accelerated learning courses may be substituted where applicable) · A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry.

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

Science: three (3) units

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

Social Studies: three (3) units

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross References: 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION 5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT;5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND INDEPENDENT STUDIES;5.16—COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE PREREQUISITES AND PROGRESSION Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-C.2, 1-C.2.1, 1-C.2.2, 1-C.2.3; DESE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning; Commissioner's Memo LS-18-082;A.C.A. § 6-4-302;A.C.A. § 6-15-2906 A.C.A. § 6-15-2911;A.C.A. § 6-16-122;A.C.A. § 6-16-143;A.C.A. § 6-16-149;A.C.A. § 6-16-150 A.C.A. § 6-16-152;A.C.A. § 6-28-115

### **4.45.1 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2027 AND THEREAFTER**

Information regarding Graduation requirements will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade, or when a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time. This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades six (6) through twelve (12) and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. All students are required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when required by their IEP to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians as part of the creation of the student's Student Success Plan.

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

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

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

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

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

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation. In addition to the twenty-two (22) units required for graduation by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district. Accelerated learning courses or career education courses that are determined by DESE to be eligible for use in the place of a listed course may be substituted for the course as designated by DESE.

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

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

### **Personal and Family Finance**

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

### **Computer Science**

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

### **Community Service**

Except as otherwise provided by this policy or the student’s IEP, each student must receive seventy-five (75) clock hours of community service that is certified by the service agency or organization where the student volunteers or the student’s parent. The community service must be in programs or activities, either in Arkansas or outside of Arkansas, that meet the requirements established by the State Board and the District Board of Directors and include preparation, action, and reflection components. A student who transfers into the District after ninth (9th) grade must receive at least the following documented clock hours of community service each year:

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

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

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

English: four (4) units – 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>      Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

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

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

Science: three (3) units

a. DESE approved biology – 1 credit;

b. DESE approved physical science – 1 credit; and

c. A third unit that is either:

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

Social Studies: three (3) units

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

Physical Education: one-half (½) unit **Note:** While one-half (½) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (½) unit

Economics – one half (½) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

Fine Arts: one-half (½) unit

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

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

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

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

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-C.2, 1-C.2.1, 1-C.2.2, 1-C.2.3; DESE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning: Commissioner's Memo COM-24-021; Commissioner's Memo LS-18-082; A.C.A. § 6-4-302; A.C.A. § 6-15-2906; A.C.A. § ~~6-15-2911~~; A.C.A. § 6-16-122; A.C.A. § 6-16-143; A.C.A. § 6-16-149; A.C.A. § 6-16-150; A.C.A. § 6-16-152; A.C.A. § 6-16-1901 et seq.; A.C.A. § 6-28-115

## HEALTH SERVICES

### IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN ARKANSAS

	VACCINE	MINIMUM NUMBER REQUIRED*	ADDITIONAL
1	Diphtheria/Tetanus/ Pertussis-DPT, DT- Pediatric, or TD Adult	5	The last dose of DPT TD must be after the child's 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday; Additional dose required on or after 11 <sup>th</sup> birthday.
2	Polio	4	The last dose of polio must be after the child is 4.
3	Measles (M, MR, MMR)	2	The dose must be given on or after the child's 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday and 6/1/1969.
4	Hepatitis B	3	Required for Kindergarten, 7 <sup>th</sup> and transfer students.
5	Varicella	2	Required for new Kindergarten students. Professional medical history may be accepted in lieu of vaccine.
6	Hepatitis A	2	The dose must be given on or after the child's 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday.
7	MCV4	2	The dose must be given on or after the child's 11th birthday and 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose at age 16.

Reference: [https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Files/20201102114414\\_FINAL\\_Immunizations.pdf](https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Files/20201102114414_FINAL_Immunizations.pdf)

### IMMUNIZATIONS (Ref. ASBA 4.57)

#### Definitions

"In process" means the student has received at least one dose of the required immunizations and is waiting the minimum time interval to receive the additional dose(s).

"Serologic testing" refers to a medical procedure used to determine an individual's immunity to Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella.

#### General Requirements

Unless otherwise provided by law or this policy, no student shall be admitted to attend classes in the District who has not been age appropriately immunized against<sup>1</sup>:

- Poliomyelitis                      Tetanus
- Diphtheria                         Hepatitis A



- Pertussis
  - Red (rubeola) measles
  - Rubella;
  - Mumps
  - Meningococcal disease
- Hepatitis B  
Varicella (chickenpox)  
Any other immunization required by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)

The District administration has the responsibility to evaluate the immunization status of District students. The District shall maintain a list of all students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or who have an exemption provided by ADH to the immunization requirements based on medical, religious, or philosophical grounds. Students who are not fully age appropriately immunized when seeking admittance shall be referred to a medical authority for consultation.

The only types of proof of immunization the District will accept are immunization records provided by a:

- A. Licensed physician;
  - B. Health department;
  - C. Military service
  - D. Official record from another educational institution in Arkansas; or
  - E. An immunization record printed off of the statewide immunization registry with the Official Seal of the State of Arkansas.
- The proof of immunization must include the vaccine type and dates of vaccine administration. Documents stating “up-to-date”, “complete”, “adequate”, and the like will not be accepted as proof of immunization. No self or parental history of varicella disease will be accepted as a history of varicella disease must be documented by a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, doctor of osteopathy, or physician assistant. Valid proof of immunization and of immunity based on serological testing shall be entered into the student’s record.

In order to continue attending classes in the District, the student must have submitted:

- 1) Proof of immunization showing the student to be fully age appropriately vaccinated;
- 2) Written documentation by a public health nurse or private physician of proof the student is in process of being age appropriately immunized, which includes a schedule of the student's next immunization;
- 3) A copy of a letter from ADH indicating immunity based on serologic testing; and/or
- 4) A copy of the letter from ADH exempting the student from the immunization requirements for the current school year, or a copy of the application for an exemption for the current school year if the exemption letter has not yet arrived.

Students whose immunization records or serology results are lost or unavailable are required to receive all age appropriate vaccinations or submit number 4 above.

### Temporary Admittance

While students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or have not yet submitted an immunization waiver may be enrolled to attend school, such students shall be allowed to attend school on a temporary basis only. Students admitted on a temporary basis may be admitted for a maximum of thirty (30) days (or until October 1st of the current school year for the tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, and meningococcal vaccinations required at ages eleven (11) and sixteen (16) respectively if October 1<sup>st</sup> is later in the current school year than the thirty (30) days following the student's admittance). No student shall be withdrawn and readmitted in order to extend the thirty (30) day period. Students may be allowed to continue attending beyond the thirty (30) day period if the student submits a copy of either number 2 or number 4 above.

Students who are in process shall be required to adhere to the submitted schedule. Failure of the student to submit written documentation from a public health nurse or private physician demonstrating the student received the vaccinations set forth in the schedule may lead to the revocation of the student's temporary admittance; such students shall be excluded from school until the documentation is provided.

The District will not accept copies of applications requesting an exemption for the current school year that are older than two (2) weeks based on the date on the application. Students who submit a copy of an application to receive an exemption from the immunization requirements for the current year to gain temporary admittance have thirty (30) days from the admission date to submit either a letter from ADH granting the exemption or documentation demonstrating the student is in process and a copy of the immunization schedule. Failure to submit the necessary documentation by the close of the thirty (30) days will result in the student being excluded until the documentation is submitted.

### Exclusion from School

In the event of an outbreak, students who are not fully age appropriately immunized, are in process, or are exempt from the immunization requirements may be required to be excluded from school in order to protect the student. ADH shall determine if it is

necessary for students to be excluded in the event of an outbreak. Students may be excluded for twenty-one (21) days or longer depending on the outbreak. No student excluded due to an outbreak shall be allowed to return to school until the District receives approval from ADH.

Students who are excluded from school are not eligible to receive homebound instruction unless the excluded student had a pre-existing IEP or 504 Plan and the IEP/504 team determines homebound instruction to be in the best interest of the student. To the extent possible, the student's teacher(s) shall place in the principal's office a copy of the student's assignments:

- for the remainder of the week by the end of the initial school day of the student's exclusion; and
- by the end of each school's calendar week for the upcoming week until the student returns to school.<sup>2</sup>

It is the responsibility of the student or the student's parent/legal guardian to make sure that the student's assignments are collected.

Students excluded from school shall have five (5) school days from the day the student returns to school to submit any homework and to make up any examinations. State mandated assessments are not included in "examinations" and the District has no control over administering state mandated make-up assessments outside of the state's schedule. Students shall receive a grade of zero for any assignment or examination not completed or submitted on time.

Annually by December 1, the District shall create, maintain, and post to the District's website a report that includes the following for each disease requiring an immunization under this policy:

- o The number of students in the District that were granted an exemption by the Department of Health from an immunization;
- o The percentage of students in the District that were granted an exemption by the Department of Health from an immunization;
- o The number of students within the District who have failed to provide to the public school proof of the vaccinations required and have not obtained an exemption from ADH;
- o The percentage of students within the District who have failed to provide to the public school proof of the vaccinations required and have not obtained an exemption from ADH; and
- o The percentage of a population that must receive an immunization for herd immunity to exist.

Legal References: C.A. § 6-18-702 DESE Rules Governing Immunization Requirements In Arkansas Public Schools ADH Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Immunization Requirements

## **STUDENT MEDICATIONS** (Ref. ASBA 4.35)

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

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

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

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

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

The only Schedule II medications that shall be allowed to be brought to the school are methylphenidate (e.g. Ritalin or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), and amphetamine sulfate (e.g. Adderall or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse). To help ensure their safe keeping, any such medications brought to the school nurse shall be stored in a double locked cabinet.

For the student's safety, no student will be allowed to attend school if the student is currently taking any other Schedule II medication than permitted by this policy. Students who are taking Schedule II medications which are not allowed to be brought to school shall be

eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP and 504 plans.

### **Self-Administration of Medication**

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

- Self-administer either a:-Rescue inhaler; or Auto-injectable or nasal spray epinephrine;
- 1. Perform the student's own blood glucose checks;
- 2. Administer insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
- 3. Treat the student's own hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia; or
- 4. Possess on the student's person:
  - A. A rescue inhaler;
  - B. Auto-injectable or nasal spray epinephrine; or
  - C. The necessary supplies and equipment to perform the student's own diabetes monitoring and treatment functions.

A student may be authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication to treat the student's adrenal insufficiency with:

- 1. The written authorization of the student's parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis; and
- 2. A written order from the student's treating physician stating that the student:
  - a. Is capable of completing the proper method of self-administration of the stress dose medication; and
  - b. Has been instructed on the details of the student's medical condition and the events that may lead to an adrenal crisis.

The parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who is authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication shall sign an IHP developed by the school nurse for the school where the student is enrolled. The IHP shall include a requirement for the notification of appropriate staff following the self-administration of a stress dose medication, which shall include the school nurse, teacher of the classroom where the stress dose medication was administered, and a school administrator.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Emergency Administration of Epinephrine**

The school nurse or other trained school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been certified by a

licensed physician may administer epinephrine, either through an auto-injector or nasal spray, in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of epinephrine in emergency situations.

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

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

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

#### **Emergency Administration of Albuterol**

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

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

The school nurse for each District school shall keep albuterol on hand. The school nurse or other trained<sup>6</sup> school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been certified by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may administer albuterol to those students who the school nurse, or other trained<sup>6</sup> school employee certified to administer albuterol, in good faith professionally believes is in perceived respiratory distress.

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

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

An opioid overdose rescue kit shall be placed within all storage locations in the District high school buildings that currently contain an automated external defibrillator for public use. The opioid overdose rescue kits shall be located where it is readily available to the public, be visually free of advertisement, and contain an anti-opioid.

#### **Emergency Administration of Emergency Adrenal Insufficiency Medication**

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

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other trained school employee(s) certified to administer an injectable emergency dose medication to administer an injectable emergency dose medication to the student when the employee believes the student is having an adrenal crisis due to adrenal insufficiency.

Students who have met the requirements to be authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication under this policy shall provide the school nurse an emergency injectable dose of the student's medication. This emergency injectable dose will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer an injectable emergency dose medication, in good faith professionally believes the student is having an adrenal crisis due to adrenal insufficiency.

#### **Seizure Disorder Medication**

Students who have been diagnosed with a seizure disorder shall have a seizure action plan that shall be a written IHP designed to acknowledge and prepare for the healthcare needs of the student. The student's seizure action plan shall be created in collaboration

between District staff and the student's Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis or the student if over eighteen (18). As part of the creation of the student's seizure action plan, the student's Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis shall:

1. Provide the school with written authorization to administer the seizure medication at school;
2. Provide a written statement from the student's healthcare provider that shall contain the following information:
  - The student's name;                      · The name and purpose of the medication;
  - The prescribed dosage;                      · The route of administration;
  - The frequency that the medication should be administered; and
  - The circumstances under which the medication should be administered;
1. Provide the prescribed medication to the school in its unopened, sealed package with the label affixed by the dispensing pharmacy intact, which shall be stored in a safe and secure location accessible only by District personnel or volunteers with training to administer seizure medication.

The written authorization, written statement, and seizure action plan shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse or school administrator and distributed to any school personnel or volunteers responsible for the supervision or care of the student. Legal References: Ark. State Board of Nursing: School Nurse Roles and Responsibilities, Arkansas Department of Education and Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules Governing the Administration of Glucagon to Arkansas Public School Students Suffering from Type I Diabetes, A.C.A. § 6-18-707, A.C.A. § 6-18-1005(a)(6), A.C.A. § 17-87-103 (11) Date Adopted: July 8, 2013

### **STUDENT ILLNESS/ ACCIDENT (Ref. ASBA 4.36)**

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

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

Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES (Ref. ASBA 4.34)**

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

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

The District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records as defined in policy (PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS /DIRECTORY INFORMATION). That policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated. The student may not return to the school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health. The parents or legal guardians of students found to have human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment will be asked to come to the school to pick their child up. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites. The school nurse will excuse 2 days per semester for the eradication and control of human host parasites, i.e. head lice. A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined the student is free of lice or nits. Each school may conduct screenings of students for human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment as

needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-702, Arkansas State Board of Health Rules And Regulations Pertaining To Immunization Requirements Date Adopted: June 11, 2012

### **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS (Ref. ASBA 4.41)**

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

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-701 (b), (c), (f) Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

### **504/STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS**

It is the policy of the Mountain View School District to provide students with special health care needs individualized health care intervention to enable participation in the educational placement. These students include those:

1. Who may require administration and/or special procedures during the school day
2. Who may use a particular health care device that compensates for the loss of a vital body function
3. Who may have a chronic medical condition that is currently stable but may require routine or emergency health care procedures
4. Who may require the provision of substantial, special or frequent health care to avert death or further disability.

Individualized health care intervention shall be determined through a process of referral and identification culminating in the development of an individualized health care plan (IHCP). The 504 Coordinator may ask for the most current treatment plan from the treating physician to best address the need(s) for the student.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

#### **STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS (Ref. ASBA 4.12)**

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

1. The meeting is to be voluntary and student initiated;
2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;
3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time;
4. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

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

Fraternities, sororities, and secret societies are forbidden in the District's schools. Membership to student organizations shall not be by a vote of the organization's members, nor be restricted by the student's race, religion, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria.

Hazing, as defined by law, is forbidden in connection with initiation into, or affiliation with, any student organization, extracurricular activity or sport program.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-5-201 et seq., A.C.A. § 6-21-201 et seq., 20 U.S.C. 4071 Equal Access Act, Board of Education of the Westside Community Schools v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990), A.C.A. § 6-18-601 et seq. Date Adopted: July 11, 2011

### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES- SECONDARY SCHOOLS (Ref. ASBA 4.56)**

Definitions:

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

"Extracurricular activities" are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work,

perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to, inter/intrascholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.

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

“Interscholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.<sup>1</sup>

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

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

#### Extracurricular Eligibility

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

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

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

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

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

#### Interscholastic Activities

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.<sup>5</sup>

#### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Junior High

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

The first semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester. The second semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed (4) academic courses the previous semester which count toward his/her high school graduation requirements. Ninth-grade students must meet the requirements of the senior high scholarship rule by the end of the second semester in the ninth grade in order to be eligible to participate in the fall semester of their tenth-grade year.

#### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Senior High

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

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

#### STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

Homeless Student: Students who are determined to be experiencing homelessness by the school's homeless LEA shall be eligible for participation in interscholastic activities.

#### ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

In addition to the foregoing rules, the district shall abide by the rules of AAA governing interscholastic activities. AAA provides catastrophic insurance coverage for students participating in AAA governed extracurricular activities who are enrolled in school. As a matter of District policy, no student may participate in a AAA governed extracurricular activity unless he or she is enrolled in a district school, to ensure all students are eligible for AAA catastrophic insurance.<sup>6</sup>

##### Intrascholastic Activities

AAA Governed Activities: Students participating in intrascholastic extracurricular activities that would be governed by AAA if they were to occur between students of different schools shall meet all interscholastic activity eligibility requirements to be eligible to participate in the comparable intrascholastic activity. The District will abide by the AAA Handbook for such activities to ensure District students are not disqualified from participating in interscholastic activities.<sup>7</sup>

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

##### School Choice Transfers

A student who transfers under a legal school choice option shall not be denied participation in an extracurricular activity where the student transfers based exclusively on the student's decision to transfer. A student who transfers after July 1 of the year the student enters grade seven (7) shall complete a Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form as defined by AAA, which must be signed by the:

- Superintendent of the student's resident school district;
- Superintendent of the nonresident school district to which the student transfers; and
- Parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student.

The completed Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form shall be filed with the non-resident school district where the student transfers and the AAA. The Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form shall be signed by the superintendent of a student's resident school district and the superintendent of the nonresident school district to which a student transfers unless there is demonstrable evidence of recruiting by the receiving school district personnel or that the student is transferring to the nonresident school district solely for athletic purposes.

##### School Choice Transfers

A student who transfers under a legal school choice option shall not be denied participation in an extracurricular activity where the student transfers based exclusively on the student's decision to transfer. A student who transfers after June 1 of the year the student enters grades seven through ten (7-10) shall complete a Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form as defined by AAA, which must be signed by the:

- Superintendent of the student's resident school district;
- Superintendent of the nonresident school district to which the student transfers; and
- Parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student.

The completed Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form shall be filed with the non-resident school district where the student transfers and the AAA. The Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form shall be signed by the superintendent of a student's resident school district and the superintendent of the nonresident school district to which a student transfers unless there is demonstrable evidence of recruiting by the receiving school district personnel or that the student is transferring to the nonresident school district solely for athletic purposes.

A student who transfers into the District and is enrolled in the District by June 1 of the school year the transfer student will be enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10) shall be immediately eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity that is an athletic



activity. If a transfer student is not enrolled in the District by June 1 of the school year the student will be enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10), then the transfer student shall not be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity that is a varsity athletic activity for up to three hundred sixty-five (365) days.

NOTES: The standards as outlined above are minimum standards and can be raised locally if desired. If your district does not offer a SIP, delete the references to it in your policy.

AAA standards allow a student to participate in an SIP for a maximum of two consecutive semesters and require the student to improve his/her GPA by at least 10% by the end of the first semester to remain eligible for the second semester. By the end of the second semester, the student must have attained a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for competitive interscholastic activities. Following one or more semesters where the student has attained a 2.0 GPA, this cycle may be repeated.

<sup>1</sup> The definition for interscholastic activities is effectively taken from the AAA Handbook and is the origin for the extrapolated definition of intrascholastic activities. When it comes to implementing this policy, it may be important/helpful to keep in mind that the Handbook also points out the following: Performance activities such as band, speech, drama, etc. may be viewed as competitive arenas both internally (ratings by individual schools) and externally (comparisons of individual or school ratings with a view toward determining an ultimate winner). Additionally, both inter and intra scholastic activities may be curricular if the activity is required as part of the course.

Footnote This also applies to home schooled students and is cleverly accommodated by an adjustment to APSCN reporting outlined in Commissioner's Memo FIN-14-11 or Commissioner's Memo COM-18-009 if the student is also taking courses in accordance with Policy 4.59.

NOTE: The AAA handbook contains rules prohibiting students who participate on school sponsored teams of the following interscholastic activities from being permitted to participate in practices and competitions for the same sport during the same season of the interscholastic activity:

Football; Basketball; Baseball; Softball; and Volleyball.

Cross References: 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION 4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - ELEMENTARY Legal References: Arkansas Activities Association Handbook A.C.A. § 6-4-302; A.C.A. § 6-15-2907; A.C.A. § 6-16-151; A.C.A. § 6-18-114; A.C.A. § 6-18-115; A.C.A. § 6-18-227; A.C.A. § 6-18-713; A.C.A. § 6-18-1904 A.C.A. § 6-28-108; Commissioner's Memo COM-18-009; Commissioner's Memo LS-18-015 Date Adopted: Last Revised: Legal References: State Board of Education Standards for Accreditation 10.05 and 10.06 A.C.A. § 6-4-302 A.C.A. § 6-15-2907 A.C.A. § 6-18-712 Date Adopted: July 14, 2014

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS (Ref. ASBA- 4.56.2)**

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

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools subject to rules of the Arkansas Activities Association that is outside the regular curriculum of the school district, such as an athletic activity, fine arts program, or a special interest group or club. Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.

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

Home-schooled students whose parent or legal guardian are not residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the District if:

- The superintendent of the student's resident district and the superintendent of the District both agree in writing to allow the student to participate in interscholastic activities at the District; or

- The student's resident school does not offer the interscholastic activity and the superintendent of the non-resident district agrees to allow the student to enroll in the interscholastic activity.

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

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

To be eligible to try out and participate in interscholastic activities, the student or the parent of a student shall mail or hand deliver the student's request to participate to the student's school's principal before the signup, tryout or participation deadline established for traditional students. Additionally, the student shall demonstrate academic eligibility by obtaining a minimum test score of the 30<sup>th</sup>

percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition; another nationally recognized norm-referenced test; or a minimum score on a test approved by the State Board of Education.

A student who meets the requirements for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity is required to register for no more than one non-academic course in the District's school where the student is intending to participate in an interscholastic activity that coincides with the interscholastic activity in which the homeschooled student participates and shall be required to be at school only when participation in the interscholastic activity requires other students who participate in the interscholastic activity to be at school.

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

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

A home-schooled student who has met the tryout criteria and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

- standards of behavior and codes of conduct.
- attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.
- required drug testing.
- permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
- participation or activity fees.

Students who participate in extracurricular or athletic activities under this policy will be transported to and from the interscholastic activities on the same basis as other students are transported. A home schooled student may begin participating in an interscholastic activity immediately upon being approved to participate by the District if:

- The home-schooled student has not withdrawn from an Arkansas Activities Association member school; or
- The student has withdrawn from an AAA member school and enrolled in a home school but did not participate in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity sport at the student's resident district prior to the students withdrawal from the AAA member school.

A home schooled student shall not be eligible to participate for up to three hundred sixty-five (365) days if:

1. The District is the home schooled student's resident district and the home schooled student is not approved to participate in an interscholastic activity at the District by June 1 of the school year the student will be enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10);
2. The District is not the home schooled student's resident district and the home schooled student is not approved to participate in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity at the District by June 1 of the school year the student will be enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10); or
3. The home schooled student ~~who~~ withdrew from an AAA member school and participated in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity at the student's resident district during the previous three hundred sixty-five (365) days and is seeking to participate in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity in the District.

A student who is prohibited from participating in an interscholastic activity due to number 1 (one) shall not become eligible to participate in any interscholastic activity until the completion of the three hundred sixty-five (365) day period. A student who is prohibited from participating in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity due to numbers 2 or 3 shall not be eligible for full participation in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity until the completion of the three hundred sixty-five (365) day period. A student who is not eligible for full participation may participate in tryouts, practices, classes, or other endeavors associated with the interscholastic activity until the completion of the three hundred sixty-five (365) day period.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-509 A.C.A. § 6-16-151 A.C.A. § 6-18-232 A.C.A. § 6-18-713 Arkansas Activities Association Handbook Commissioner's Memo COM-18-009 Commissioner's Memo LS-18-015 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Home Schools

## CODE OF CONDUCT

### STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Ref. ASBA 4.17)

The Mountain View School District Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the District's students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies

necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

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

MVSD administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to:

- A felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult;
- An assault or battery;
- Drug law violations; or
- Sexual misconduct of a serious nature.

The District's personnel policy committee shall annually review the student discipline policies, including State and District student discipline data, and may recommend changes in the policies to the Mountain View School District School Board. The Board shall approve any changes to student discipline policies.

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

The District shall develop and provide programs, measures, or alternative means and methods for continued student engagement and educational access during periods of suspension and expulsion. The District shall incorporate a multi-tiered behavioral intervention procedures.

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

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502, A.C.A. § 6-17-113, A.C.A. § 6-18-514, DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

### **PROHIBITED CONDUCT (Ref. ASBA 4.18)**

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

1. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;
2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;
3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;
4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;
5. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;
6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;
7. Possession of any paging device, beeper, or similar electronic communication devices on the school campus during normal school hours unless specifically exempted by the administration for health or other compelling reasons;

8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;
9. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
10. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
11. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
12. Gambling;
13. Inappropriate student dress;
14. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;
15. Truancy;
16. Excessive tardiness;
17. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability;
18. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;
19. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
20. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, "throwing signs" or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;
21. Sexual- based harassment;
22. Bullying; and
23. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using a wireless communication device.
24. Theft of another individual's personal property

The Board directs each school in the District to develop implementation regulations for prohibited student conduct consistent with applicable Board policy, State and Federal laws, and judicial decisions. Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502, A.C.A. § 6-18-707, A.C.A. § 6-15-1005, A.C.A. § 6-21-609, A.C.A. § 6-15-1005, A.C.A. § 6-18-222, A.C.A. § 6-5-201, A.C.A. § 6-18-514, A.C.A. § 6-21-609, A.C.A. § 21-51-1602, A.C.A. § 21-51-1603, A.C.A. § 21-51-1609, DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

### **CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY (Ref. ASBA 4.19)**

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

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices.<sup>1</sup> The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. In addition to other disciplinary measures provided for violations of the District's Student Code of Conduct, the student's bus transportation privileges may be suspended or terminated for violations of the Student Code of Conduct related to bus behavior.

Students are eligible to receive district bus transportation if they meet the following requirements.<sup>2</sup> The transportation to and from school of students who have lost their bus transportation privileges is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 5-60-122; A.C.A. § 6-19-119 (b) Ark. Division of Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing Maintenance and Operations of Ark. Public School Buses and Physical Examinations of School Bus Drivers 4.0

### **DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL (Ref. ASBA 4.20)**

Definition:

"Appropriate interim learning environment" means an appropriate learning environment that is used for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) days.

"Appropriate learning environment" means a setting within the District that provides a similar structure to the following, without limitation:

1. A classroom or In-school suspension.

"Violent or abusive behavior" means, without limitation:

- a. Using threatening language;
- b. Throwing an item that risks or causes:
  - Harm to another individual;

- Injury to another individual; or
- Damage to property;
- c. Physically abusing a teacher or another student; or
- d. Any other similar action that presents a physical danger or a threat of physical danger to a teacher or another student.

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

Disorderly activities by any student or group of students that adversely affect the school's orderly educational environment shall not be tolerated at any time on school grounds. A teacher may, but is not required to, remove a student from class:

- Who has been documented by the teacher as repeatedly interfering with the teacher's ability to teach the students in the class or with the ability of the student's classmates to learn; or
- Whose behavior is so unruly, disruptive, violent, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach the students, the class, or with the ability of the student's classmates to learn.

A student who is removed from class shall:

- Be sent to the office of the principal or the principal's designee;
- Be escorted from the classroom by the school administration if the student refuses to leave the classroom voluntarily;
- Not be returned to the teacher's class until a conference is held; and
- Be placed in another appropriate classroom learning environment until the conference is completed.

The conference shall be held for the purpose of:

1. Determining the causes of the problem that led to the student's removal and possible solutions;
2. Serving as a manifestation determination review if the student removed from the class is a student with a disability;
3. Determining if a behavioral threat assessment is necessary for the student who was removed from the class due to violent behavior.

The following individuals shall be present at the conference:

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

The failure of the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis to attend the conference shall not prevent the conference from being held nor prevent any action from being taken as a result of that conference.

Following the conclusion of the conference, the principal or the principal's designee may take any of the following actions against a student who was removed from class:

- § Place the student into another appropriate learning environment or into in-school suspension;
- § Except for a student who was removed for violent or abusive behavior, return the student to the class; or
- § Take other appropriate action consistent with the District's discipline policy, state law, and federal law.

A student who is removed from class three (3) times during the same school year shall be placed in another appropriate learning environment for the remainder of the school year. The District shall follow all requirements under the IDEA and 504 for students with a disability, including those surrounding a change in placement.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-511, DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

## **STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY (Ref. ASBA 4.21)**

A student shall not threaten, physically abuse, or attempt to physically abuse, or behave in such a way as to be perceived to threaten bodily harm to any other person (student, school employee, or school visitor). Any gestures, vulgar, abusive or insulting language,

taunting, threatening, harassing, or intimidating remarks by a student toward another person that threatens their well-being is strictly forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, fighting, racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual slurs.

Furthermore, it is unlawful, during regular school hours, and in a place where a public school employee is required to be in the course of his or her duties, for any person to address a public school employee using language which, in its common understanding, is calculated to: a) cause a breach of the peace; b) materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school; c) arouse the person to whom it is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation. Students guilty of such an offense may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-106 (a); DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety Date Adopted:

July 10, 2012

## **WEAPONS (Ref. ASBA 4.22)**

No student shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon while in school, on or about school property, before or after school, in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity, en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity, off the school grounds at any school bus stop, or at any school sponsored activity or event. Military personnel, such as ROTC cadets, acting in the course of their official duties are exempted.

A weapon is defined as any firearm, knife, razor, ice pick, dirk, box cutter, num-chucks, pepper spray or other noxious spray, explosive, Taser or other instrument that uses electrical current to cause neuromuscular incapacitation, or any other instrument or substance capable of causing bodily harm. For the purposes of this policy, "firearm" means any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use.

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

Except as permitted in this policy, students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm shall be recommended for expulsion for a period of not less than one year. The superintendent shall have the discretion to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The mandatory expulsion requirement for possession of a firearm does not apply to a firearm brought to school for the purpose of participating in activities approved and authorized by the district that include the use of firearms. Such activities may include ROTC programs, hunting safety or military education, or before or after-school hunting or rifle clubs. Firearms brought to school for such purposes shall be brought to the school employee designated to receive such firearms. The designated employee shall store the firearms in a secure location until they are removed for use in the approved activity. The district shall report any student who brings a firearm to school to the criminal justice system or juvenile delinquency system by notifying local law enforcement. Legal References:

A.C.A. § 6-18-502 (c) (2)(A)(B), A.C.A. § 6-18-507 (e) (1)(2), A.C.A. § 6-21-608, A.C.A. § 5-4-201, A.C.A. § 5-4-401, A.C.A. § 5-27-210, A.C.A. § 5-73-119(b)(e)(8)(9)(10), 20 USCS § 7151, DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety Date Adopted: July 8, 2013

## **TOBACCO, ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS, AND RELATED PRODUCTS (Rev. ASBA 4.23)**

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

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

## **DRUGS AND ALCOHOL (Ref. ASBA 4.24)**

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

Therefore, no student in the Mountain View School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy.

**This policy applies to any student who:**

- **Is on or about school property;**
- **Is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity;**
- **Has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; or**
- **Is on route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.**

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

**Selling, distributing, or attempting to sell or distribute, or using over-the-counter or prescription drugs not in accordance with the recommended dosage is prohibited.**

Date Adopted: June 11, 2012: DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

## **STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING (Ref. ASBA 4.25)**

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

A student shall not be disciplined or discriminated against based upon the student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle. A student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle includes without limitation afros, dreadlocks, twists, locs, braids, cornrow braids, Bantu knots, curls, and hair styled to protect hair texture or for cultural significance. Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502(c)(1), A.C.A. § 6-18-503(c) Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

## **GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY (Ref. ASBA 4.26)**

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

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

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

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-1005(b)(2), A.C.A. § 5-74-201 Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

## **STUDENT SEX DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL-BASED HARASSMENT (Ref. ASBA 4.27)**

Mountain View School District is committed to providing an academic and work environment that treats all students and employees with respect and dignity. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere of equal educational and employment opportunity that is

free of discrimination. Sex-based harassment is a form of sex discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational and work environment and will not be tolerated.

The District believes the best policy to create an educational and work environment free from sex discrimination and sex-based harassment is prevention; therefore, the District shall provide informational materials and training to students, parents/legal guardians/other responsible adults, and employees on sex-based harassment. The informational materials and training on sex-based harassment shall be age appropriate and, when necessary, provided in a language other than English or in an accessible format. The informational materials and training shall include, but are not limited to:

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

## Definitions

"Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sex-based harassment.

"Complaint" means an oral or written request to the District that objectively can be understood as a request for the District to investigate and make a determination about alleged sex discrimination or sex-based harassment.

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

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

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

"Sex discrimination" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

A District employee:

- A. Conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in sexual conduct; or
- B. Uses the rejection of sexual conduct as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual;

- 1. The conduct is:
  - a. Unwelcome; and
  - b. Is subjectively and objectively offensive so severe, pervasive, that limits or denies a person equal access to the District's education the totality of the circumstances; or
- 2. Constitutes:
  - a. Sexual assault;
  - b. Dating violence
  - c. Domestic violence; or
  - d. Stalking.

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

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

Actionable sex-based harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sex-based harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding



circumstances and may occur regardless of the sex(es) of the individuals involved. Depending upon such circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- Making sexual propositions or pressuring for sexual activities;
- Unwelcome touching;
- Writing graffiti of a sexual nature;
- Displaying or distributing sexually explicit drawings, pictures, or written materials;
- Performing sexual gestures or touching oneself sexually in front of others;
- Telling sexual or crude jokes;
- Spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities;
- Discussions of sexual experiences;
- Rating other students or employees as to sexual activity or performance;
- Treatment based on an individual's pregnancy or pregnancy related conditions;
- Circulating or showing emails or Websites of a sexual nature;
- Intimidation by words, actions, insults, or name calling; and
- Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether or not the individual self-identifies as homosexual or transgender.

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

- Discuss the availability of supportive measures;
  - Consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures;
  - Provide the complainant information on the District's grievance procedures;
  - Inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint; and
- explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.

### **Supportive Measures**

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

The Title IX Coordinator shall designate an individual to whom the District's providing, denying, modifying, or terminating of supportive measures may be appealed. The designated individual shall have authority to modify or reverse the District's decision if it is determined that the decision to provide, deny, modify, or terminate the supportive measure(s) was inconsistent with the definition of supportive measures. A party shall have the opportunity to seek additional modification or termination of a supportive measure applicable to them if there is a material change in circumstances.

### **Formal Complaint**

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

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

- The identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known;
- The conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment; and
- The date and location of the alleged incident, if known;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
2. A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the formal complaint through the determination, including:
  - a. Any notifications to the parties; b. Interviews with parties and witnesses;
  - c. site visits; d. Methods used to gather other evidence; and e. Hearings held
3. Findings of fact supporting the determination;
4. Conclusions regarding the application of the District's code of conduct to the facts;
5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including:
  - a. A determination regarding responsibility; b. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent; and
  - c. Whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity will be provided by the District to the complainant; and
6. The procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Appeals**

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

- a. The existence of a procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
- b. Discovery of new evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter;
- c. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decision-maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter; or
- d. An appeal of the disciplinary sanctions from the initial determination.

For all appeals, the District shall:

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

## **Confidentiality**

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

§ Individuals who are responsible for handling the District's investigation and determination of responsibility to the extent necessary to complete the District's grievance process;

§ Submit a report to the child maltreatment hotline;

§ Submit a report to the Professional Licensure Standards Board for reports alleging sexual harassment by an employee towards a student; or

§ The extent necessary to provide either party due process during the grievance process.

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

Any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination;

Any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment;

Any complainant;

Any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination;

Any respondent; and Any witness.

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

## **Emergency removal**

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

## **Retaliation Prohibited**

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

## **Disciplinary Sanctions**

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment. Following the completion of the District's grievance process, any student who is found by the evidence to more likely than not<sup>7</sup> have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion. No disciplinary sanction or other action that is not a supportive measure may be taken against a respondent until the conclusion of the grievance process.

Students who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment or purposely provide inaccurate facts shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. A determination that the allegations do not rise to the level of sexual harassment alone is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a false allegation or materially false statement in bad faith.

## **Records**

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

- Each sexual harassment investigation including:
- Any determination regarding responsibility;
- Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent;
- Any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity;
- Any appeal and the result therefrom;
- All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decision-makers;
- Any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, which must include:

- The basis for the District's conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent; and

- Document:

§ If supportive measures were provided to the complainant, the supportive measures taken designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity; or

§ If no supportive measures were provided to a complainant, document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances. Legal References: 20 USC 1681 et seq.; 34 C.F.R. Part 106; A.C.A. § 6-15-1005; A.C.A. § 6-18-502; A.C.A. § 12-18-102

## **LASER POINTERS**

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-512, A.C.A. § 5-60-122 ; DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

## **BULLYING** (Ref. ASBA 4.43)

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

A school principal or his or her designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

### Definitions:

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

Bullying means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act:

1. May address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated;
2. Involves an actual or reasonably perceived power imbalance;
3. Is repeated or has a high likelihood of repetition; and causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable

Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;

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

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment. Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. Sarcastic comments "compliments" about another student's personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes,
2. Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate,
3. Mocking, taunting or belittling,
4. Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as "fronting" or "chesting" a person,
5. Demeaning humor relating to a student's race, gender, ethnicity or actual or perceived attributes,
6. Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans,
7. Blocking access to school property or facilities,
8. Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property,
9. Stealing or hiding books or belongings,
10. Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others,
11. Cyberbullying

Sexual harassment, as governed by policy (STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT), is also a form of bullying,

and/or teasing or name-calling based on the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles

(Example: "Slut") or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether the student self-identifies as homosexual (Examples: "You are so gay." "Fag" "Queer").

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

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

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

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

whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of the bullying to be true and the availability of counseling and other intervention services.

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

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred. In addition to any disciplinary action, the District shall take appropriate steps to remedy the effects resulting from bullying. Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District's prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, persons standing in loco parentis, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice annually.

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

Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.

Notes: Different consequences are permitted depending on the age or grade of the bullying student. Example: a student might be disciplined both for bullying and sexual harassment in an appropriate situation, or bullying and assault.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 5-71-217, A.C.A. § 6-18-514: DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

### **CORPORAL PUNISHMENT** (Ref. ASBA 4.39)

The Mountain View School District School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment to be administered in accordance with this policy by the Superintendent or his/her designated staff members who are required to have a state-issued license as a condition of their employment.

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

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

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

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-503 (b), A.C.A. § 6-18-505 (c) (1); DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety  
DESE Rules Governing Special Education and Related Services Section 11.00 – Discipline

### **SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL** (Ref. ASBA 4.30)

Students who are not present at school cannot benefit from the educational opportunities the school environment affords.

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

school-sponsored function, activity, or event; going to and from school or a school activity. A student may be suspended for behavior including, but not limited to that:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

During the period of their suspension, students serving in-school suspension shall not attend any school-sponsored activities during the imposed suspension nor shall the student participate in any school-sponsored activities.<sup>3</sup>

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

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

Note: IDEA requirements will be met for students receiving special education services.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-507, *Goss v Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565 (1975) DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety Date Adopted: June 11, 2012

## **EXPULSION (Ref. ASBA 4.31)**

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

- Deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate;



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

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

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

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis, (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records), that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation. The hearing shall be conducted not later than ten (10) school days following the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.

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

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

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

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

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

Note: IDEA requirements will be met for students receiving special education services. Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-507; A.C.A. § 6-15-1406; A.C.A. §

## **ADDITIONAL DISTRICT POLICIES**

### **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (Ref. 5.10)**

#### **Definitions**

"Artificial Intelligence (AI)" means Computer systems or applications that perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence, such as learning, problem-solving, and decision-making.

"AI Tools" means Software, hardware, or cloud-based applications that use AI to aid in tasks like content creation, data analysis, and personalized learning. For purposes of this policy, AI tools do not include items such as spell check or grammar check.

The Mountain View School District Board of Directors desires to provide guidance for the appropriate use of AI technologies in curriculum development, instruction, and related educational activities that is aligned with the Arkansas Academic Standards and safeguards student data and privacy while encouraging innovation.

Any AI tools or programs utilized by the District must adhere to State and federal laws; State rules; and Federal regulations governing data use, privacy, and security. Any AI tool used must comply with the District's policies on data privacy and security, especially concerning student information.

The superintendent shall establish a committee who shall be in charge of reviewing and approving any AI tools before they may be used. The committee shall establish the procedures the committee shall use for approving AI tool selection. The District shall provide resources to support the integration of approved AI tools.

All curriculum and instructional materials that were created with AI tools shall align with the Arkansas Academic Standards and District educational goals.

Staff shall document the extent and manner AI tools were used in the creation of curriculum or instructional materials. Staff shall ensure the content created with the assistance of AI tools is accurate and free from bias.

The District shall regularly review the impact AI tools have on the District's educational outcomes and shall update this policy as necessary following the review.

Cross References: 3.58—LICENSED PERSONNEL USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; 4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION; 4.64—STUDENT USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; 7.16—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY; 8.49—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-2601 et seq.; 15 U.S.C. § 6501; 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99

## **STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE (Ref. ASBA 4.14)**

### **Student Media**

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

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

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

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

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

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

A student or group of students who distribute ten (10) or fewer copies of the same non-school literature, publications, or materials (hereinafter "non-school materials"), shall do so in a time, place, and manner that does not cause a substantial disruption of the orderly education environment. A student or group of students wishing to distribute more than ten (10) copies of non-school materials<sup>1</sup> shall have school authorities<sup>2</sup> review their non-school materials at least three (3) school days in advance of their desired time of dissemination. School authorities shall review the non-school materials, prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those

non-school materials that are obscene, libelous, pervasively indecent, or advertise unlawful products or services. Material may also be barred from distribution if there is evidence that reasonably supports a forecast that a substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment will likely result from the distribution.<sup>4</sup> Concerns related to any denial of distribution by the principal shall be heard by the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

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

The regulations shall:

1. Be narrowly drawn to promote orderly administration of school activities by preventing disruption and may not be designed to stifle expression;
2. Be uniformly applied to all forms of non-school materials;
3. Allow no interference with classes or school activities;
4. Specify times, places, and manner where distribution may and may not occur
5. Not inhibit a person's right to accept or reject any literature distributed in accordance with the regulations.

Students shall be responsible for the removal of excess literature that is left at the distribution point for more than 3 days.

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-1202, 1203, & 1204, *Tinker v. Des Moines ISD*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969), *Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser*, 478 U.S. 675 (1986), *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 U.S. 260 (1988) Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

## **VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS (Ref. ASBA -6.5)**

Parents, grandparents, legal guardians, business, and community members are welcome and encouraged to visit District schools. To minimize the potential for disruption of the learning environment, visitors, for a purpose other than to attend an activity open to the general public, are required to first report to the school's main office. No one shall be exempt from this requirement.

Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to participate in regularly scheduled visitation events such as school open houses and parent/teacher conferences. Additional conferences are best when scheduled in advance. Conferences shall be scheduled at a time and place to accommodate those participating in the conference. Visits to individual classrooms during class time are permitted on a limited basis with the principal's prior approval and the teacher's knowledge.

Visitors, including parents, wishing to speak with students during the school day shall register first with the office.

Visitors to the school are directed to not use a device to:

Record audio or video or to take photographs in areas where a general expectation of personal privacy exists, including but not limited to locker rooms and bathrooms; or

Create, send, share, capture, or post audio, video, or photographs of District students unless the visitor:

Has received permission to do so by someone authorized to grant such permission on behalf of the student or the student if the student is eighteen (18 years old);

Received authorization from the District to do so on behalf of the District; or

Is required to do so as part of the individual's job duties, including as a member of the media.

The District has the right to ask disruptive visitors to leave its school campuses. Principals are authorized to seek the assistance of law enforcement officers in removing any disruptive visitors who refuse to leave school property when requested to do so.

Note: Visitors who are disruptive become "trespassers" as defined in A.C.A. § 6-21-606. As such, they lose their right to be on campus. Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-21-606; A.C.A. § 6-21-607 Date Adopted: Last Revised:

## **CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL (Ref. ASBA 4.15)**

### **CONTACT BY PARENTS**

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

### **CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS**

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

child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy (VISITORS) and any other policies that may apply.

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the school's principal, Arkansas law provides that the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation.

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

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

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

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

#### CONTACT BY PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD INVESTIGATORS

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-513, A.C.A. § 9-13-104, A.C.A. § 12-18-609, 610, 613, A.C.A. § 12-18-1001, 1005 \_Date Adopted: July 11, 2011

### **INTERNET SAFETY AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY (Ref. ASBA 4.29)**

#### **Definition**

For the purposes of this policy, "electronic device" means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

The Mountain View School District makes electronic device(s) and/or electronic device Internet access available to students, to permit students to perform research and to allow students to learn how to use electronic device technology. Use of district electronic devices is for educational and/or instructional purposes only. Student use of electronic device(s) shall only be as directed or assigned by staff or teachers; students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their electronic device use, including email, and that monitoring of student electronic device use is continuous.

No student will be granted Internet access until and unless an Internet and electronic device use agreement, signed by both the student and the parent or legal guardian (if the student is under the age of eighteen [18]) is on file. The current version of the Internet and electronic device use agreement is incorporated by reference into board policy and is considered part of the student handbook.

#### **Technology Protection Measures**

The District is dedicated to protecting students from materials on the Internet or world wide web that are inappropriate, obscene, or otherwise harmful to minors<sup>1</sup>; therefore, it is the policy of the District to protect each electronic device with Internet filtering software that is designed to prevent students from accessing such materials. For purposes of this policy, "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

(A) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;

(B) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and

(C) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

#### Internet Use and Safety

The District is dedicated to ensuring that students are capable of using the Internet in a safe and responsible manner. The District uses technology protection measures to aid in student safety and shall also educate students on appropriate online behavior and Internet use including, but not limited to:

- interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms;
- Cyberbullying awareness; and
- Cyberbullying response.

#### Misuse of Internet

The opportunity to use the District's technology to access the Internet is a privilege and not a right. Students who misuse electronic devices or Internet access in any way will face disciplinary action, as specified in the student handbook and/or Internet safety and electronic device use agreement. Misuse of the Internet includes:

- The disabling or bypassing of security procedures, compromising, attempting to compromise, or defeating the district's technology network security or Internet filtering software;
  - The altering of data without authorization;
  - Disclosing, using, or disseminating passwords, whether the passwords are the student's own or those of another student/faculty/community member, to other students;
  - Divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student's academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, addresses, and phone numbers.
  - Using electronic devices for any illegal activity, including electronic device hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
  - Using electronic devices to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics;
  - Using electronic devices to violate any other policy or is contrary to the Internet safety and electronic device use agreement

Legal References: Children's Internet Protection Act; PL 106-554, FCC Final Rules 11-125 August 11, 2011, 20 USC 6777, 47 USC 254(h)(1), 47 CFR 54.520, 47 CFR 520(c)(4), A.C.A. § 6-21-107, A.C.A. § 6-21-111 Date Adopted: July 14, 2014

#### **SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS** (Ref. ASBA 4.32)

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

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

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

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

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

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

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after-hours telephone number. Legal References: C.A. § 6-18-513, A.C.A. § 9-13-104, A.C.A. § 12-18-609, 610, 613, A.C.A. § 12-18-1001, 1005. Date Adopted: July 11, 2011

#### **4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Ref. ASBA 4.47)**

##### **Definitions**

"Emergency" means a serious, unexpected, and dangerous situation that requires immediate action, including without limitation:

- An active fire;
- An active shooter;
- A medical emergency
- An active tornado or earthquake;
- An evacuation of school grounds; or

"Personal electronic device" means without limitation a:

- a. Cellular telephone;
- b. Paging device;
- c. Beeper;
- d. Mobile telephone that offers advanced computing and internet accessibility;
- e. Digital media player;
- f. Portable game console;
- g. Tablet, notebook, or laptop computer;
- h. Digital camera;
- i. Digital video or audio recorder;
- j. Smart watch; and
- k. Device that can connect and transmit data through Bluetooth technology.

"School day" means from the time students are required to be at school until the time students are dismissed from school.

##### **Possession of Personal Electronic Device**

Except as permitted under this policy, a student shall not be in possession of a personal electronic device during the school day. A student may possess a personal electronic device during the school day if:

- The personal electronic device is required by the student's individual education plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Individual Health Plan for health reasons,
- The possession of the personal electronic device is during an emergency as defined by this policy;
- The personal electronic device is issued by the district for the student's use during the school day; or
- The possession of the personal electronic device is during a special event during the school day.

A student shall be deemed to not be in possession of a personal electronic device if:

##### **Use Of Personal Electronic Device**

Except as permitted by this policy, a student shall not use a personal electronic device during the school day. A student may use a personal electronic device during the school day if:

- The personal electronic device is required by the student's individual education plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Individual Health Plan for health reasons,
- The use of the personal electronic device is during an emergency as defined by this policy.
- The personal electronic device is issued by the district for the student's use during the school day; or
- The use of the personal electronic device is during a special event during the school day.

A student may possess and use a personal electronic device at a special school event for the purpose of taking photographs. The District shall inform the students and students' parents, legal guardians, people having lawful control of the student, and persons standing in loco parentis the following before a special school event takes place:

- § When and where the special school event will take place.
- § Whether or not personal electronic devices shall be allowed at the special school event; and
- § Where personal electronic devices may be used at the special school event.

The use of personal electronic devices at school sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.

### **Misuse of Personal Electronic Devices**

Even if a student is allowed to possess or use a personal electronic device under this policy, the misuse of a personal electronic device is prohibited. Misuse of personal electronic devices includes, but is not limited to:

1. Using personal electronic devices issued by the district during class time in any manner other than specifically permitted by the classroom instructor.
2. Permitting any audible sound to come from the personal electronic device when not being used for reason #1 above.
3. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
4. Using personal electronic devices to record audio or video or to take photographs in areas where a general expectation of personal privacy exists, including but not limited to locker rooms and bathrooms.
5. Creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person regardless of whether the image is real or created through the use of artificial intelligence.
6. Using a personal electronic device issued by the district in a manner that violates the Electronic Device and Internet Use Agreement regardless of whether the violation occurred on or off campus.
7. Using a personal electronic device at an event during the school day that was not designated as a special school event or in a manner or location that was not authorized as part of the special school event.
8. Using personal electronic devices issued by the district while driving any vehicle at any time; or
9. Using a personal electronic device for the purposes of browsing the internet; composing or reading emails and text messages; or making or answering phone calls while driving a motor vehicle that is in motion and on school property.

### **Discipline**

A student may have a personal electronic device confiscated if:

- § The student is found to possess or use a personal electronic device when the use or possession is not authorized by this policy and the personal electronic device was not issued by the district.
- § The student misuses a personal electronic device as defined by this policy; or
- § The student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis uses the remote recording or listening capabilities of a personal electronic device, either through an app installed on the personal electronic device or the built-in capacity of the personal electronic device, except when authorized by the district.

Confiscated personal electronic devices may be picked up at the school's administration office by the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis. Students have no right of privacy as to the content contained on any personal electronic devices that have been confiscated. A search of a confiscated device shall meet the reasonable individualized suspicion requirements of Policy 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS.

A student and the student's parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis expressly assume any risk associated with a student's possession or use of a student's personal electronic device that is not issued by the District. The District shall not be liable for a personal electronic device that is confiscated if the personal electronic device is lost,

stolen, or damaged.

In addition to the confiscation of a personal electronic device for a violation of this policy, a student may be subject to the following discipline:

To protect the integrity of the administration of the assessments under the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act, a student who is found to be in possession of or to use a personal electronic device during the administration of a statewide assessment that is not required by the student's IEP, 504 Plan, or issued by the District shall have the discipline the student is subject to increase by an additional level.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-2907; A.C.A. § 6-18-515; A.C.A. § 27-51-1602; A.C.A. § 27-51-1603; A.C.A. § 27-51-1609; DESE Test Administration Manual; DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

## **VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING** (Ref. ASBA 4.48)

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

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

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

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

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

Students who vandalize, damage, disable, or render inoperable (temporarily or permanently) surveillance cameras and equipment, automatic identification, or data compilation devices shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities. Legal References: 20 USC 1232(g), 34 CFR 99.3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 31 Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

## **PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT** (Ref. ASBA 5.1)

Each school in the district, in collaboration with administrators, teachers, other school staff, parents, the community, and students, shall develop a school-level improvement plan (SLIP) to:

- Establish goals or anticipated outcomes based on an analysis of students' needs;
- Identify student supports and evidence-based interventions and practices to be implemented;
- Describe the professional learning necessary for adults to deliver the supports or interventions;
- Describe the implementation timeline for monitoring of the interventions and practices for effectiveness;
- Describe the timeline and procedures for evaluation of the interventions and practices for effectiveness; and
- Evaluate and modify a parent, family, and community engagement plan.<sup>1</sup>

Each SLIP shall include a literacy plan that includes a curriculum program and a professional development program that is aligned with the District's literacy needs and is based on the science of reading.

Some of the data that shall be considered when developing the SLIP includes, but is not limited to:<sup>2</sup>

- o Statewide assessment results;
- o Interim assessment results;
- o Similarly situated school's SLIPs; and



o Evaluation(s), including staff, student, and community feedback, of the existing SLIP.

The SLIP is to be reviewed on an ongoing basis with reports to the board on the implementation progress of the SLIP throughout the year of implementation. By May 1 of each year, the SLIP to be implemented in the upcoming school year shall be presented to the District Board of Directors for review and approval.<sup>3</sup> The District will post the District's SLIP(s) to the District's website under State-Required Information by August 1 of each year.

The district shall develop, with appropriate staff; school board members; and community input, a school district support plan (SDSP).<sup>4</sup> The SDSP, in coordination with the District's SLIPs, shall:

- Specify the support the District will provide to the District's schools;
- Collaboratively establish priorities regarding goals or anticipated outcomes with the District's schools, including feeder schools;
- Identify resources to support the established priorities;
- Describe the time and pace of providing support and monitoring for the established priorities;
- Describe the measures for analyzing and evaluating that the District support was effective in improving the school performance;
- Establish, evaluate, and update a parent, family, and community engagement plan;<sup>1</sup> and
- Direct the use of Enhanced Student Achievement funding for strategies to close gaps in academic achievement.

If the District's data reflects a disproportionality in equitable access to qualified and effective teachers and administrators, the District shall develop and implement strategies to provide equitable access as part of the SDSP.

If forty percent (40%) or more of the District's students scored "in need of support" on the prior year's statewide assessment for reading, the District shall develop a literacy plan as part of the SDSP that includes:

- Goals for improving reading achievement throughout the District; and
- Information regarding the prioritization of funding, including without limitation, Enhanced Student Achievement funding, for strategies to improve reading achievement throughout the District.

The District shall post the District's SDSP to the District's website under State-Required Information, including any updates to the District's SDSP.

The District's Board of Directors shall hold a meeting annually to provide a report that systematically explains the District's policies, programs, and goals to the community. The District's report shall detail the progress of the District and the District's schools toward accomplishing program goals, accreditation standards, and proposals to correct any deficiencies. The report shall be made available to the public, including by posting a copy on the District's website under State-Required Information no later than ten (10) days following the meeting. The meeting shall provide parents and other members of the community the opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions concerning the District's program.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-2914 DESE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act; DESE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement; Standards for Accreditation 1-B.4, 3-B.1, 3-B.2, 3-B.2.1, 5-A.1; Commissioner's Memo COM-20-021

## **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT (Ref. ASBA 5.3)**

Sequential curricula should be developed for each subject area. Curricula are to be aligned with the curriculum frameworks and used to plan instruction leading to student proficiency on the Arkansas Academic Standards. Curricula should be in alignment with the District's vision, mission, goals, and educational philosophy. Student achievement is increased through an integrated curriculum that promotes continuity and a growth in skills and knowledge from grade to grade and from school to school. Therefore, the Board desires that unnecessary duplication of work among the various grades and schools be eliminated and that courses of study and their corresponding content guides be coordinated effectively.

The Board of Education is responsible for reviewing and approving all instructional programs offered by the District as well as approving significant changes to courses or course materials before they are implemented. The Superintendent is responsible for making curriculum recommendations.

Each school shall review each curriculum area annually to address the continued relevance, adequacy, and cost effectiveness of individual courses and instructional programs and to ensure each area is aligned with the current curriculum frameworks and course content standards approved by the State Board of Education. Each school's administration shall implement a monitoring process to ensure that the instructional content of each course offered is consistent with the content standards and curriculum frameworks approved by the State Board of Education.

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

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

- Sexually explicit materials;
- Sexual reproduction;

- Sexual intercourse;                      Gender identity;
- Sexual orientation.

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

## **SELECTION/INSPECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS (Ref. ASBA 5.5)**

### **Definitions**

"Curriculum" means the sequences of public school student learning expectations, pacing, materials, and resources that are used to teach the Arkansas academic standards and the processes for evaluating mastery of the Arkansas academic standards at particular points in time throughout the kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) educational program.

"Gender identity" means the same as is used in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, which defines it as a category of social identity and refers to an individual's identification as male, female, or, occasionally, some category other than male or female.

"Instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a public school student, regardless of its format, that includes without limitation printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital format, such as materials accessible through the internet; however, Instructional material does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

"Sexual orientation" means an individual's actual or perceived orientation as heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual.

The use of instructional materials, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, beyond those approved as part of the curriculum/textbook program must be compatible with school and district policies. If there is uncertainty concerning the appropriateness of supplemental materials, the personnel desiring to use the materials shall get approval from the school's principal prior to putting the materials into use.

All instructional materials, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, used as part of the educational curriculum of a student shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the student.

Parents or guardians wishing to inspect instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum for their child may schedule an appointment with the student's teacher at a mutually agreeable time. Parents/guardians wishing to challenge the appropriateness of any instructional materials should contact the Office of the Superintendent for a challenge of the materials.

In addition to all other inspection rights under this policy, the following shall be made available for inspection regardless of whether any of the listed items are offered as part of a sex education class or program or as part of any other class, activity, or program:

- a. Curricula;
- b. Materials;
- c. Tests;
- d. Surveys;
- e. Questionnaires;
- f. Activities; and
- g. Instruction of any kind.

Except when directly related to a requirement under the Arkansas academic standards; a District employee responding to questions posed by students during class regarding sex education, sexual orientation, or gender identity as it relates to a topic of instruction; or a District employee refers to the sexual orientation or gender identity of a historical person, group, or public figure when such information provides necessary context in relation to a topic of instruction, the District shall provide written notification to parents and legal guardians of their ability to exercise their rights under this policy to review items A-G above or to challenge and/or opt their student out of items under A-G above as permitted under Policy 5.6. The District's notification method shall ensure that the District receives a confirmation of the written notification receipt from parents and legal guardians.

The same notification requirements and opt out options as above for gender identity and sexual orientation shall apply to the sexual abuse and assault and human trafficking prevention education the District provides to students.

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

Legal References: 20 USC § 1232h; A.C.A. § 6-16-155; A.C.A. § 6-16-157; A.C.A. § 6-16-1006

Date Adopted: Last Revised:

## **TITLE I PROGRAM POLICY STATEMENT FOR INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS**

Schools of the Mountain View School District shall convene annually at a flexible number of public meetings in which all parents, teachers, and other interested parties shall be invited, to explain the programs and activities provided with funds made available through the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 – Title I. The purpose of the meeting will be to:

- Encourage parents to consult in the design and implementation of the LEA's Title I projects
- Solicit parent input, and
- Provide opportunity for ongoing communication among parents, teachers, and agency officials.

Activities to develop policies for consultation with parents and teachers will include the following:

- Provide a number of annual meetings in which parents and teachers will be involved in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning review, and improvement of programs including the school's parental involvement policy and joint development of the Title I plan.
- The school will provide parents of participating children the following:
  - o eSchool access
  - o Timely information about the programs
  - o Regular progress reports
    - Progress reports at the end of each nine weeks
    - Interim progress reports sent in the middle (five weeks) of each nine weeks
    - Two parent/teacher conferences (one each semester)
  - o A description and explanation of criteria used to measure student progress and proficiency levels that students are expected to meet.
- Provide additional opportunities through our Parent Involvement in Education (PIE) Center for parent meetings to formulate suggestions, share ideas and experiences with other parents, and participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.
- Provide a timely response to parents' suggestions.
- Provide opportunities for parents to become involved and help as a volunteer through our PIE resource center.
- Provide parenting classes with informative materials and training.
- Provide educational materials through our parent resource center in the form of books, videos, etc., to help parents with skills and training in positive discipline techniques.
- Provide the facility for parents to come and "make and take" educational materials (i.e., flash cards, letters, numbers, games, etc.) to help their children at home.
- A School/Parent Compact that outlines how parents, school staff, and students share responsibility for improving student achievement will be made available as part of this policy.

Date Adopted:

July 10, 2012

## **STUDENTS' VEHICLES (Ref. ASBA 4.33)**

A student, who has presented a valid driver's license and proof of insurance to the appropriate office personnel, may drive his/her vehicle to school. Vehicles driven to school shall be parked in the area designated for student parking. Parking on school property is a privilege which may be denied to a student for any disciplinary violation, at the discretion of the student's building principal. Students are not permitted to loiter in parking areas and are not to return to their vehicles during the school day for any reason unless given permission to do so by school personnel.

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

Date Adopted:

June 11, 2012

## **VOLUNTARY DRUG TESTING POLICY (for Middle School and High School Students)**

Parents may sign a form, available from their child's building principal, allowing for voluntary drug testing of their children. This form will acknowledge the right of the school or parent to ask for the student to submit to a drug test upon request. Failure to submit to the test will be interpreted as the same as failing a drug test and will result in the enforcement of disciplinary action. The cost of the test is \$15 and will be paid by the party making the request for testing.

## **MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT CHEMICAL SCREEN TEST**

### **PHILOSOPHY:**

It is the philosophy of the Mountain View School District that students enrolled in extracurricular activities and that drives to school should be encouraged and supported to develop and maintain a chemical-free lifestyle.

The sponsors of all the extracurricular activities recognize the use of mood-altering chemicals as a significant health problem resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning, performance, and overall development. Others are affected by the misuse and abuse by family, teammates, schoolmates, or other significant persons in their lives.

One of the most tragic of all consequences of substance misuse or abuse is the legacy it could leave for the younger students of the Mountain View School District. If students are going to be involved in extracurricular activities or drive to school, we feel their

standards, or principals of living, should be one a younger student could morally and ethically admire.

#### PURPOSE:

The purpose of Chemical Screen Test of the Mountain View School District is to:

1. Emphasize concerns for the health of students in the areas of safety while participating in activities, and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.
2. Promote a sense of order and discipline among students.
3. Confirm and support existing state laws, which restrict the use of such mood-altering chemicals.
4. Establish standards of conduct for those students who are leaders and standard-bearers among their peers.
5. Assist students who desire to resist peer pressure, which directs them toward the use of mood-altering chemicals.
6. Assist students who should be referred for assistance or evaluation regarding their use of mood-altering chemicals.
7. To work with the parents to assist in keeping their children free of mood-altering chemicals.

#### PROCEDURES FOR TESTING:

1. Each student must have a signed parental/guardian consent form for the purpose of drug screening in order to be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activity or drive to school. Failure to produce the signed consent form will result in the student being prohibited from participating or driving until a form is signed and submitted to the school.
2. All student test results and test correspondence will be completely confidential between the high school principal, superintendent, coach, sponsor, testing program, and the student and their parents/guardians.
3. All students entering grades 7-12 who wish to participate in any extracurricular activity or drive to school will be subject to urinalysis testing. 17% of the total number of students at each campus involved in the extracurricular programs or driving to school will be randomly selected for testing at intervals during the school year. If a selected student is absent on the day of testing, that student will be on the list for the next cycle of testing.
4. Reasonable suspicion testing may be conducted. The use or possession of illegal drugs, or alcohol by a student on property under the control of the District, or prior to entering property controlled by the District, or at a District-sponsored event where the illegal drugs or alcohol, has the possibility of impairing the student is a violation of this Policy. The presence of an illegal drug or its metabolites or alcohol in a student's body is considered possession. Reasonable Suspicion is defined as a reasonable suspicion by an administrator or other district employee that a student has used, possessed, or sold illegal drugs on District property or has used illegal drugs off of District property, but is on District property or at a District-sponsored event while under the influence of the illegal drugs; or that a student has used or possessed alcohol on District property, but is on District property or at District-sponsored event while under the influence of alcohol; or that a student is abusing or misusing prescription medications on District property or at a District-sponsored event while under the influence of the prescribed medication. Examples of reasonable suspicion include, but are not limited to: Eyewitness evidence by a District official, administrator, or employee; eyewitness evidence of another person plus additional evidence; individualized suspicion possessed by an employee of the District that is based upon a reasonable suspicion and/or reasonably reliable evidence.
5. Analysis testing will be administered pursuant to guidelines and standards prescribed by National MedTest Inc.
6. All medications prescribed by a physician should be brought to the School District or testing agency's attention prior to testing. By doing this, the testing agency may be able to pinpoint a certain drug found in the medication and avoid reporting a needless positive test result. This however, does not include using someone else's prescribed medication. This is considered drug misuse. It is the responsibility of the student being tested, to inform the District or testing agency of their ingestion of a prescribed medication whether it be their own or someone else's. If a student does not supply this necessary information, he/she could be subjected to the penalties outlined for a positive drug test.

#### CONSEQUENCES OF A POSITIVE TEST:

1. The parent/guardian and student will be notified of the positive test. The administrator and/or coach/sponsor will not inform anyone but the parent and student.
2. Upon receipt of a positive test result for any student: A student may request a confirmation test at his/her own expense within a 24 hour period of a positive result. The specimen must be given at an approved collection site.
3. The student will be on probation for thirty days. The student will be encouraged to complete a drug counseling program. After thirty days the student will be tested again at his/her own expense and a written copy of the results will be given to the principal or superintendent. If the result is negative, probation will be lifted. If the test is positive, the student will not be allowed to continue in all

extracurricular activities or drive to school for one calendar year.

4. Should a student test positive for any drug screen test throughout the year, he/she will be tested on every occasion a random test is administered during that school year.

5. If any student refuses to submit to a drug test, he/she will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities or drive to school for one calendar year.

6. Two positive tests in a school year will result in a student not being allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities or drive to school for one calendar year.

Date Adopted: July 10, 2012

## ACHIEVEMENT DAYS

Students have the opportunity to earn achievement days based on the following:

ATLAS Spring Summative (Grades 3-10/EOC) 2025: Students will be awarded one day for a score of Proficient or Advanced in Math, Science, ELA, EOC Algebra I, Geometry, and Biology.

- 1 day for achieving a Level 3 (Proficient) or Level 4 (Advanced) on each exam.
- Students can earn up to a maximum of 3 Achievement Days.

No Achievement Day(s) may be taken during state assessments or semester exams.

No Achievement Day(s) may be taken after May 10.

ATLAS Growth Reward (Grades 3-10/EOC) 2025-2026: Students will be awarded one day for a growth or proficient score in any tested area: Math, Science, ELA, EOC Algebra I, Geometry, and Biology. This will be based on student growth or proficiency from the ATLAS Fall Interim to the ATLAS Winter Interim. This achievement day will be determined by the school.

ATLAS Spring Summative (April 2026) ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, AND EFFORT: Students will be awarded one achievement day for perfect attendance for the pre-set days of the ATLAS Spring Summative Testing. This achievement day will be determined by the school.

ACT Grade 11: Students who score a 19 or above in each of the areas (Math, English, Reading, Science) an achievement day will be awarded.

ACT WorkKeys: Juniors participating in the ACT WorkKeys will receive an achievement day for perfect attendance for the testing period. This day will be determined by the school.

## Student Behavior Policies

### MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICIES

Class I Infractions: Note: Students who misbehave while assigned to In-School Suspension will be sent home.

- Disorderly, abnormal or irrational behavior or behavior that in any way disrupts or interferes with the learning process or the ability for other students access to the class or activity
- Public display of affection
- Possession of laser devices on school grounds
- Gambling in any form
- Failure to bring proper materials to class (books, pencils, paper, technology items- Chromebook & Charger, etc.)
- Any infraction which the school principal or his designee considers serious enough to warrant disciplinary actions
- Away from assigned area
- 3rd unexcused tardy
- Use of electronic devices or other unauthorized smart devices. When a student has their phone taken during the day due to this infraction, a parent will have to come to the office to pick up the phone at the end of the day. Middle school students will get a warning on the first offense.
- Violation of dress code (see list below)

- Items with vulgar, objectionable or provocative words, symbols or pictures (This includes any advertisement or representations of anything illegal for a minor)
- Any clothing ensemble that would expose the midriff, underwear, buttocks, or chest
- Skirts or shorts must be at or below the fingertips of the student (fringing or other see through material does not count toward length)
- Hoodies (hoods) must be removed in the school building or on bus transportation. No head coverings that cause a disruption in the classroom and/or school bus transportation. (ex- sombrero, hardhat, etc.)
- See through clothing or backless without tank underneath
- Sunglasses
- No shirts with straps that are less than 2 inches in width
- No undergarment should be seen at any time (State mandate)
- Clothing with holes should not be above the fingertip measurement
- Failure to attend detention
- Lying to a teacher or administrator
- Failure to follow the student driving policy
- No use of blankets during the school day
- No more than 1 (one) student at a time in the bathroom stalls

Any use of profanity, obscene, or vulgar language is prohibited on school grounds.

Any student refusing to participate in class or sleeping during class is subject to Class I Infractions.

The following consequences will be taken in regard to Class I Infractions (Subject to Principal's Discretion)

The list of above infractions is a limited list of offenses. The building principal may determine that other actions would fit into this category.

Office Referral	Disciplinary Action
1	Warning
2	3 Days Lunch Detention
3	Corporal Punishment or ½ Day In- School Suspension
4	Corporal Punishment or 1 Day In- School Suspension
5	In-School Suspension- 3 Days
6	In-School Suspension- 5 Days
7	In-School Suspension- 9 Days
8	Out of School Suspension- 9 Days with possible recommendation of Expulsion

## BELL TO BELL NO CELL

The Mountain View School District will follow ACT 122, commonly referred to as "Bell to Bell, No Cell." The Bell to Bell, No Cell Act prohibits personal electronic devices, including cell phones and smart watches, bell-to-bell. Mountain View School District will take into consideration those students who require an electronic device for health reasons and Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) based on the needs of the student as it existed on January 1, 2025. New students to MVSD with a medical condition or IEP requiring an electronic device should take all documentation to the building principal. Use of electronic devices or other unauthorized smart devices will require a parent/guardian to pick up the device in the office at the end of the school day.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIFIC:** Students will place their electronic device: cell phone in the designated location each day. Students will take their device with them at the dismissal of each school day.

During after-school extracurricular activities and emergencies, students may use their personal devices following all rules and regulations set forth by the MVSD student handbook.

Students are not to send any transmission of and/or recording of any media electronically on school or school related activities without approval from administration noting areas of discretion where a level of privacy is expected such as bathroom, locker room, etc. Note: MVSD Officer may issue a citation

"Personal electronic device" means without limitation a:

- (1) Cellular telephone;
- (2) Paging device;

- (3) Beeper;
- (4) Mobile telephone that offers advanced computing and internet accessibility;
- (5) Digital media player;
- (6) Portable game console;
- (7) Tablet, notebook, or laptop computer;
- (8) Digital camera and/or digital video or audio recorder;
- (10) Smart watch; and Device that can connect and transmit data through Bluetooth technology; and

"School day" means from the time students are required to be at school until the time students are dismissed from school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIFIC: PARENT MUST PICK UP CELL PHONE.

Office Referral	Disciplinary Action
1	Warning
2	3 Days Lunch Detention
3	Corporal Punishment or ½ Day In- School Suspension
4	Corporal Punishment or 1 Day In- School Suspension
5	In-School Suspension- 3 Days
6	In-School Suspension- 5 Days
7	In-School Suspension- 9 Days
8	Out of School Suspension- 9 Days with possible recommendation of expulsion

HIGH SCHOOL SPECIFIC: PARENT MUST PICK UP CELL PHONE.

Use of electronic devices or other unauthorized smart devices is prohibited.

Office Referral	Disciplinary Action
1	3 Days Lunch Detention
2	Corporal Punishment or ½ Day In- School Suspension
3	Corporal Punishment or 1 Day In- School Suspension
4	In-School Suspension- 3 Days
5	In-School Suspension- 5 Days
6	In-School Suspension- 9 Days
7	Out of School Suspension- 9 Days with possible recommendation of expulsion

## Class II Infractions

- Fighting—all parties participating in the fight, including bystanders who are urging them on, will be subject to disciplinary action and possible criminal charges. Depending on the actions of the students involved, the principal or supervising staff may classify the fight as a Class III Infraction. (Refer to Class III Infractions, #3). (Note: MVSD Officer may issue a citation.)
- Second failure to follow the student driving policy
- Any act of disrespect toward school personnel or fellow students
- Insubordination to teachers or other school personnel
- Forging, falsifying, altering, or illegally possessing school forms or using forged notes or excuses
- Committing an act of defiance, either in language or action, against a teacher or employee of the school District
- Academic dishonesty (Consequences depending on individual circumstances may include other disciplinary action(s) including loss of credit.)
- Being in any parking lot during school hours without proper authorization
- Bullying or threatening in any way of another person (Refer to Bullying Information on Page 68)  
Note: MVSD Officer will issue a citation.
- Changing the settings on school computers or other school electronics
- Improper use of technology

- Truancy: Failure to report to assigned building or classroom

The following consequences will be taken in regard to Class II Infractions (Subject to Principal's discretion)

Office Referral	Disciplinary Action
1	Corporal Punishment or 5 Days Lunch Detention
2	Corporal Punishment or 1 In-School Suspension
3	In-School Suspension- 3 Days
4	In-School Suspension- 5 Days
5	In-School Suspension- 9 Days
6	Out of School Suspension with possible recommendation of Expulsion

The list of above infractions is a limited list of offenses. The building principal may determine that other actions would fit into this category.

### **Class III Infractions**

1. The use or possession of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vaporizers, or any type of incendiary or look alike device during school. Students who use tobacco based products may be required to complete a one- hour online course for tobacco cessation. Note: MVSD Officer will Issue a citation.
2. Theft, destruction, defacement, or vandalization of school or other person's property (students will also pay the damage and may face criminal charges) Note: MVSD Officer will issue a citation.
3. Immoral or sexual behavior or sexual harassment in any form (Administration reserves right to elevate to Class IV offense) Note: MVSD Officer may issue a citation
4. Truancy (This includes leaving campus without proper authorization.) Note: MVSD Officer may issue a citation
5. Tampering with fire-fighting equipment or emergency alarm systems (Act 567) Note: MVSD Officer may issue a citation
6. Transmission of and/or recording of any media electronically on school or school related activities without approval from administration noting areas of discretion where a level of privacy is expected such as bathroom, locker room, etc. Note: MVSD Officer may issue a citation

The following consequences will be taken in regard to Class III Infractions (Subject to Principal's discretion)

Office Referral	Disciplinary Action
1	1 In-School Suspension
2	In-School Suspension- 3 Days
3	In-School Suspension- 5 Days

The list of above infractions is a limited list of offenses. The building principal may determine that other actions would fit into this category.

### **Class IV Infractions**

1. Possession of fireworks
2. An attempt to cause physical injury, threaten, or behave in such a way that could cause physical injury to a school employee or student may result in the filing of criminal charges (Act 706), as well as other school disciplinary procedures.
3. Flagrant insubordination (persistent disregard for school rules or employee directives)
4. Loitering by suspended students
5. Repeated disruptions to the Educational and Learning Environment
6. Purposeful misuse of computers or other technology in order to cause destruction or impede usage

The following consequences will be taken in regard to Class Infractions IV (Subject to Principal's discretion)

Mandatory suspension up to 9 days out-of-school suspension and may be recommended for expulsion.

Any students who are suspended on two occasions during the same school year may be recommended for expulsion.

Any student being suspended during the school year shall not attend any school activity during the term of the suspension.

The list of above infractions is a limited list of offenses. The building principal may determine that other actions would fit into this category.



## **Class V Infractions**

1. Possession, use, sale, delivery, or transmission of a drug or a look-alike and/or alcoholic beverages. Other actions construed as disruptive by the principal or his designee. Principal's discretion may apply when deemed appropriate.
2. Possession of a weapon such as a knife, razor, ice pick, explosive, rifle, shotgun, pellet gun, pepper spray or any other object or substance that reasonably can be considered a weapon or dangerous instrument result in criminal charges.

The following consequences will be taken in regard to Class V Infractions (Subject to Principal's discretion)  
Mandatory suspension of up to nine days (9 days) and may be recommended for expulsion.

The list of above infractions is a limited list of offenses. The building principal may determine that other actions would fit into this category.

## **Repeated Disruptions to the Educational Learning Environment**

Students who are repeatedly disruptive to the educational and learning environment as evidenced by multiple assignments to the detention hall during a semester will be placed in In-School Suspension. Continued repeated disruptions may result in a student being recommended to an alternate learning environment or online learning program.

## **Student Risk Assessment**

A student that is threatening harm, or potentially threatening harm, to him/herself, other students, staff, school visitors, or school property should be promptly evaluated by a professional. The student should not return to the school campus until the cleared evaluation has been turned in to the building principal by the parent/guardian at a re-entry meeting. The student should remain off campus for the remainder of the school day that the threat was made. The threat could be verbal, written, artistic drawing, online-digital format or body threats that could be potentially harmful to the student or others. If the student monitoring system, GO GUARDIAN, indicates that the student has website hits on suicide or other threatening websites, a student risk assessment may be required.

## **ARKANSAS CODES OF LAW:**

MVSD Resource officers may issue citations to students who have infractions in any of the following:

Arkansas Code A.C.A. § 3-3-203: Possession of Alcohol by a Minor; Arkansas Code A.C.A. § 6-21-609: Prohibition of smoking, the use of tobacco, tobacco products, or e-cigarettes on school grounds; Arkansas Code A.C.A. §5-13-301: Terroristic Threatening: Threats of physical injury, property including a teacher or school employee; Arkansas Code A.C.A. § 5-71-217: Cyberbullying; Arkansas Code A.C.A. §5-71-210: Communicating a false alarm; Arkansas Code A.C.A. §5-71-226: Disruption of campus activities; Arkansas Code A.C.A. §5-71-210: Insult or abuse of a teacher; Arkansas Code A.C.A. §6-21-605: Injury to schoolhouse or fixtures

# **Information for Middle School Students**

## **PROCEDURES FOR CHECKING IN AND OUT**

1. Parent note
2. Parent phone call
3. Nurse's note
4. If a parent is physically present to sign the student out, the student will be excused by the signature on the check-out sheet.
5. Unexcused Tardies: Three (3) unexcused tardies will count as one day absence.  
Checking out at 3:05 is also considered tardy. Three (3) unexcused tardies will count as one day absence.
6. Administrator's consent

\* Students will not be allowed to call parents to check out of school without administrative approval.

## **REQUEST FOR SCHEDULE CHANGE – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Schedule changes for first semester classes should be requested within the first 5 (five) days of the first semester. Second semester class changes should be requested before Christmas break. After the first 5 (five) days of a semester, schedule changes will not be permitted except for administrative reasons. Schedule changes may be allowed at other times for extracurricular or non-academic activities such as athletics or study hall, if approved by the administration.

## PROCEDURES WHEN ABSENCES OCCUR

After being absent, students MUST bring in a PARENT or MEDICAL note to the office within 5 DAYS of returning to school in order for the day to count as an EXCUSED ABSENCE. Parent signature on the office sign out sheet will count as a note from the parent.

1. When a student exceeds six (6) unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, guardian, or persons in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by the law.
2. Please refer to ABSENCES in the handbook for more specific details.
3. Any student who arrives more than fifteen (15) minutes after the start of a class or checks out more than fifteen (15) minutes before the end of a class period will be counted absent.
4. Checking in at the office up to 14 (fourteen) minutes or less will be considered tardy; Checking out at the end of the day with (14) fourteen minutes or less remaining will count as tardy. Three (3) unexcused tardies equals an unexcused absence.

## SEMESTER TEST EXEMPTION

Students with an "A" and no more than 5 absences will be exempt from semester tests. Students with a "B" and no more than 4 absences will be exempt from semester tests. Students with a "C" and no more than 3 absences will be exempt from semester tests. Students with a "D" and no more than 2 absences will be exempt from semester tests.

1. Absences for school sponsored or sanctioned activities (including college days, military service, job shadowing, and achievement days) will not be counted in determining a student's test exemption eligibility.
2. A student who is exempt from testing in a class may take a semester test in an effort to raise their letter grade in that class; however, that student's grade may not be lowered as a result of taking the test.
3. Students who are exempt from semester tests do not have to report to school on semester test days or review days. Students may leave school after their last semester test of the day if they have parental permission and have signed out in the office.
4. Any and all absences (not for school related activity) will be counted against Semester Test Exemption status.
5. Achievement Days earned by a qualifying test score will not count as absences. **Achievement Days may not be taken after December 17 during the first semester and after May 10 during the second semester.**

Occasionally, extreme and unusual circumstances cause a student with an exemplary attendance record to exceed the number of days allowed for exemption. In such rare cases, when unavoidable absences occur due to the death of an immediate family member, hospitalization of a student, subpoena, or other documented emergencies, the student may apply for a waiver of the exemption policy. The student must provide the principal with a brief written narrative detailing the situation. The student must also furnish valid documentation to prove such circumstances existed. Visits to the doctor for cuts, bruises, or common illnesses are considered normal occurrences and are included in the test exemption policy. A committee will determine if the waiver should be granted based on the documentation provided and on the student's past and current attendance record.

## FOOD DELIVERIES

Food deliveries for individual students, classroom activities, clubs, or groups will be limited to special occasions and cleared through the office.

## HOMESCHOOL (PART-TIME ENROLLED) STUDENTS

Any student who has a homeschool account on file with the Arkansas Department of Education is not considered a student with our local public school, the Mountain View School District. While home school students are afforded the right to participate in academic and athletic offerings at MVSD, they are not afforded the privileges of MVSD students which include but are not limited to dances, class trips, graduation ceremonies, and any other activities, events, or titles that are part of being a full-time student at MVSD our local public school system. All homeschool/part-time enrolled students are required to follow all discipline policies.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL REWARD TRIP

Full-time and on-site students who have exhibited proper conduct and work ethic during the school year will be rewarded with a field trip in the spring semester. The following guidelines will be used to determine eligibility:

- 1-No ISS, OSS, or bus suspensions.
- 2-Detention assignments: No more than nine assignments.
- 3-All textbooks, library books, and technology items (Chromebook & Charger) must be returned.
- 4-Failing grades: Students cannot have failing grades in ½ or more of the core subjects.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

Students who have exhibited proper conduct and work ethic during the school year will be allowed to attend special activities (Pep Rallies, Outside Reward Time, Dances etc.) during or after the school day. Students not attending the special activities may be required to do any required classwork. The following guidelines will be used to determine eligibility:

- 1-No ISS, OSS, or bus suspensions.
- 2-Missing Work
- 3-Failing grades: Students cannot have failing grades and/or missing required work.

Middle school students are not allowed to sell items at school that are not a part of a school sanctioned program fundraiser or for a school club or activity.

# Information for High School Students

**STUDENT CLASSIFICATION**

- Freshman – Student with less than 4 credits
  - Sophomore – Student with at least 4 credits
  - Junior – Student with at least 8 credits
  - Senior – Student with at least 15 credits.
- Student classification shall be determined at the beginning of the school year. Students in grades 9-11 are required to be enrolled in a full schedule. Seniors should be enrolled in four credit earning classes. Students taking concurrent classes are required to follow school policies.

**REQUEST FOR SCHEDULE CHANGE – GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Schedule changes for first semester classes should be requested within the first 5 (five) days of the first semester. Second semester class changes should be requested before Christmas break. After this time, schedule changes will only be permitted 2 (two) days after the start of the second semester. Schedule changes may be allowed at other times for extracurricular or non-academic activities such as athletics or study hall, if approved by the administration.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR GRADUATION**

Only students who are enrolled in a high school of the Mountain View School District and have successfully completed the required credits by the date of graduation shall be allowed to participate in the graduation exercises. Students are required to have twenty-two (22) credits and meet all requirements by the State of Arkansas. Students who attended a high school of the Mountain View School District prior to acceptance to the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Science may elect to participate in graduation activities at that high school. Students should contact the counselor prior to October 1 of the year they intend to graduate. Arkansas School for Mathematics and Science students are not eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors.

**SELECTION OF VALEDICTORIAN, SALUTATORIAN, AND HONOR GRADUATES**

Graduates After the Class of 2025

Valedictorian, salutatorian, distinguished honor and honor graduates will be determined by class rank and cumulative grade point average. Class rank will be determined by cumulative GPA in credit bearing classes through the first semester of grade twelve. All semester grades in all courses counting toward graduation, including concurrent credit college and high school credits, will be used in determining GPA.

Only a student who has successfully completed a minimum core of high school courses recommended for preparation for post-secondary education or a more rigorous program of vocational study shall be eligible for the honor of serving as a valedictorian, salutatorian, distinguished honor, or honor graduate of his or her graduating class.

Only semester grades will be used to determine GPA.

Pluses and minuses will not be recorded on the permanent records sheet nor used in determining class rank or honor roll, but may be used by teachers as motivational tools at report card time.

GPA will be computed to the nearest one hundredth. For example, a GPA of 2.565 would round to 2.57; 2.564 would round to 2.56.

GPA's for students with an IEP will be computed based upon grades received in the regular classroom only.

The student with the highest GPA will be designated as the Valedictorian.

The student with the second highest GPA will be designated as the Salutatorian.

Students with a GPA of 4.0 and above will be designated as distinguished honor graduates.

Students with a GPA of 3.5 - 3.99 will be designated as honor graduates.

In case of a tie in GPA's, students will be designated as co-valedictorians, co-salutatorians, rank \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_, etc.

A student transferring into the district at any time up to the end of the first semester of grade twelve will be eligible for valedictorian, salutatorian, distinguished honor, or honor graduate based on grades received at his or her previous school(s).

A student who has been granted permission for early graduation (senior status) will be eligible for honors based on cumulative GPA through the first semester of his or her senior year. In order for a student to be eligible for valedictorian, salutatorian, distinguished honor, or honor graduate, the student must have attended an accredited school for the previous five semesters.

### **CONCURRENT CREDIT**

Students participating in concurrent classes through Ozarka College may have classes requiring attendance beyond the Mountain View School District calendar. Students participating in concurrent classes should attend all the required time required by Ozarka College in order to receive credit toward graduation.

Any student that drops and/or fails a concurrent class will not be permitted to take another class the following semester.

### **EARLY GRADUATION**

A candidate for early graduation must:

- Have a minimum of 15 credits at the beginning of their final year
- Have parental consent
- Exhibits the ability and aptitude to be successful in college work and plans to enter college upon graduation from high school.
- Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or above on a 4.00 scale. Notify the counselor of their intent before April 1, of the previous school year.

### **SEMESTER TEST EXEMPTION**

Students with an "A" and no more than 5 absences will be exempt from semester tests. Students with a "B" and no more than 4 absences will be exempt from semester tests. Students with a "C" and no more than 3 absences will be exempt from semester tests. Students with a "D" and no more than 2 absences will be exempt from semester tests.

1. Absences for school sponsored or sanctioned activities (including college days, military service, job shadowing, and achievement days) will not be counted in determining a student's test exemption eligibility.
2. A student who is exempt from testing in a class may take a semester test in an effort to raise their letter grade in that class; however, that student's grade may not be lowered as a result of taking the test.
3. Students who are exempt from semester tests do not have to report to school on semester test days or review days. Students may leave school after their last semester test of the day if they have parental permission and have signed out in the office.
4. Any and all absences (not for school related activity) will be counted against Semester Test Exemption status.
5. Achievement Days earned by a qualifying test score will not count as absences. NO ACHIEVEMENT DAYS MAY BE TAKEN AFTER MAY 10.

- Occasionally, extreme and unusual circumstances cause a student with an exemplary attendance record to exceed the number of days allowed for exemption. In such rare cases, when unavoidable absences occur due to the death of an immediate family member, hospitalization of a student, subpoena, or other documented emergencies, the student may apply for a waiver of the exemption policy. The student must provide the principal with a brief written narrative detailing the situation. The student must also furnish valid documentation to prove such circumstances existed. Visits to the doctor for cuts, bruises, or common illnesses are considered normal occurrences and are included in the test exemption policy. A committee will determine if the waiver should be granted based on the documentation provided and on the student's past and current attendance record.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICIES FOR SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

College Visitations/ Job Shadowing— When seniors are required to visit a college or university to interview for a scholarship or for job consideration, they may do so provided the principal or designee verifies the reason and approves the absence in advance. Students will be required to provide documentation of college visits. Three (3) days are considered adequate for seniors and juniors making college visitations. Forms must be picked up from office prior to visit and returned to office in order to be considered a college visitation day. No days will be allowed after May 10 unless required for enrollment, scholarship, etc. purposes by the institution of higher learning.

Personal Days— Students will have two (2) personal leave days each school year. Students will receive an absence for these days, and these days will count toward test exemptions and excessive absenteeism. Personal days must be requested by the parents and have prior approval from the principal's office. No days will be allowed after May 10.

Achievement Days— Achievement days must be approved one (1) day in advance. The achievement day cannot go back into the previous quarter. No Achievement days may be taken after May 10. No Achievement days may be taken during state assessments.

## **PUPIL ACTIVITY PROGRAM AND ORGANIZATIONS**

- Programs should develop desirable social traits in situations providing opportunity for individual, small groups, and entire school participation.
- It should provide experience designed to help meet the leisure, recreational and social interests and needs of pupils.
- It should provide opportunities for self-directed specialization in areas of the curriculum of particular interest to individual pupils.
- Class officers must have a 2.0 GPA and not have served any school suspension the previous two semesters. Some school organizations may have additional requirements.

## **DRIVING PRIVILEGES TO SCHOOL**

- A student must possess a valid driver's license to operate a motorized vehicle on campus.
  - Students must obtain a parking permit form from the office within the first two weeks of school or before starting to park on campus.
- A drug test form must be signed and turned in to the office before starting to park on campus.
- Permits are to be hung from the inside mirror with an identification number facing the window.
  - Permits can be transferred to another vehicle in which you drive to school but must be the driver's permit.
  - A temporary parking permit must be obtained from the office if for any reason a student must drive a car to school without a permit.
    - These permits must be returned to the office at the end of the day unless cleared through the office.
    - Students parking or driving on campus will be subject to drug tests according to policy established by the Mountain View School District.
  - Driving privileges may be revoked for failure to follow traffic laws and rules.

## **CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES**

- No student will be allowed to check out at lunch unless a parent/guardian physically signs the student out and back in.
- All students must report to the high school office to check in if arriving at school late.
- All students must also check out in the high school office if leaving the school campus before his/her school day is complete. Parents may call to check out students if the student is leaving campus for the rest of the school day.
- A note must be turned in to the office within five (5) days of the absence to excuse the absence when a student is absent or a call is received to check the student out or in.
- If a parent is physically present to sign the student out, the student will be excused by the signature on the check-out sheet.

- Any student who arrives more than fifteen (15) minutes after the start of a class or checks out more than fifteen (15) minutes before the end of a class period will be counted absent.

## PROM

Currently enrolled juniors and seniors and their approved guests are eligible to attend prom. Guests must be either enrolled in high school in grades 9 – 12 or between the ages of 15 – 20.

## HOMESCHOOL (PART-TIME ENROLLED) STUDENTS

Any student who has a homeschool account on file with the Arkansas Department of Education is not considered a student with our local public school, the Mountain View School District. While home school students are afforded the right to participate in academic and athletic offerings at MVSD, they are not afforded the privileges of MVSD students which include but are not limited to dances, class trips, graduation ceremonies, and any other activities, events, or titles that are part of being a full-time student at MVSD our local public school system. All homeschool/part-time enrolled students are required to follow all discipline policies.

## DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

The following consequences will be taken in regard to violation of Dress Code (Subject to Principal's Discretion) In addition to other Class I Infraction consequences, students violating the dress code must change into an appropriate t-shirt and/or sweat pants. If a student chooses to go home or wait for items to be brought from home rather than wear the school provided attire, that loss of class time will be treated as an unexcused absence.

## FOOD DELIVERIES

Food deliveries for classrooms or groups will be limited to special occasions and cleared through the office.

## FIELD TRIPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Field Trip Requirements for Clubs, Groups, or Specific Classes	Trips are scheduled and taken by clubs, groups, or specific classes. The trips are designed to be fun and educational for students who are full-time, on-site, and eligible to attend. In order to attend a trip, excluding sports teams, students must meet the following attendance and behavior requirements: -Students with a failing grade in ½ or more of credit bearing classes will NOT be eligible to attend. -Students must have a 2.0 GPA from the previous semester GPA -Students who have received ISS, OSS, or bus suspension during the current year will NOT be eligible to attend.
Senior Class Reward Trip	The senior class will receive a reward trip for those students who are full-time, on-site and will be graduating. This trip will be taken toward the end of the second semester. Students who have received ISS during the current year will not be eligible to attend. All school rules and policies apply on the senior reward class trip. Seniors must also meet extracurricular trip requirements listed below in the field trip requirements.
Rural Special and Timbo High School (Grades 7-12) Reward Trip	Students who are full-time, on-site, and have exhibited proper conduct and work ethic during the school year will be rewarded with a field trip in the spring semester. All school policies apply during the school field trip. The following guidelines will be used to determine eligibility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students with a failing grade in ½ or more of credit bearing classes will NOT be eligible to attend.</li> <li>Students must have a 2.0 GPA from the previous semester.</li> <li>Students who have received ISS, OSS, or bus suspension during the current year will NOT be eligible to attend.</li> <li>All textbooks, library books, and technology items (Chromebook &amp; Charger) must be returned. All fines/fees must be paid in full.</li> </ul>

## NCAA DIVISIONS I AND II ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS to play sports at a Division I or II school, you must graduate from high school, complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses, earn a minimum GPA and earn an ACT or SAT score that matches your core-course GPA.

CORE COURSES only courses that appear on your high school's list of NCAA core courses will count toward the 16 core-course requirement; visit

[eligibilitycenter.org/course-list](http://eligibilitycenter.org/course-list) for a full list of your high school's approved core courses.

**GRADE POINT AVERAGE** the NCAA Eligibility Center calculates your grade-point average based only on the grades you earn in NCAA approved core courses. For More Information <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2013/11/25/academic-standards-for-initial-eligibility.aspx>

Division I requires a minimum 2.3 GPA.

Division II requires a minimum 2.2 GPA.

**SLIDING SCALE** Divisions I and II use sliding scales to match test scores and GPAs to determine eligibility. The sliding scales balance your test score with your GPA. If you have a low test score, you need a higher GPA to be eligible. Find more information about test scores at [ncaa.org/test-scores](http://ncaa.org/test-scores).

**TEST SCORES:** you may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before you enroll full time in college. Every time you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code 9999 to send your scores directly to us from the testing agency. We accept official scores only from the SAT or ACT, and won't use scores shown on your high school transcript. If you take either test more than once, the best score from different tests are used to give you the best possible score. (STUDENTS: You are responsible for achieving and protecting your eligibility status!)

Any information updated by the NCAA would supersede the MVSD Student Handbook.

Division I 16 Core Courses	Division II 16 Core Courses
4 Years English	3 Years of English
3 Years of Mathematics (Algebra I or higher)	2 Years of Mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
2 Years of Natural/Physical Science (1 year of lab if offered)	2 Years of Natural/Physical Science (1 year of lab if offered)
1 Year of additional English, Math, or Natural /Physical Science	1 Year of additional English, Math, or Natural /Physical Science
2 Years of Social Science	2 Years of Social Science
4 Years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)	4 Years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)

**Staff Listings and Building Master Schedules can be found at the school website:**

**Mountain View Middle School:** <https://www.mvms.k12.ar.us/o/mvms>

**Mountain View High School:** <https://www.mvhs.k12.ar.us/o/mvhs>

**Rural Special High School:** <https://www.ruralspecial.com/o/rss>

**Timbo High School:** <https://www.mountainviewschooldistrict.k12.ar.us/>

#### HANDBOOK COMMITTEE:

Mountain View Middle School Handbook Committee	Mountain View High School Handbook Committee	Rural Special High School Handbook Committee	Timbo High School Handbook Committee
Michelle Moody, Principal Ronnie Jones, Asst. Principal Richard Ivy, Teacher Kayla McClung, Teacher Jonathan Masters, SRO Jessica Brewer, Parent BJ Day, Parent Kobe Ramer, Student Layton Glenn, Student Ember Day, Student	Matt Sullivan, Principal Ashley Dearien, Asst. Principal Tonya Long, Counselor D'Lonra Sutterfield, Teacher Mandi Hearn, Teacher Kalah Deitrick, Parent Eddie Jack Mitchell, Parent Mya Grover, Student Jacob Sandoval, Student	Tanya Stewart, Principal Heather Berry, Dean of Students Kayla Knapp, Counselor Valerie Ganus, Teacher Stefani Rushing, Parent Kim Sutterfield, Parent Kenli Clark, Student Brayden Watts, Student	Junior Ray Barham Ty Pitcock, Dean of Students Renee George, Teacher Amanda Tilley, Parent Melvin Baker, Parent Dakota Meeker, Student Kaylee Baker, Student