

Saint Paul High School

Student Handbook

2025-2026

Home of the SAINTS!



232 4th Street

Saint Paul, AR 72760

(479) 677-2411

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Vision: We are building a community that makes a difference!

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HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025 – 2026 District Calendar

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS

Teacher PD Days	Aug. 4-6, & 8 Jan. 5 & April 17 3 Summer Days
Teacher Workday/Open House	Aug. 7
Labor Day	Sept. 1
No School	Oct. 17
Fall Break	Nov. 24-28
Winter Break	Dec. 22 - Jan. 2
No School	March 20
Spring Break	Mar 23-27
Memorial Day	May 25

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Oct. 14 Secondary Campuses
Oct. 15 All Campuses
Oct. 16 Elementary Campuses
Mar. 17 Elementary Campuses
Mar. 18 All Campuses
Mar. 19 Secondary Campuses

Snow Make-up Days

May 21, 22, 26, and 27 are designated snow make up days. Mondays will be used at the superintendent's discretion

GRADING PERIODS

1st Quarter (end October 10)	36 days
2nd Quarter (end December 19)	35 Days
3rd Quarter (end March 6)	36 Days
4th Quarter (ends May 20)	36 Days

Total Days

Instructional days:
143 (Equivalent to 178 calculated at 1.25/day)

School Hours

- WPS 7:45-4:03
- HIS 7:45-4:03
- HMS 7:45-4:20
- HHS 7:55-4:23
- SP 7:44-4:12

Teacher Contract Days:

- 143 instructional days
- 7 District PD days
- 3 Summer PD days
- 2 P/T Conference Days

First Day for All Students: **AUGUST 12** Students Return: **JAN. 6** Last Day for All Students: **MAY 20**

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				

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SCHOOL POLICIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

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

We are using this handbook as a method of communication between the home and school. Please read and keep this handbook readily available throughout the year. A packet of forms is accompanying this handbook. Please read these and sign the appropriate ones including the “receipt of handbook” page. Please sign and send them back to school with your child the first week of school. Duplicate copies are included in your copy of the handbook for future reference. This ensures your notification of policies, regulations, and services provided by our school.

Please feel free to call our school if you have any questions concerning the handbook. We want to work with you to ensure your student has a productive and memorable school year. We welcome your attendance at our many school activities. Parents, students, teachers, staff, and community members working together are what make St. Paul High School such a great place to go to school!

Sincerely,

Bruce Dunlap

Principal, St. Paul High School

STUDENT HANDBOOK (4.42)

This is your child's student handbook. All of the student discipline policies were adopted from the Arkansas School Board Association policies or developed through the commitment, cooperation, and involvement of the school's administrators, teachers, students, parents, and counselors. An advisory committee was created to annually review all student policies to ensure that they are consistent with state and federal law and Department of Education guidelines. The Huntsville School Board of Education as of July, 2017 has approved these policies. The policies describe the school's expectations of student's conduct and specify consequences of violating the rules. Parents, upon reasonable notice to the office, may copy or review their child's permanent records.

SAINT PAUL HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK COMMITTEE

Bruce Dunlap – Principal

Murray Massey- Counselor

Krista Huff - LMS

Kendra Glenn- Instructional Facilitator

Kim Shaw- Parent

Rose McKenney - Teacher

Lucas Shaw – Student

Lainey Smith - Student

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Regularly scheduled school board meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 570 West Main. A suggestion or complaint not presented in writing to the superintendent by noon of the Wednesday preceding the second Monday of each month may not be placed on the agenda.

SEVERE WEATHER/EMERGENCY PLAN

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

HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

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

PARTICIPATION IN GRADUATION

No student may participate in graduation exercises until all graduation requirements have been met. Graduation is a school-sponsored event. The student will be required to dress and act appropriately to participate in graduation exercises. **Specific dress code will be discussed at senior class meetings throughout the year.** Graduation practice is mandatory for all graduates unless approved by the principal. **Students will not be allowed to walk at graduation if not approved.**

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Both a semester and cumulative grade point will be calculated. The valedictorian(s) and salutatorian(s) will be determined on the basis of an eight-semester cumulative grade point average (CGPA).

Valedictorian/Salutatorian Requirements

Students taking AP or Concurrent classes will have priority consideration. Multiple valedictorians/salutatorians may be possible.

SAINT PAUL HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the St. Paul High School is to collaborate with students, parents, and community members to ensure that **all** students are critical thinkers and lifelong learners who are prepared for success in college and careers.

TRUANCY

Truancy is a very serious problem and cannot be tolerated at St. Paul High School. Any student who fails to follow all or any part of his or her schedule (on or off campus, all or part of a period) without prior parental and/or school consent will be considered truant. Once a student gets on a school bus or arrives on campus, he/she will be considered to be at school. Once at school, a student may not leave without permission even if the first bell has not sounded. (Example: getting off the bus and walking off campus for any reason). A student leaving campus without permission will be counted truant. Attempted truancy will be considered the same as truancy. Example of attempted truancy: getting someone to call to impersonate a parent in order to leave school. It is considered a truancy if a parent /guardian is not aware that their student is absent.

CLOSED CAMPUS

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

CHECK OUT PROCEDURES

In order to provide a safe educational environment, Huntsville School District #1 operates a closed campus. A student is expected to remain on campus after arriving at school or upon entering a school bus. Parents may check a student out by contacting the principal's office in person or by phone except for Wednesday (Renaissance Day), or any other open campus day, at lunch. On these days students must be checked out in person by a parent or legal guardian. Only parents, legal guardians, and those designated on the check-out list approved by the parents are allowed to check a student out from school.

It is recommended that parents check a student out for the following reasons only:

1. Medical
2. Funeral
3. Court appearance
4. Driver's test

PARENTS: Please pick up the student at the end of class. Please do not check a student out to pay bills, to get a haircut, go to lunch with friends, or do other routine errands. Remember, if the student misses more than ten (10) minutes (any ten: beginning, middle, or end) of a class, he/she is considered absent.

When checking a student out the check-out sheet in the office must be filled out completely before the student leaves campus.

DUE PROCESS

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

1. Due process is afforded to students in a disciplinary case of some magnitude such as:
 - a. Suspension
 - b. Expulsion
 - c. Statements removed from the student's record.
 - d. Clearing one's name
2. The due process rights of students and parents are as follows:
 - a. Prior to any suspension, the school principal or his/her designee shall advise the pupil in question of the particular misconduct of which he or she is accused, as well as the basis for such accusation.
 - b. The pupil shall be given an opportunity at that time to explain his/her version of the facts to the school principal or his/her designee.
 - c. Written notice of suspension and the reason(s) for the suspension shall be given to the parent(s) of the pupil.

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

PARENT INVOLVEMENT PLAN: A SUMMARY

Our school is committed to the implementation of a successful Parent Involvement Plan based on documented needs that will welcome and recognize parents and community members as key resources in students' educations. Parents are asked to respond to an annual needs assessment to guide programming decisions. In addition, parents are also asked to evaluate programs and activities and provide input to help amend the Parental Involvement Plan and Parent/Teacher/Student Compact, annually. A Parent Involvement Committee, consisting of parents and staff members, guides the parent involvement planning process.

A vast number of resources are available to facilitate communication and support parents and students. Open house, parent/teacher conferences, a parent center, and use of the school website are key tools in place. In addition, parent informational packets, including the complete Parental Involvement Plan and Parent/Teacher/Student Compact are given to all parents at the beginning of each school year.

The school website includes teacher contact information, homework help links, parenting help links, and calendar events. Parents can check out materials from the parent center and are free to take brochures and pamphlets providing information about scholarships, academic programs, social issues, etc. of their need or interest. Career and Academic Planning conferences will be held in the spring for high school students to assist parents and students in choosing appropriate academic and career paths. A complete copy of the school's Parental Involvement Plan may be obtained at any time from the school's office or website.

HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT: RESOLVING PARENTAL CONCERNS

According to Board policy 6.7, it is a goal of the Board and the District to be responsive to the community it serves and to continuously improve the educational program offered in its schools. The Board or the District welcomes constructive criticism when it is offered with the intent of improving the quality of the system's educational program or the delivery of the District's services.

The Board formulates and adopts policies to achieve the District's vision and elects a Superintendent to implement its policies. The administrative functions of the District are delegated to the Superintendent who is responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the District. Individuals with complaints concerning personnel, curriculum, discipline, coaching, or the day to day management of the schools need to address those complaints according to the following sequence:

1. Teacher, coach, or other staff member against whom the complaint is directed;
2. Principal;
3. Superintendent;

Other than in the few instances where statutorily allowed or required, student discipline and personnel matters may not be discussed in Board meetings. Individuals with complaints regarding such matters need to follow the sequence outlined above.

Unless authorized by the Board as a whole for a specific purpose, no individual Board member has any authority when acting alone. District constituents are reminded that the Board serves as jury in matters regarding student

suspensions initiated by the Superintendent, expulsions, and personnel discipline. This policy was adopted July 8, 2002, as per the recommendation of the Arkansas School Board Association.

When a parent or patron has a concern, it is best to contact the appropriate person and discuss the matter. This will speed the process of developing favorable solutions and help keep the focus on increasing achievement opportunities for our children. If there are further questions, please call or visit the Huntsville School District website at <http://www.huntsvilleschooldistrict.org>. It has a vast amount of information concerning recent school activities and contact information, Board recognitions, Board policies, position vacancies, student handbooks, and many more subjects. The website also has links available to the Arkansas Department of Education, Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, the Weather Channel, and more.

SCHOOL DAY

St. Paul High School is in session from 7:40 to 4:12 Tuesday through Friday.

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 is 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 rare instances, students may be granted waivers from the mandatory attendance requirement if they would experience proven financial hardships if required to attend a full day of school. For the purpose of this policy, proven financial hardships is defined as harm or suffering caused by a student's inability to obtain or provide basic life necessities of food, clothing, and shelter for the student or the student's family. The superintendent shall have the authority to grant such a waiver, on a case-by-case basis, only when convinced the student meets the definition of proven financial hardships.

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.

PROGRESS REPORTS & PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Progress reports will be mailed in the 4th week of each grading period for students. Student grades will be made available at the parent's request throughout the school year. As soon as possible after the end of each grading period, report cards will be available for parents to pick up. Parent-teacher conferences will be held after the first grading period. Career Action Planning Conferences will be held after the third grading period.

GUIDANCE PROGRAM

The activities of a Guidance and Counseling program are usually encompassed in the following areas:

1. Counseling
2. Maintaining a cumulative record folder for each student
3. Providing occupational and educational information
4. Placement and follow-up

The counselor at Saint Paul High School is to assist the student with academic, personal, and educationally related financial aid problems. The counselor's goal is to assist the student in planning for his/her future. A student may make an appointment with a counselor during school hours or RTI.

STUDENT CLASSIFICATION

Students will be classified according to the number of credits they earn by the end of each school year. **In order to be classified as a sophomore, a student must earn at least 5 credits; to be classified as a junior, a student must earn at least 10 credits; and to be classified as a senior, a student must have earned at least 15 credits.** The credits will be calculated at the beginning of each school year. **Any student who will be able to graduate by the end of the school year will be reclassified as a senior by the end of the 1st semester.**

REQUEST FOR EARLY GRADUATION

Students wanting to request for early graduation must meet the following criteria and be approved by the school principal and counselor:

- have already earned at least 15 credits
- be in good standing with attendance
- obtain 3 letters of recommendation from current teachers
- complete an application by April 1st
- students will not be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian

GRADE / CLASS FEES

Class fees for 6th - 8th - grade students are \$10 yearly. 9th - 12th - grade students class fees are \$20 yearly. Money obtained from class fees is used to pay for class activities such as proms, dances, class stones, graduation, & special gifts a class may wish to present. All class fees should be paid as soon as possible each semester/year. Students will not be allowed to attend school dances or prom until all class fees are paid. A student who moves into our school

will pay only fees for the time spent at SPHS. Refunds will not be given upon transfer. Other fines and fees must be paid before the final report card will be mailed to the student.

In addition, a student must pay all debts before receiving their graduation diploma.

PARENTS NOTE: Class fees eliminate the problem of having numerous fundraisers. If you have any questions or concerns, please notify the school principal.

ENROLLING & WITHDRAWING

A new student will register in with the counselors to develop a schedule when enrolling. The counselors will be responsible for evaluating the student's records from other schools and for providing grades and other information to his/her teachers.

A student wishing to withdraw from school must either be accompanied by his/her parent/guardian or present a note from his/her parent/guardian approving the withdrawal. It should be noted that the state laws of Arkansas require a student to attend school until his/her eighteenth (18th) birthday, if on or before September 15; otherwise they must attend school.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Schedule changes will be kept to a minimum. It is a very high priority for a student to pick up his/her schedule in August. All changes should be handled at that time. *Dislike of a class or a teacher is not a good reason for a change.* A student meeting the criteria for a schedule change must receive permission from a counselor and the principal before a class change will be allowed. Until a student's schedule change has been completed (proper forms filled out, signed, and returned to the office), the student is expected to report to his/her scheduled class.

Changes will be made only during the first week of each semester unless principal approval has been granted.

HOMEWORK

Homework Policy

Philosophy of Homework:

Homework is an integral component of the instructional program and should be used to complement class work and reinforce the curriculum frameworks.

Purpose of Homework:

- To reinforce prior learning
- To provide background information; example, reading assignment to prepare students for classroom discussion
- To encourage individual and creative learning; example, long-term projects, term-papers, notebooks, etc.

Grading Procedure:

- Homework will not exceed 20% of a student's grade when semester tests are given. Otherwise, grades are based on total points accumulated throughout class.

Homework Responsibilities:

Teachers:

- Clearly explain directions.
- Provide extended time for turning in homework for students involved in school-related activities.
- Grade homework and provide feedback in a timely manner.
- Provide prior notice of assignments when appropriate.
- **Communicate with parents if students are not turning in homework assignments.**

Students:

- Record assignments and the date they are due.
- Turn in all homework assignments.
- Initiate makeup work after an absence.

Homework is not to be:

- Busy work
- Used as a punishment
- Used to teach material not covered in classroom instruction

Amount of Homework:

- The difficulty of homework should vary with the difficulty of the instructional objectives.
- **Advanced placement and honors classes will have more homework.**
- ***Math is a sequential subject and requires repetition to reinforce new concepts; therefore, math homework can be expected every day.***
- Teachers must be sensitive to student activities.
- Teachers must communicate with each other concerning the amount of homework assigned and the due date for special projects.

A homework policy is difficult to legislate and even more difficult to monitor. Teachers must use common sense when assigning homework. If a parent feels that their student is over-burdened with homework, or if there is any other problem with their student's homework, please contact the principal. The key to making this policy effective is communication.

SPHS RENAISSANCE PROGRAM

SPHS Renaissance Philosophy

The goal of the Saint Paul High School Renaissance Program is to provide an atmosphere that promotes excellent performance by all students. The aim of the program is to create an attitude that academic achievement is something to be proud of, and will result in immediate and future rewards. We believe that a student who is encouraged, supported, and rewarded for academic achievement will experience greater success, then graduate, and enter the community as a positive, productive citizen.

SPHS Renaissance Program Criteria

A student who is issued a Gold, Blue, or White picture ID Renaissance card at the end of each semester upon meeting the following criteria:

Gold Card-The student must achieve:

1. A 4.00 or above GPA
2. No suspensions of any type
3. No more than two unexcused absences.
4. Score proficient on ACT Aspire tests taken the previous year.

Blue Card-The student must achieve:

1. A 3.5 to 3.99 GPA.
2. No failures.
3. No more than two unexcused absences.
4. No suspensions of any type.
5. Be proficient on any ACT Aspire test taken in the previous year.

White Card-The student must achieve:

1. A GPA of 3.0 to 3.49
2. No failures.
3. No suspension of any type.
4. No more than two unexcused absences.
5. Be proficient on any ACT Aspire test taken in the previous year.

REWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Gold Card Recipients

Discounts from participating merchants. Ahart's 10% discount for Renaissance students

Open campus for lunch on **designated day of the week.**

One Renaissance day (limit two R days per school year, 3 days total for seniors).

\$1.00 dollar off the admission price to ALL local school activities.

Free Admission to home athletic events.

5 Free "meals" from the home concession stand for the year.

Blue Card Recipient

Discounts from participating merchants. Ahart's 10% discount for Renaissance students

50 cents off the admission price to ALL local school activities.

Open campus for lunch on **designated day of the week.**

One Renaissance Day (limit one per school year).

\$1 off admission to athletic events.

2 Free ‘meals’ from the home concession stand for the year

White Card Recipient

Discounts from participating merchants. Ahart’s 10% discount for Renaissance students

Open campus for lunch on **designated day of the week.**

1 Free ‘meal’ from the home concession stand for the year.

*A student loses their Renaissance card if they receive an ISS or OSS as a result of violating the discipline policies of the High School. The Renaissance program is available to sophomore, junior and seniors. Returning late from open campus may result in immediate loss of Renaissance card. **Students must stay within the parameters set by the school principal during open campus for Renaissance.***

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

A student will be required to attend scheduled free assemblies. An indication of the cultural level of the school is the conduct of its student body at an assembly. A student’s behavior should be refined and courteous at all times. Whether guests are present or not, each student is personally responsible for the impression made by the school as a whole. Unacceptable conduct would include whistling, uncalled-for clapping, boisterousness, and talking during the program. Student conduct will dictate the number of assemblies the school may have.

SCHOOL TRIPS

When making all transportation arrangements, the sponsor is responsible for coordinating with the principal. Transportation request forms are available in the principal’s office or online. The principal and superintendent must approve all trips in advance. **Trip sponsors or building principals may prohibit any student who has been truant, had excessive discipline problems (3 or more), or has excessive absences (excused or unexcused) from attending a school trip, it is the responsibility of the trip sponsor to check detention halls, ISS, and/or OSS.** **Absences and disciplinary issues will start over at the beginning of each quarter.** Activities will be scheduled in a manner that will cause the least possible interruption of the school day. Extra-curricular activities will be well chaperoned at all times. All school rules are strictly enforced on all school-sponsored functions. The students must follow all rules established by the sponsors. These rules shall include but not limited to the following:

1. Reasonable curfew set by the sponsor
2. Male and female may not be in the same room without a sponsor present
3. Students may not leave the venue of the event without permission from the sponsor
4. Students must always travel in groups or pairs

TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL EVENTS

All students participating in school activities should ride the provided school transportation to and from events. The school realizes that extenuating circumstances sometimes dictate that students riding from a school-sponsored event in school transportation may cause undue hardship on the student or parents. Therefore, students are allowed to ride home with a parent, an immediate family member who is not a school age student, or another adult included on a release form filled out by the student’s family and authorized by the principal or athletic director. If this is the case,

the student must have a signed release form on file. The release form requires a parent/guardian signature and the name(s) of the adult(s) who is providing the transportation for the student. An adult will be considered any non-school age student and immediate family will be defined as any family member living in the same residence. The adult providing transportation for the student must personally speak to the coach or sponsor before the student will be released. If the parents need someone else to pick up their child, other than a name on the release form, they need to make contact with the coach/ sponsor **before** the team departs for the event.

CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY

Students are subject to the same rules of conduct while traveling to and from school as they are while on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate student code of conduct rules.

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. Disciplinary measures for problems related to bus behavior shall include suspension or expulsion from school, or suspending or terminating the student's bus transportation privileges. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their bus transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student's parent or legal guardian.

Students are eligible to received district bus transportation if they meet the following requirements.

All students living in the Huntsville School District are eligible to ride school buses. Those students who live outside the Huntsville School District or outside their attendance area (i.e. Huntsville campuses or St. Paul campuses) must meet a Huntsville bus at the nearest stop within the district borders in order to receive services. Parents of students who live outside the borders of the Huntsville School District or outside the borders of their respective attendance area are responsible for their transportation to and from the closest bus stop.

Requests for bus service or route extensions must be made to the Director of Transportation. Routes will only be extended if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The student lives .8 miles or more from the last bus stop on the closest route.
2. The road must accommodate a 71-passenger bus with appropriate turn-around.
3. The road may not be a private drive.

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

1. Students must be at the bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to the bus's scheduled arrival time. They should stand about 10 to 15 feet from the bus stop and wait until the door is opened before moving toward the bus. Playing on the road is not permitted. If a student misses the bus, he/she should not attempt to hitchhike or walk to school.
2. While loading or unloading, students should enter or leave the bus orderly and quickly. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before getting up.
3. When crossing the road or highway to board the bus, students must wait until the bus arrives and comes to a complete stop. When the red lights are flashing and the driver motions, the student may cross the road 10 feet in front of the bus.
4. When crossing the road or highway after unloading the bus in the afternoon, the student must wait on the shoulder of the road 10 feet in front of the bus until the driver signals that it is safe to cross the road.

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

HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BUS REFERRAL

Harry Spurlock, *Transportation Supervisor*

For student disciplinary issues, please contact

(479) 738-6928

the student's school.

Date: _____ **AM** **PM**

Student's Name: _____

School: **SPE** **SPHS**

K-6 **7-12**

Driver's Name: _____

Bus No.: _____

BEHAVIORS: (To be completed by driver)	CONSEQUENCES: (To be completed by administrator)	
<p>Tier I</p> <p>___ A. Out of seat while bus is in motion</p> <p>___ B. Blocking aisle</p> <p>___ C. Failure to follow instructions</p> <p>___ D. Inappropriate language</p> <p>___ E. Littering/Trash</p> <p>___ F. Horseplay</p> <p>___ G. Loud or excessive talking/music</p> <p>___ H. Back talking; disrespect to driver</p> <p>___ I. Selling items</p> <p>___ J. Other _____</p>	<p>Grades K-5</p> <p>___ 1. Warning</p> <p>___ 2. Parent notification</p> <p>___ 3. Assign seat/seatbelt (K-2)</p> <p>___ 4. Off bus 1 day</p> <p>___ 5. Off bus 3 days</p> <p>___ 6. Off bus 5 days</p> <p>___ 7. Off bus 10 days</p> <p>___ 8. Off bus for rest of semester</p>	<p>Grades 6-12</p> <p>___ 1. Warning</p> <p>___ 2. Assign seat</p> <p>___ 3. Off bus 1 day</p> <p>___ 4. Off bus 3 days</p> <p>___ 5. Off bus 5 days</p> <p>___ 6. Off bus 10 days</p> <p>___ 7. Off bus for rest of semester</p>
<p>Tier II</p> <p>___ A. Throwing objects on/off bus</p> <p>___ B. Exhibiting sharp or dangerous objects</p> <p>___ B. Spraying perfume/cologne etc. on bus</p> <p>___ C. Obscene gestures/language</p> <p>___ D. Sharing/viewing inappropriate content on electronic device</p> <p>___ E. Failure to properly identify self to driver</p> <p>___ F. Head/arms out the window</p> <p>___ G. Public display of affection</p>	<p>Grades K-5</p> <p>___ 1. Parent notification</p> <p>___ 2. Off bus 1 day</p> <p>___ 3. Off bus 3 days</p> <p>___ 4. Off bus 5 days</p> <p>___ 5. Off bus 10 days</p> <p>___ 6. Off bus for rest of semester</p>	<p>Grades 6-12</p> <p>___ 1. Off bus 1 day</p> <p>___ 2. Off bus 3 days</p> <p>___ 3. Off bus 5 days</p> <p>___ 4. Off bus 10 days</p> <p>___ 5. Off bus for rest of semester</p>

- ___ H. Walking/standing in aisle
- ___ I. Defacing school property
- ___ J. Insubordinate to driver
- ___ K. Threatening other students
- ___ L. Other _____

Tier III	Grades K-5	Grades 6-12
___ A. Possessing/lighting fireworks or other materials	___ 1. Off bus 1 day	___ 1. Off bus 3 days
___ B. Vandalizing/destroying property	___ 2. Off bus 3 days	___ 2. Off bus 5 days
___ C. Fighting/biting/spitting	___ 3. Off bus 5 days	___ 3. Off bus 10 days
___ D. Threatening driver	___ 4. Off bus 10 days	___ 4. Off bus for semester
___ E. Possessing/using tobacco, including vapor cigarettes/ pens, e-juice	___ 5. Off bus for semester	
___ F. Inappropriate sexual advances		
___ G. Other _____		

Tier IV	Grades K-5	Grades 6-12
___ A. Possessing weapons	___ 1. School suspension/ expulsion; contact law enforcement	___ 1. School suspension/ expulsion; contact law enforcement
___ B. Possessing drugs/alcohol		
___ C. Striking driver		
___ D. Sexual misconduct		
___ E. Other _____		

*If multiple violations are reported, consequences will be assigned based on the most severe; lesser infractions will be documented as offenses.

If the behavior is not listed, the administrator will use his/her discretion to assign the behavior to the most appropriate tier.

Comments: _____

Administrator's Statement:

Signature

Date

SCHOOL DANCES

Scheduling of all dances must be approved by the high school principal. All school rules will be enforced at dances. The principal may relax the dress code to allow for proper attire for dances. At all school dances, once a student leaves the building, he/she may not return. There must be a minimum of 3 chaperones for student safety at dances. The principal must approve all non-Saint Paul High School dates in advance. **Elementary students are not allowed to attend High School dances.** A student asked to leave a dance for disciplinary reasons must also take their date with them if the date is not a student at Saint Paul High School.

SCHOOL CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND GOVERNMENT

The superintendent of schools, local school principals, school staff members, and students shall establish regulation for the operation of school-sponsored clubs, organizations and government that operate for the welfare and the best interest of the students and the school. School-sponsored clubs, organizations, and government shall be under the direct control of the school principal.

MEDIA CENTER

The library is a place for a student to read for pleasure and to conduct research. The library and its materials and machines should be respected. Therefore, library privileges may be lost due to inappropriate use of the library or library materials.

In the event a student loses library materials, the following charges will be assessed:

1. Book -- the replacement cost plus a \$5.00 processing fee.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

Personal hygiene is an important health issue. *A student should understand that if the lack of effective personal hygiene becomes a problem in the classroom, he/she might be asked to stay home until proper hygiene is accomplished.*

PERSONAL DAYS

A personal day is a day a student may use without being counted absent. Seniors receive one personal day per year and may earn additional personal days through the Renaissance program. Juniors, sophomores and freshmen do not receive personal days but may earn them through the Renaissance program.

TELEPHONE CALLS

A student will not be called out of class for a telephone call other than an emergency. Emergency messages will be delivered immediately, but the caller will be required to tell the office the nature of the emergency before any student will be called out during class time to speak on the phone.

LOST AND FOUND

Books and other items found in the hallways or left in classrooms will be taken to the office.

CONFISCATED ITEMS

The school is not responsible for items that are confiscated, such as caps, knives, lighters, chains, etc.

TEACHER WORK AREA

A student is not permitted in the teachers' work area unless accompanied by a teacher. **Students are not allowed to use the copier.**

LOCKERS

A large locker is issued to each student. Each locker has a school issued combination lock which **MUST** be kept locked on the locker. The student's locker will be checked for damage other than fair wear-and-tear and if repair is necessary, charges will be assessed. If the lock is lost or damaged \$5 will be charged for a replacement. The student's locker is the property of the school and, therefore, is not to be written on or defaced in any manner. Lockers are subject to search by school officials. **School locks are the only locks allowed on the school lockers** unless permission is given by the Principal. Students are to have their locker locked at all times.

STUDENT ASSISTANTS/TEACHERS AIDE

*A student wishing to be a teacher's assistant must have senior **or junior** status and be approved by the counselor, principal, and teacher to whom he/she is assigned. Teachers will be allowed only one per class.* The office personnel must approve an office assistant, and the librarian must approve a library assistant. All assistants must be approved by the principal in advance. During the period assigned and prior to the ringing of the tardy bell, a student assistant must report to the person to whom he/she has been assigned. A student assistant who must leave campus to fulfill his/her assignment will receive special instructions. These instructions will be signed by the student's parent/guardian before approval can be granted.

PROCEDURE FOR THE HANDLING OF ANIMALS AT SCHOOL

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to establish standard guidelines for the handling of animals at school or school functions that will ensure the safety of students and school employees.

Definitions:

Animals – includes dogs, cats, reptiles, insects, fish, birds, and other such creatures.

Authorized animals – are those animals brought to school or school functions with the permission of the principal of the building where the animals will be.

Unauthorized animals – are those animals that may wander onto campus or in a building, or animals that someone brings to school or school functions without the permission of the building principal.

School – includes all school buildings, school campuses, school vehicles, and school-sponsored functions.

Responsibilities:

Principals will implement this procedure at their respective buildings. They will ensure that the employees of their buildings are familiar with this policy and understand the procedures established herein.

Faculty members will obtain appropriate authorization before allowing animals to be brought to school. Protecting students when animals are present will be the primary duty of faculty members.

Support Staff will follow all the procedures set for in the policy. The use of students in the removal of animals from school is not authorized.

Students will not attempt to apprehend or corral animals at school.

Procedures:

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

Unauthorized animals will be handled in the following manner:

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

HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Huntsville School District Homeless Student Coordinator has multiple resources and areas of support to offer any student or family that can be considered homeless per Policy 4.40. If you are interested in learning about these resources and information, please contact the Homeless Liaison, Matt Ferguson, at (479) 738-6520 or 738-6228.

MIGRANT

Migrant Education offers a variety of services for students who are eligible for the migrant program. These services include tutorial, dental, and counseling assistance. For more information concerning Migrant Education you may call the Migrant Clerk, Cindy Cain at (479) 738-6228.

SECTION 504

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

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

DISCIPLINE OF HANDICAPPED

Discipline for handicapped under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA):

1. Handicapped students who engage in misbehavior are subject to normal school disciplinary rules and procedures so long as such treatment does not abridge the right to free appropriate public education.
2. The individualized education plan (IEP) team for a handicapped student will consider whether a particular discipline procedure should be adopted for that student and included in the IEP.
3. Handicapped students may be excluded from school in accordance with the steps outlined in OSEP memorandum 95-16.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

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

The severity of the infraction may necessitate the skipping of steps to more severe consequences.

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

Punishment range for not following instructions:

1. First offense-1-day detention
2. Second offense-2 days detention
3. Third offense-any after second will be considered disrespect and follows that punishment range

Punishment range for disrespect:

1. First offense-2 days detention
2. Second offense – 1 day of ISS
3. Third offense – any after third will be considered insubordination, and follows that punishment range

Punishment range for insubordination:

1. First offense-1 day ISS
2. Second offense-3 days ISS
3. Third offense-OSS with recommendation for expulsion

2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations: See pg. 28 Disruption of Class

Punishment range for violation:

1. Minimum-warning

2. Maximum-recommendation for expulsion

3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee

Punishment range for violation:

1. Minimum-immediate suspension
2. Maximum-immediate suspension and expulsion

4. Fighting will not be tolerated. Participants will be immediately suspended and parents contacted. If parents cannot be located, the students will spend the remainder of the school day in ISS.

Punishment range for violation:

1. First Offense-3 days OSS
2. Second Offense-5 days OSS
3. Third Offense-10 days OSS with recommendation of expulsion

5. A student that instigates a fight, or causes other people to fight

Punishment range for violation:

1. First Offense- 1 Day of ISS
2. Second Offense-3 days of ISS
3. Third Offense-10 days OSS with recommendation of expulsion

6. Possession of any weapon that can reasonable be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual

Punishment range for violation:

1. Minimum-suspension
2. Maximum-suspension with recommendation for expulsion

7. Possession or use of Tobacco including Vaping in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school

Punishment range for tobacco or **tobacco** products violations:

1. First offense-2 day ISS

2. Second offense-1 day OSS
3. Third offense-3 days OSS
4. Fourth offense and any thereafter OSS with possible expulsion

8. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property

Punishment range for violation:

1. Minimum-warning/restitution
2. Maximum-recommendation for expulsion/restitution

9. Use of Electronic Devices

See new Bell to Bell No Cell Law Policy

*****Note: Refusal to give phone at any time = Minimum of 2 days In School Suspension (ISS)**

Electronic device offenses are defined as: Use without permission during class time; disruption to the learning process as determined by the principal.

10. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, drug devices, or the inappropriate use of sharing of prescription or over-the-counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug.

Punishment range for alcohol and prohibited substances/drug devices/drug paraphernalia (use, possession, or under the influence):

1. First offense, immediate ten (10) day OSS; referral to law enforcement. Placed in ISS for remainder of the day if parents cannot be contacted to come and pick student up from school. Upon return to school the student will have five (5) days in ISS. (The OSS may be reduced to five (5) days if the student completes an evaluation with a qualified agency, and the school has been provided a copy of the agency's evaluation.)
2. Second offense, immediate ten (10) day OSS, referral to law enforcement, and recommendation for expulsion.

Punishment range for sale or distribution of alcohol and prohibited substances/drug devices:

1. Minimum-immediate suspension for 10 days from the school, referral to law enforcement, and recommendation for expulsion.
2. Maximum-immediate suspension for 10 days from the school, referral to law enforcement, and recommendation for expulsion.

Punishment range for possessing and/or distributing OTC drugs that are not represented as a controlled substance:

1. Minimum: confiscation/warning

2. Maximum: out of school suspension

11. Inappropriate public displays of affection

Punishment range for PDA (severity may dictate skipping steps):

1. First offense-warning
2. Second offense- detention
3. Third offense-parent conference and ISS
4. Fourth offense-possible OSS

12. Cheating, copying, or plagiarizing (claiming another person's work to be his/her own)

Punishment range for cheating/plagiarizing:

1. First offense – zero on work and notify parents and 1 day detention
2. Second offense-zero on the work and 2 days detention for daily work or homework.
Zero on work, 1day ISS, and parent conference for tests or major assignments.
3. Third offense, zero on work, 1 day in ISS, and parent conference for daily work or homework.
Zero on work and 3 days ISS for tests or major assignments.
4. Fourth offense, zero on work and 3 days in ISS for daily work or homework.
Zero on work and 5 days ISS for tests or major assignments.
5. Any other offenses will result in out-of-school suspension and possible expulsion.

13. Gambling

Punishment range for gambling:

1. Minimum-warning
2. Maximum-suspension

14. Inappropriate student dress

“A school district shall include in its student discipline policies a provision prohibiting students from wearing, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day and at school-sponsored activities and events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female. Subdivision (c) (1) of this section shall not apply to a costume or uniform worn by a student while participating in a school-sponsored activity or event.” **Arkansas Act 835 of 2011**

The general standard of appearance for a student is that he/she be clean, neat, and properly dressed. The student shall observe modes of dress, styles of hair, and standards of personal grooming which are in conformity with the studious atmosphere necessary in schools.

Students will **NOT** be permitted to wear:

- Caps/hats are allowed outside and inside the gym only. Exception to this rule is when headwear is required in shop.
- Shorts or dresses/skirts, including splits, must extend below the student's fingertips with shoulders relaxed.
- Low Cut, Low Scoop Neck, or Deep V-Neck shirts. As a **general guideline** the neckline of any shirt should be cut no lower than 3 inches from the top of the sternum.

- Halter-tops, half or cutoff shirts, strapless tops, sports bras, shirts showing midriff. Shirts with oversize armholes are not allowed.
- Clothing which shows underwear or lack thereof when doing normal school activities (including but not limited to: leggings, tights, yoga pants, and jeggings). If these items are worn, there must be sufficient covering.
- Clothing with holes, rips, tears must have sufficient covering.
- Sagging pants. All pants should be worn at least as high as the top of the hipbones.
- Offensive clothing, hats, buttons displaying obscene or inappropriate printing and offensive writings and drawings on the body, books and clothing.
- No bandanas.
- No Pajamas or any other sleepwear unless a spirit week activity.
- Tank tops must be two fingers in width.
- No spaghetti straps.

Parents, please be aware of what your child is wearing to school each day.

Punishment range for violation of the dress code:

Each time the dress code is violated a student must change clothes to comply with school policy. Students will be given an opportunity to call their parents for a change of clothes, but if unable to get a change of clothes they will either be issued clothes or spend the remainder of the day in ISS. * The severity of the offense may dictate a skipping of steps.

1. First Offense-warning (Student will be given ONE warning PER Semester)
2. Second Offense-detention hall and parents contacted
3. Third Offense-one (1) Day ISS
4. Fourth Offense-five (5) Days ISS
5. Fifth Offense-OSS
6. Sixth Offense-OSS with possible recommendation for expulsion

15. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures

Punishment range for inappropriate language:

1. Minimum- 1 day detention
2. Maximum- suspension with possible recommendation for expulsion

16. Truancy

Any student who fails to follow all or any part of his or her schedule (on or off campus, all or part of a period) without prior parental and/or school consent will be considered truant. Once a student gets on a school bus or arrives on campus, he/she will be considered to be at school. Once at school, a student may not leave without permission even if the first bell has not sounded. (Example: getting off the bus and walking off campus for any reason). A student leaving campus without permission will be counted truant. Attempted truancy will be considered the same as truancy. Example of attempted truancy: getting someone to call to impersonate a parent in order to leave school. A student who doesn't come to school- but picks up a student from school to be truant- will be considered truant as well.

Punishment range for truancy:

1. First truancy-2 days ISS

2. Second truancy-4 days ISS

3. Third truancy-5 days ISS

17. Excessive tardiness

Tardiness is a major disruption to the teaching environment, and a responsible student will make every effort to be in class on time. A student is tardy when he/she is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings. If a teacher, counselor, or a member of the office staff has detained the student for a legitimate reason approved in writing, he/she is not tardy.

Punishment range for violation:

1. 3 total tardies-1 day detention

2. 6 total tardies –2 days detention for 7-12 grade

3. 12 total tardies – 1 day of ISS

4. All tardies after 12 – 2 days detention per every 6 tardies; 24 tardies – 2 days ISS, etc.

Tardies will be cleared at the end of each semester.

18. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability

Punishment range for violation:

1. First offense, warning with an explanation

2. Second offense-2 days ISS and parent conference.

3. Third offense-OSS

4. Fourth offense-immediate OSS with recommendation for expulsion.

19. Hazing or aiding in the hazing of another student

Punishment range for hazing:

1. First offense-a warning with an explanation of what is considered hazing

2. Second offense-2 days ISS and parent conference.

3. Third offense-OSS

4. Fourth offense-immediate OSS with recommendation for expulsion

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

Punishment range for gangs/gang-related activities:

1. Minimum-suspension

2. Maximum-expulsion

21. Sexual harassment

Every student has the right to attend school without fear of harassment of any type. Sexual harassment has become a major concern of today's society. Educators have become increasingly aware of the problem, as the numbers of reported incidents have increased. Sexual harassment is a very subjective problem because it does not always fit nicely into a standard description of a discipline problem, but it is a problem that will not be tolerated at Saint Paul High School. Parents will be contacted early in the discipline process. Every incident should be reported to a counselor, teacher, or principal. An investigation will follow. Any physical contact will result in the skipping of steps.

Punishment range for sexual harassment:

1. First offense-warning with an explanation of what is considered sexual harassment and 2 days detention.
2. Second offense-2 days ISS and parent conference.
3. Third offense-OSS
4. Fourth offense-immediate OSS with recommendation for expulsion.
5. Should any of the first three offenses be serious enough to warrant it, the punishment will skip to number 4.

22. Bullying

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

Procedures for harassment/bullying:

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

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

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

23. Bus Violations

All bus discipline problems will be documented and reported to the school principal who will assign discipline as warranted. The following steps will apply to all discipline problems unless the nature of the behavior warrants more severe discipline.

(Any student's actions on the bus that violate school policy shall also be dealt with per the school rule punishment.)

Punishment range for violations:

See HSD Bus Referral Form

24. Driving Parking Violations

Punishment range for driving and parking violations:

1. First offense-warning
2. Second offense-driving privileges suspended for 5 days.
3. Third offense-driving privileges will be suspended for the term.

If the offense is of sufficient nature to endanger the safety of others, the student may not be given a warning, but may lose driving privileges on the first offense.

25. Disruption of School

Punishment range for violation:

1. Minimum-warning
2. Maximum-recommendation for expulsion

26. Vending Machines

Candy and soft drinks may be consumed in the cafeteria, student commons, or the courtyard. Candy and soft drinks may not be consumed in classrooms except at teacher discretion. This is a privilege, subject to being revoked if it becomes a problem. The vending machines may not be used during class.

Punishment range for misuse of vending machines:

1. First offense-warning
2. Second offense-1 day detention
3. Third offense-2 days detention
4. Fourth offense-4 days detention

If inappropriate use of machines continues, the student will not be allowed to use vending machine or to bring vending products on campus.

27. Forgery

Writing or signing another person's name to any official school/parent document or altering said document in any way is forgery. Providing false Dr's notes or absences excuses will also be considered forgery.

Punishment range for forgery:

1. First offense-2 days detention
2. Second offense-2 days ISS
3. Third offense-OSS with possible recommendation for expulsion

28. Immorality

Punishment range for immorality:

1. Minimum-warning
2. Maximum-suspension

29. Possession of Chains Including Wallet Chains

Punishment range for chains:

1. Minimum-confiscation
2. Maximum-recommendation for expulsion

30. Fireworks on Campus

Punishment range for fireworks:

1. Minimum-warning
2. Maximum-recommendation for expulsion

31. Theft

Punishment range for theft:

1. Minimum-suspension and restitution
2. Maximum-recommendation for expulsion and restitution

32. Laser Pointers

Punishment range for laser pointers:

1. Minimum-confiscation
2. Maximum-suspension

33. Violation of Computer Use Agreement

Computer Privileges will be Immediately Suspended

1. Minimum-warning

2. Maximum-expulsion

34. Disruption of Class

An orderly classroom is essential to maximize instruction and learning. The following, though not comprehensive, is a list of unacceptable student behavior in the classroom:

- a. Interrupting the instructor or other students
- b. Side conversations
- c. Persisting when the teacher indicates that a student's remark is unacceptable or off topic
- d. Leaving one's seat or moving about the classroom without permission
- e. Not bringing necessary materials to class
- f. Reading material or doing work that does not pertain to that particular class (for example, reading a novel in a math class)
- g. Putting one's head down or sleeping in class and not paying attention to instruction

Punishment range for disrupting class:

1. Minimum-warning
2. Maximum-OSS with possible expulsion

DEFINITIONS OF DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS

WARNING

Some minor discipline problems can be handled by a simple warning to the student. The warning may be in oral or written form.

DETENTION HALL

Detention for grades 7 -12 will be before school from 7:20-7:40. Increasing discipline problems may require students to attend detention scheduled after school. One after school detention period is one hour long. The student will be required to work for the entire hour without talking. ***The school is not responsible for providing a way home*** for a student assigned to detention hall. If the student is late to detention hall, another day will be added. Failure to attend detention hall will result in the student being reassigned the very next two days. Continued failure to attend will result in in-school suspension.

PARENTS, PLEASE NOTE: WHEN A STUDENT IS ASSIGNED DETENTION HALL, HE/SHE WILL BE GIVEN A FORM TO TAKE HOME TO BE SIGNED BY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN. THE PURPOSE IS TO KEEP PARENTS AND GUARDIANS BETTER INFORMED ABOUT TARDIES, HOMEWORK, AND OTHER DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS AT SCHOOL.

A student who does not get the **yellow form** signed by the parent or guardian and bring it with them to their assigned detention hall will receive another day of detention hall. After School detention halls are scheduled the day following the event. For example, a student caught misbehaving on Monday will be scheduled for detention hall on Tuesday. On Monday, the day the problem occurred, they would receive a form to TAKE home. Remember, a detention hall is a punishment and will not be scheduled at the convenience of the student. **It is the student's responsibility to keep up with date changes due to an absence from school. (Note: If you have been assigned**

detention for Tuesday, but are sick and miss school that day, you will be required to serve detention on Wednesday.)

After the second detention hall assigned from the same teacher the parent will be contacted by that teacher.

After a student receives five (5) detention halls during a semester for behavior related problems, he/she will be assigned ISS instead of detention hall for any other offenses.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Students 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 which:

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

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

- the student shall be given written notice or advised orally of the charges against him/her;
- 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;
- if the principal finds the student guilty of the misconduct, he/she may be suspended.

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student's re-admittance to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), 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), or to the student if age 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 parents' or legal guardians' responsibility to provide current contact information to the district which the school shall use to immediately notify the parent or legal guardian 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 or legal guardian.

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.

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.

Out-of-school suspensions shall be treated as unexcused absences and during the period of suspension students shall not be permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference.

In-school suspension shall be treated as if the student was present at school. The student shall not attend any school-sponsored activities during the imposed suspension nor shall the student participate in any school-sponsored activities.

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.

EXPULSION

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District's written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate, or where the student's continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment or would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents or legal guardians (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, or student if age 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, which 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 the Weapons and Dangerous Instruments Policy, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm or other weapon 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 or legal guardians 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 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 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.

SUMMARY

It is impossible to anticipate all student behaviors; therefore, any behavior not listed in this handbook will be handled by the administration on a case-by-case basis. Any student activity not covered must be approved by the administration. Any action taken as a result of a problem must be handled through the proper channels beginning with the teacher and progressing through the principal to the superintendent.

Huntsville School District - Technology Handbook

The Huntsville School District has implemented a 1:1 initiative K-12 by providing every student a Chromebook. Students in grades 6th - 12th will be issued a school-owned Chromebook to take home with them. Students in Kindergarten thru 5th grade will also be provided a Chromebook while at school. All parents/guardians and students will be required to read and abide by the rules set forth in this technology handbook. This document provides students and their parents/guardians with information about the general use of technology, ownership of the Chromebooks, rights, and responsibilities for possession of the Chromebook, educational use, care of the Chromebook, and being a good digital citizen. Additionally, for students in grades 6th - 12th a Chromebook use permission form (last page) with parent/guardian and student signatures will be required before taking possession of a school-owned Chromebook.

What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a mobile computer running Google Chrome OS as its operating system. Chromebooks are designed to be used while connected to the Internet and support applications like G Suite that reside on the web, rather than traditional PC applications like Microsoft Office and Photoshop that reside on the machine itself. This allows the Chromebooks to be sold at a much lower price point than traditional laptops.

Ownership of the Chromebook

The Huntsville School District retains sole right of possession of the Chromebook. HSD lends the Chromebook to the students for educational purposes only for the academic year. Additionally, HSD administrative staff and faculty retain the right to collect and/or inspect Chromebooks at any time, including via electronic remote access and to alter, add, or delete installed software or hardware.

Repossession: If you do not timely and fully comply with all terms of this Agreement and the HSD Technology Handbook, including the timely return of the property, the District shall be entitled to declare you in default and come to your place of residence, or other location of the property, to take possession of the property.

Term of Agreement: Your right to use and possession of the property terminates no later than the last day of the school year unless earlier terminated by the District or upon withdrawal from the District.

Appropriation: Your failure to timely return the property and the continued use of it for non-school purposes without the District's consent may be considered unlawful appropriation of the District's property.

Rights and Responsibilities

Responsibility for Electronic Data

The students are solely responsible for any apps or extensions on their Chromebooks that are not installed by a member of the HSD technology staff. Students are responsible for backing up their data to protect from loss. Users of School Technology have no rights, ownership, or expectations of privacy to any data that is, or was, stored on the Chromebook, school network, or any school-issued applications and are given no guarantees that data will be retained or destroyed.

Operating System and Security

Students may not use or install any operating system on their Chromebook other than the current version of ChromeOS that is supported and managed by the district.

Updates

The Chromebook operating system, ChromeOS, updates itself automatically. Students do not need to manually update their Chromebooks.

Virus Protection

Chromebooks use the principle of “defense in depth” to provide multiple layers of protection against viruses and malware, including data encryption and verified boot. There is no need for additional virus protection.

Educational Purposes Only

The school district is providing access to its Chromebook networks and the Internet for educational purposes only. If the user has any doubt about whether a contemplated activity is educational, the user may consult with the person(s) designated by the school to help decide if a use is appropriate.

Damage, Coverage, and Inventory Control

The Huntsville School District has concluded that it would be effective to privately insure the school-owned Chromebooks. Your premium of \$20 covers the cost of repair and replacement parts. If a complete replacement is required, you will only pay a \$100 deductible instead of a total replacement cost. Intentional damage will be charged the full replacement cost of \$200. A temporary replacement Chromebook will be issued, if available, while repairs are being made.

Students/Guardians/Teachers are **not** authorized to attempt repairs themselves or contract with any other individual or business for the repair of the Chromebook. Intentional damage will be considered vandalism. In this case, full repair or replacement cost of the Chromebook will be charged and further disciplinary action may be taken. Insurance will not cover damage caused by removing the battery or opening the Chromebook in an attempt to repair it.

The Chromebook will be checked out in much the same fashion as a library book using scanned barcodes according to the Chromebook serial number and the school-issued asset tag. The student is responsible for all equipment checked out in his/her name. Therefore, students are not to exchange Chromebooks, chargers, or cases. At the conclusion of each school year, students will be required to check-in their Chromebook and they will be inspected by the technology department at this time. Students will be expected to check in the same serial numbered equipment as originally checked out unless replacement equipment has been issued by the technology department.

Insurance

Parents/Guardians must pay a nonrefundable annual insurance policy with a premium of **\$20.00** before taking possession of the school-owned Chromebook. If a student and/or family is unable or unwilling to pay the premium, he or she must contact the school principal in order to discuss the unique situation and a waiver may be issued.

The original \$20.00 premium covers ONE replacement of the following components:

- Keyboard, Palm Rest, Touchpad, or Casing Assembly Replacement
- Screen replacement
- Chromebook Charger
- Chromebook Case

First Breakage: If the damage was not deliberate, the Chromebook will be repaired at no additional charge to the student or parent. If the damage was deliberate, the student/guardian will be responsible for the full cost of the repair.

Second Breakage: If the damage was not deliberate the student will only have to pay an additional \$20 for the cost of the second repair. If the damage was deliberate, the student/guardian will be responsible for the full cost of the repair.

Third Breakage: The student and parent/guardian will be responsible for the full cost of the repair.

Damaged, Lost, or Stolen Devices

Loss, theft, or damage beyond the repair of the property must be reported to the Principal's office by the next school day after the occurrence. In case of theft, vandalism, or other criminal acts, **a police report MUST be filed by the student or parent within 48 hours** of the occurrence and a copy of the police report must be brought to the school by the next school day. Students/Parents are reminded that the act of

filing a false police report is a felony. If a Chromebook is stolen and the student reports the theft (by the next school day) and a police report is filed, then the student will be charged \$100.00 deductible to receive a replacement Chromebook.

Content Filter

The school utilizes a state internet content filter on site that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks will have all internet activity protected and monitored by the school while on campus. All school-issued Chromebooks, (in use in or out of school), will have internet activity filtered and logged. HSD cannot guarantee that access to all inappropriate sites will be blocked. No filter is as reliable as adult supervision. If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students should contact their teachers to request the site be unblocked. **Parents/guardians are responsible for filtering and monitoring any internet connection students receive that is not provided by the school.**

Using the Chromebook for Internet and E-mail

The school utilizes a state internet content filter on site that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks will have all internet activity protected and monitored by the school while on campus. All school-issued Chromebooks, (in use in or out of school), will have internet activity filtered and logged. HSD cannot guarantee that access to all inappropriate sites will be blocked. No filter is as reliable as adult supervision. If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students should contact their teachers to request the site be unblocked. **Parents/guardians are responsible for filtering and monitoring any internet connection students receive that is not provided by the school.**

No Expectation of Privacy

Network and internet access is provided as a tool for the user's education. The school district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, and store at any time and without prior notice, any and all usage of the Chromebook network and internet access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such information files shall be and remain the property of the school district and no user shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

Internet Safety

In order for the school district to ensure the continued accessibility of its Chromebook network and the internet, all students and staff must take responsibility for the appropriate and lawful use of this access.

There are many sites on the internet that can be potentially dangerous to minors. All school-issued Chromebooks, (in use in or out of school), will have internet activity filtered and logged. While the school's teachers and other staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise student use of network and internet access, they must have student cooperation in exercising and promoting acceptable use of technology. Parents should monitor student home internet access. To find more information about internet safety, go to www.isafe.org.

Students Must

1. Report immediately unauthorized activity on the network or internet.
2. Notify HSD staff immediately if an inappropriate site is accessed.
3. Never read someone else's email or open their files or folders without permission.
4. Never use or transmit anything with racist, abusive, threatening, demeaning, slanderous, objectionable, sexually explicit, or inflammatory content.
5. Never meet in person someone they meet on the internet.
6. Observe copyright laws, not claim authorship of work copied from a website, or from any other source, and accurately cite sources of information.
7. Protect user accounts by keeping passwords secure and logging off or locking the Chromebook when it is not in use.
8. Protect all personal information. Never give full name, address, phone number, passwords, and/or Social Security Numbers for yourself or others. Use a "code name" that does not identify you personally to online viewers and/or organizations you do not know.
9. Avoid online sites and materials that do not support the curriculum or are otherwise inappropriate for educational use.

Cyber Bullying

Cyberbullying is when one or more people intentionally harm, harass, embarrass, intimidate, or reject another person using technology. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- Sending mean or threatening messages via social media, email, IM (instant messaging), or text messages.
- Spreading rumors about others through social media, email, IM, or text messages.
- Creating a website or social-networking account that targets another student or other person(s).
- Sharing fake or embarrassing photos/videos of someone with others via a cell phone or the web.
- Stealing another person's login and password to send mean or embarrassing messages from his or her account.

It shall be the policy of the Huntsville School District that cyberbullying will not be tolerated under any circumstances. A student caught violating this policy will lose Chromebook privileges and these actions

may result in further disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion from school. In addition, violators and their parents/guardians may be subject to civil and/or criminal penalties as specified by Arkansas and/or federal law.

Consequences of Inappropriate Use

The user's use of the school Chromebook and the internet is a privilege, not a right. All email, network, and internet activity is the responsibility of the individual whose account is logged in at the time of the activity. If your account is logged in, you are responsible. Keep your passwords a secret! Students are expected to use District technology in accordance with HSD policies and procedures, District Internet Acceptable Use Policy, HSD Student Handbooks, and any applicable laws. Failure to use District technology in an appropriate manner will result in consequences, as determined by HSD staff.

In addition to any disciplinary consequences the following consequences shall apply to violations of this agreement:

1. Compromising the security of any District-owned device, District network, or District-provided internet will result in the loss of the use of District devices, network, and/or internet.
2. Deliberately damaging any District-owned device, District network, or District-provided internet will result in the loss of their use.
3. Violating the HSD Acceptable Computer Use Policy and/or this Agreement may result in the loss of technology privileges.

Transferring/Withdrawing Students

Students that transfer out of or withdraw from HSD must turn in their Chromebooks and peripherals and accessories to the campus office personnel on their last day of attendance. Failure to turn in the Chromebook will result in the student being charged the full \$250.00 replacement cost. Unpaid fines and fees of students leaving HSD may be turned over to a collection agency or small claims court. Additionally, a report of stolen property with the local law enforcement agency will be filed by the school or school designee.

General Care for the Chromebook

- Treat each Chromebook with care by not dropping it, getting it wet, leaving it outdoors, or using it with food or drink nearby
- Honor your family's values when using the internet. Parents will discuss family values and expectations regarding the use of the internet at home. Parents will supervise their child's use of the Chromebook at home.
- If the Chromebook is damaged or not working properly, it must be turned in for repair or replacement. Parents/guardians and students are not authorized to attempt repairs themselves or contract with any other individual or business for the repair of the Chromebook.
- Keep your Chromebook closed when transporting it and inside your backpack.

- Do not leave your Chromebook in an unsecured area.
- Do not loan a Chromebook to anyone, not in your immediate family.
- Protect the Chromebook by unplugging the power supply and other peripherals when transporting the Chromebook.
- Protect the display by carefully closing the lid when moving the Chromebook.
- Students are expected to treat the Chromebook with care and respect. The Chromebook, charger, and case are the property of HSD and should be kept clean and free of marks at all times.
- Students should not use their Chromebook while walking, on the bus, or otherwise being transported.
- Chromebooks should only be used while they are on a flat, stable surface such as a table. Chromebooks can be fragile, and if they are dropped they may break.
- Students should protect their Chromebook from extreme heat or cold. Chromebooks should never be left in a car, even if the car is locked.
- Chromebooks should be protected from the weather, water, or other liquid, food, and pets. Students should never eat or drink while using their Chromebook, or use their Chromebook near others who are eating and drinking.
- Heavy objects should never be placed or stacked on top of your Chromebook. This includes books, musical instruments, sports equipment, etc.
- Students should use care when plugging in their power cord or phone cord.
- Chromebooks should never be placed in their carrying case while they are turned on. The Chromebook should either be turned off or in “sleep” mode.
- Chromebooks should not be placed on or under soft items such as pillows, chairs or sofa cushions, or blankets. This will cause the Chromebook to overheat and will result in damage to the Chromebook

General Chromebook Use at Home/School

HSD fully expects all members of the school community to use technology in a responsible, appropriate, and legal manner. Use the following regulations as a guide:

- Follow the HSD Acceptable Use Policy when using the internet at home or at school.
- Any inappropriate or careless use of a Chromebook should be reported immediately to HSD staff.
- Students must immediately report theft or damage to HSD staff.
- For hardware and software problems, students must take their Chromebook to their school office.
- Do not load software unless you have permission from HSD staff.
- Do not remove programs or files from any Chromebook.
- Do not give personal information when using the internet.
- Use District internet connection for research or information gathering directly related to academic assignments or extracurricular projects supervised by HSD staff.
- Game playing on Chromebooks is not allowed unless the game is directly related to a school assignment or activity.
- E-mail and other Chromebook communication should be used only for legitimate and responsible communication between students, staff, and the outside world. Rude, abusive, threatening, or otherwise inappropriate language is not permitted.



- Students should access only those files that belong to them or which they are certain they have permission to use. Students are expected to follow all copyright laws.
- Students will not download copyrighted material to a school-owned Chromebook unless it is part of a class project and under the supervision of the teacher.
- Files stored on the District domain systems (both Chromebook and file/cloud servers) shall be limited to those relating to formal HSD courses or activities. Games, commercial software, or graphic files that are not for an HSD project or formal activity should not be stored on the school systems.
- Students are expected to only access HSD authorized sites at the appropriate times.
- Students shall notify their teacher immediately if they accidentally access an inappropriate site.
- Students shall only use their assigned HSD g-mail accounts and Google Drive to store school-related files.
- Students shall always protect their user accounts by logging off when not at their Chromebook.
- Each Chromebook is coded and assigned to an individual student. Students shall never “swap” or “share” their Chromebook with another student. Chromebooks should be in a student’s possession or secured at all times.
- Students shall never share their passwords with other students. Passwords should always be kept confidential.
- Students are responsible for saving or backing up their documents to their assigned Google Drive accounts. Anything that is saved directly on to the desktop or hard drive of the Chromebook will not be saved if the Chromebook must be reset.
- Students shall never attempt to “hack” into any Chromebook system or engage in unauthorized use of the network.
- Students must never maliciously damage or steal HSD technology equipment or electronic data.
- Students must never change the settings of HSD Chromebooks or software.
- If the Chromebook is stolen while at home, parents/guardians should immediately report the theft to the local police and HSD staff at the first opportunity available. A copy of the police report is to be given to HSD staff within 48 hours of the occurrence.
- The use of chat rooms or instant messaging systems or free email on the internet is prohibited. Students may only use the email account and chat software that is set up by HSD.
- Students shall keep the Chromebook in its case at all times.
- Defacing the Chromebook or carrying case is not allowed and will result in loss of privileges and disciplinary consequences. Defacing includes, but is not limited to, stickers, writing, drawing, engraving, etc.



Huntsville School District

Chromebook Agreement Form

Any parent who wishes that their child has a school-issued Chromebook within the Huntsville School District must read and sign this agreement. Parents and Students who sign this form and agree to the policies, procedures, and information listed in the HSD Technology Handbook as well as:

- I understand the Chromebook is the property of the Huntsville School District and is assigned to me.

- I will care for the Chromebook and will not leave it unsupervised or in unsecured locations.
- I will not loan the Chromebook to another individual.
- I will not use the Chromebook near food or drinks.
- I will not disassemble any part of the Chromebook or attempt any repairs. I will inform the HSD staff immediately if repairs are needed.
- I will not deface the Chromebook in any way including stickers, drawings, markings, etc.
- I will not deface the serial number nor the school asset tag on the Chromebook.
- I understand that the Chromebook and its contents may be inspected at any time because it is HSD property, including random inspections anytime during the year.
- I agree to return upon request and in good working condition the Chromebook, charger, and other accessories assigned to me.
- I agree to pay a **\$20.00** non-refundable annual insurance fee for the school-owned Chromebook. If the Chromebook is lost, stolen, or a total loss there is an additional \$100.00 deductible for replacement and must file a police report.
- I agree not to use the Chromebook to record, transmit, or post photos or videos of a person or persons, including myself, without the express permission of a teacher.
- I understand that Cyber-bullying will not be permitted in any form. If cyber-bullying occurs, school disciplinary policy will be followed.
- I understand that I should not have any expectation of privacy.

Please Print:

Student's name _____
name _____

Parent's

I understand and will abide by the HSD Technology Handbook policies, procedures, and information and that any violation of these policies may result in the loss of Chromebook privileges as well as other disciplinary action.

Student's Signature

Date

As a parent/guardian, I understand that my child will be responsible for abiding by the HSD Technology Handbook policies, procedures, and information. I have read and discussed them with her/him and they understand the responsibility they have in the use of Chromebooks.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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

STUDENTS

SECTION 4-STUDENTS

4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Definitions

“In loco parentis” means relating to the responsibility to undertake the care and control of another person in the absence of:

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

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

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

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

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

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

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District’s schools separate and apart from his or her parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis, the student is required to 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 coop 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.

Cross References: 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS
4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302
A.C.A. § 6-18-202
A.C.A. § 6-18-203
A.C.A. § 6-28-108
A.C.A. § 9-28-113

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

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 4.5.

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 will attain six (6) years of age 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 of age during the school year in which the student 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 the student's parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.

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

1. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis 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 Division of Elementary and Secondary education.

2. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis 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, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis;
 - f. United States military identification; or
 - g. Previous school records.
3. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis 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. Any person who has been expelled from any other school district shall receive a hearing before the Board at the time the student is seeking enrollment in the District. The Board reserves the right to not allow the enrollment of such students until the time of the person's expulsion has expired following the hearing before the Board.
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:

“Activated reserve components” means members of the reserve component of the uniformed services who have received a notice of intent to deploy or mobilize under Title 10 of the United States Code, Title 32 of the United States Code, or state mobilization to active duty.

“Active duty” means full-time duty status in the active, uniformed services of the United States, including without limitation members of The National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders under 10 U.S.C. chapters 1209 and 1211 or 42 U.S.C. § 204.

“Deployment” means a period of time extending from six (6) months before a member of the uniformed services' departure from their home station on military orders through six (6) months after return to the Uniformed Services member's home station.

"Dual status military technician" means a federal civilian employee who is:

- a. Employed under 5 U.S.C. § 3101 or 32 U.S.C. § 709(b);
- b. Required as a condition of employment to maintain membership in the Selected Reserve; and
- c. Assigned to a civilian position as a technician in the organizing, administering, instructing, or training of the Selected Reserve or in the maintenance and repair of supplies or equipment issued to the Selected Reserve of the United States Armed Forces.

“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;
- Veterans of the uniformed services who are injured in the line of duty and medically separated or retired;
- Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty;
- 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 the member 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 possess specialized knowledge regarding the educational needs and unique challenges faced by children of uniformed services families.

An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

1. Be allowed to continue the student's enrollment at the grade level commensurate with the student's grade level the student was in at the time of transition from the student's 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 the student's previous school;
3. Enter the District's school on the validated level from the student's 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 the student's previous school to the extent that space is

- available. This does not prohibit the District from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses/ and/or programs;
5. Be provided services comparable to those the student with disabilities received in the student's previous school based on the student's 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 the student 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 and an enrollment application of an eligible student from a military family, the District shall:

- Provisionally enroll, provide placement for, and enter academic course requests on behalf of the incoming student based on the student's education record provided by the student's family or the sending district;
- Provide the uniformed services family with information regarding:
 - a. Career-ready pathways and other academic or education programs offered;
 - b. Required academic courses for each curriculum and elective course options;
 - c. School and community-sponsored extracurricular activities, including without limitation individual and team sports, clubs, junior reserve officer training corps opportunities, and Purple Star School program ambassadors; and
 - d. Contact information for the designated military family education coordinator and the Purple Star School program military family education facilitator, if applicable; and
 - e. Other relevant information regarding the District.

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

The District shall not deny the enrollment of a Uniformed Service Member dependent unless the District has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal law; state law; the Standards for Accreditation for Public Schools and School Districts; state rules; or other applicable federal regulations, and the District timely notifies the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis of the lack of capacity.

The District shall notify a prospective student's family in writing regarding whether the student's enrollment has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) calendar days of receiving the student's enrollment application and supporting documentation.

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.

The District may request a waiver from the State Board as necessary to accommodate an eligible student.

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.²⁸

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

Cross References: 4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS
4.4—STUDENT TRANSFERS
4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE
4.6—HOME SCHOOLING
4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES
4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS
4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN
4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302
A.C.A. § 6-15-504
A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (c)
A.C.A. § 6-18-207
A.C.A. § 6-18-208
A.C.A. § 6-18-235
A.C.A. § 6-18-510
A.C.A. § 6-18-702
A.C.A. § 6-28-101 et seq.
A.C.A. § 9-28-113
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety
Plyler v Doe 457 US 202,221 (1982)

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.3—COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Every parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the child, or person standing in loco parentis of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the District shall enroll the child and ensure the attendance of the child at 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 (4.6—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, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the child, or person standing in loco parentis of the child elects not to have the child attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
4. The child has received a high school diploma, G.E.D., or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.

6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (b).

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-201
A.C.A. § 6-18-207

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.4—STUDENT TRANSFERS

The superintendent is authorized to accept transfer applications on behalf of the Board. At least five (3) days before a school board meeting, the superintendent shall notify the Board regarding:

- All transfer applications the superintendent has accepted since the last meeting; and
- All transfer applications the District has received since the last meeting that the superintendent intends to recommend be denied.

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

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

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

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

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

Cross Reference: 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-504
A.C.A. § 6-18-316
~~A.C.A. § 6-18-317~~
A.C.A. § 6-18-510
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(4)
A.C.A. § 9-28-205
DESE Rules Governing Petitions For Student Transfers

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.5—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

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 (15th) 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 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 the district or another District school shall not be discriminated against on the basis of gender, national origin, race, ethnicity, religion, ~~or~~ 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 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 District⁹

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. § 6-18-202
 A.C.A. § 6-18-213
 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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.5F—SCHOOL CHOICE CAPACITY RESOLUTION

Whereas:

- The Board of Directors of the Huntsville School District has approved by a vote of the Board, the following capacity resolution for school choice applicants for the 2025-2026 school choice cycle under the provisions of policy 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE and applicable Arkansas law.
- Applicants, whose applications meet the provisions of policy 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE, will be sent a provisional acceptance notification letter which will give instructions on the necessary steps and timelines to enroll in the District or a District school other than the student's assigned school. Provisional acceptance shall be determined, and notice provided, within fifteen (15) calendar days and shall be based on the district's available capacity for each academic program, class, grade level, and individual school. While provisional rejections shall be provided within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of the school choice application, the District shall finalize all rejections by July 1 to account for any changes in capacity between the day the application is received and the end of the school year.

- Applications will not be accepted if the applications:
 - Are received, electronically timestamped, or postmarked before January 1, unless the application is from a student who is transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice;
 - Are received, electronically timestamped, or postmarked after June 1, unless the application is postmarked before June 1 or is from a student who is transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice;
 - Are from a student whose resident district has been determined by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to be exempt due to an existing desegregation order; or
 - ⊖ The student is transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice and the application is not accompanied by relevant documentation.

- The district reserves to itself the ability to determine, based on an examination of student records obtained from the student’s assigned school or the student’s prior district, and other information, whether any student would require a different class, course or courses, program of instruction, or special services than originally applied for. If such an examination determines that capacity has been reached in the appropriate class, course or program of instruction, or that additional teaching staff would have to be hired for the applicant, the District shall rescind the original provisional acceptance letter and deny the Choice transfer for that student.

- The district reserves to itself the ability to decline to accept under school choice any student whose acceptance would require the district to add additional staff to exceed the maximum student to teacher ratio in any of the District’s current grade, program, or building capacity.

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that these shall constitute the School Choice openings at the beginning of the School Choice enrollment period for the 2025-2026 school choice cycle:

Board President

Board Secretary

Date

Date

4.5F2—SCHOOL CHOICE ACCEPTANCE LETTER - CAPACITY FOR IMMEDIATE TRANSFER AVAILABLE

Dear *Parent’s name*,

The application you submitted for *Student's Name* has been accepted. While the *School's Name* looks forward to welcoming *Student's Name* as a student, the *School's Name* requires that you do one of the following within ten (10) days from the receipt of this letter:

- If you intend for *Student's Name* to transfer to *School's Name* immediately, enroll *Student's Name* in *School's Name*; or
- If you intend for *Student's Name* to transfer to *School's Name* at the start of the next school year, provide notification of your intent for *Student's Name* to not start at *School's Name* until the next school year to *insert contact person*.

Failure to either enroll *Student's Name* or to provide notice of your intent for *Student's Name* to transfer to *School's Name* at the start of the next school year within ten (10) days from the receipt of this letter shall void and nullify this letter's acceptance.

If you intend for *Student's Name* to transfer to *School's name* at the start of the next school year, to better assist the district in determining the proper placement of *Student's Name*, please submit the information listed below to *district or school's address* by *insert date*. In addition to the information you submit, records may be requested from the student's current district/school, and final placement may depend on the content of those records as to appropriate grade placement, program placement or services required. A student who has not previously attended an Arkansas public school or did not attend an Arkansas public school in the previous academic year may be evaluated by the district prior to enrollment, and the results of that evaluation could impact final placement.

1. For students applying to enroll in first grade or higher: a copy of the student's transcript from the school where the student is currently enrolled. The student's permanent record, including the original transcript, will be requested from the school immediately following the student's actual enrollment in our district.
2. Proof of the student's age; This can be done by providing one of the following:
 - 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 student's health care needs at school.
4. *Student's name* age-appropriate immunization record or an exemption granted for the previous school year and a statement of whether or not the parent is intending to continue the exemption for the upcoming school year.

Respectfully,

Insert name
Insert position/title

4.5F3—SCHOOL CHOICE ACCEPTANCE LETTER - IMMEDIATE TRANSFER NOT AVAILABLE

Dear *Parent's name*,

The application you submitted for *Student's Name* has been accepted. The *School's Name* does not have any openings in your student's grade, program, or building that would allow *Student's Name* to immediately transfer to *School's Name*; however, *School's Name* has openings in the grade, program, or building that *Student's Name* will be enrolling in next school year. *School's Name* looks forward to welcoming *Student's Name* as a student during the next school year.

To better assist the district in determining the proper placement of *Student's Name*, please submit the information listed below to *district or school's address* by *insert date*. In addition to the information you submit, records may be requested from the student's current district/ school, and final placement may depend on the content of those records as to appropriate grade placement, program placement or services required. A student who has not previously attended an Arkansas public school or did not attend an Arkansas public school in the previous academic year may be evaluated by the district prior to enrollment, and the results of that evaluation could impact final placement.

5. For students applying to enroll in first grade or higher: a copy of the student's transcript from the school where the student is currently enrolled. The student's permanent record, including the original transcript, will be requested from the school immediately following the student's actual enrollment in our district.
6. Proof of the student's age; This can be done by providing one of the following:
 - H. Birth certificate;
 - I. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
 - J. An attested baptismal certificate;
 - K. A passport;
 - L. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian;
 - M. United States military identification; or
 - N. Previous school records.
7. The student's health care needs at school.
8. *Student's name* age-appropriate immunization record or an exemption granted for the previous school year and a statement of whether or not the parent is intending to continue the exemption for the upcoming school year.

Failure to provide the information requested by the date indicated in this letter shall void and nullify this letter's acceptance.

Respectfully,

Insert name
Insert position/title

4.5F4—SCHOOL CHOICE PROVISIONAL REJECTION LETTER

Dear *Parent's Name*,

I am sorry, but the application you submitted for *Student's Name* has been provisionally rejected due to the District having a lack of capacity in your student's grade, program, or building by reaching the maximum teacher-to-student ratio in your student's grade, program, or building that is allowed under the Standards for Accreditation; State law and rules; or Federal law and regulations.

While the District may currently have a lack of capacity in your student's grade, program, or building, the District's capacity can change over the course of the semester. Any time a student leaves the District between January 1 and July 1, the District shall review the school choice applications the District has provisionally rejected for any applications in the relevant grade, program, or building. Any relevant application that was provisionally rejected shall be converted to an acceptance based on the date and timestamp placed on the application when the District received it. If there is an opening in your student's grade, program, or building that your student becomes eligible for based on the date and time stamp on your student's application, the District shall send you a written notice that your student's application has been changed from provisional rejection to acceptance.

As noted in your original application, you have ten (10) days from receipt of this notice in which to submit a written appeal of this decision to the State Board of Education.

Respectfully,

Insert name
Insert position/title

4.5F5—SCHOOL CHOICE REJECTION LETTER

Dear *Parent's Name*,

I am sorry, but the application you submitted for *Student's Name* has been rejected for the following reason(s):

____ Your child's resident district has been determined by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to be exempt from the provisions of the School Choice Law due to it being under an enforceable desegregation order / plan.

____ Your child does not meet the openings identified for the coming school year identified in the Board of Directors Resolution adopted on *insert date* due to the District having a lack of capacity by having reached at least ninety-five percent (95%) of the maximum teacher-to-student ratio in your student's grade, program, or building that is allowed under the Standards for Accreditation; State law and rules; or Federal law and regulations.

As noted in your original application, you have ten (10) days from receipt of this notice in which to submit a written appeal of this decision to the State Board of Education.

Respectfully,

Insert name
Insert position/title

4.6—HOME SCHOOLING

Enrollment in Home School

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

1. At the beginning of each school year, but no later than August 15;

2. Five (5) school days prior to withdrawing the child (provided the student is not currently under disciplinary action for violation of any written school policy, including, but not limited to, excessive absences) and at the beginning of each school year thereafter; or
3. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the parent or legal guardian establishing residency within the district during the school year.

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

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

The notice shall include:

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

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

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:

- The items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District have been returned to the District;
- The items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District have been paid for; or
- The semester has ended.

The superintendent or the board of directors may waive the required five (5) school day waiting period for a student's enrollment in home school during a semester if the superintendent or the board of directors is satisfied with the return of temporarily issued items, resources, supplies, materials, or other District property.

Enrollment or Re-Enrollment in Public School

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

- A transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades from the home school;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
 Last Revised: June 14, 2021

4.7—ABSENCES

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

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school, whether in person or digitally, 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 determined 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 reasons:

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

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;
- 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; ~~or~~
- 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; do not have an accompanying note from the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, 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; or have an accompanying note that is not presented or uploaded within the timeline required by this policy shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with six 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 unexcused absences, his/her parents, legal guardians, persons with lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be notified. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds six unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

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

agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student; the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis; and the school or district administrator or designee.

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

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

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

Cross References: 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK
4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS
5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES
5.29—WELLNESS POLICY

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302
A.C.A. § 6-18-209
A.C.A. § 6-18-213
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. § 6-18-234
A.C.A. § 6-18-236
A.C.A. § 6-18-237
A.C.A. § 6-18-239
A.C.A. § 6-18-507(g)
A.C.A. § 6-18-702
A.C.A. § 6-28-114
A.C.A. § 7-4-116
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f)
A.C.A. § 27-16-701
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing
Distance and Digital Learning

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.8—MAKE-UP WORK

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

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

Work may not be made up for credit for unexcused absences **unless** the unexcused absences are part of a signed agreement as permitted by policy 4.7—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.

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

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.

Cross References: 4.7—ABSENCES
4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL
4.31—EXPULSION
4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-234
A.C.A. § 6-18-502
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: February 12, 2024

4.9—TARDIES

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised:

4.10—CLOSED CAMPUS

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: May 14, 2012

4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

No student in the Huntsville 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 504 and Title IX Coordinator, who may be reached at Huntsville School District Administration Office, 570 West Main, 479-737-8008, titleix@1hsd.org.

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, to the Title IX Coordinator in person or by using the mailing address, telephone number, or email address provided above. A report may be made at any time, including during 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 <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html>; for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-1-114
 A.C.A. § 6-10-132
 A.C.A. § 6-16-2001 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-18-514
 A.C.A. § 14-1-403
 28 C.F.R. § 35.106
 34 C.F.R. § 100.6
 34 C.F.R. § 104.8
 34 C.F.R. § 106.8
 34 C.F.R. § 106.9
 34 C.F.R. § 108.9
 34 C.F.R. § 110.25

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.12—STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS

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.

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-5-201 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-10-132
 A.C.A. § 6-18-601 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)

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: July 16, 2018

4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS’ RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The District discloses PII from an education record to appropriate parties, including parents, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health

or safety of the student or other individuals. The superintendent or designee shall determine who will have access to and the responsibility for disclosing information in emergency situations.

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

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

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

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

Unless the parent or guardian of a student (or student, if above the age of eighteen (18)) objects, "directory information" about a student may be made available to the public, military recruiters, post-secondary educational institutions, prospective employers of those students, as well as school publications such as annual yearbooks and graduation announcements. "Directory information" includes, but is not limited to, a student's name, address, telephone number, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, dates of attendance,⁵ 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 back of the student handbook and must be completed and signed by the parent or age-eligible student and filed with the building principal's office no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of each school year or the date the student is enrolled for school. Failure to file an objection by that time is considered a specific grant of permission. The district is required to continue to honor any signed-opt out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

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

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

Student Privacy Policy Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

The District shall ensure that all contracts that disclose or make available student personally identifiable information to vendors, including school service contract providers, school service on-demand providers, and other third parties, including without limitation subcontractors of contract providers, include express provisions that safeguard the privacy and security of student personally identifiable information that meet the requirements under A.C.A. § 6-18-2601 et seq. The District shall maintain a list of the school service contract providers that the District contracts with for school services that include or make available student personally identifiable information. The list shall be updated at least once at the beginning of each semester and provided to parents upon request.

Cross References: 4.34—Communicable Diseases and Parasites
5.20—District Web Site
5.20.1—Web Site Privacy Policy
5.20F1—Permission to Display Photo of Student on Web Site

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-2601 et seq.
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(6)
20 U.S.C. § 1232g
20 U.S.C. § 7908

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: June 5, 2023

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

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

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

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

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

Deny disclosure to military recruiters _____

Deny disclosure to Institutions of postsecondary education _____

Deny disclosure to Potential employers _____

Deny disclosure to all public and school sources _____

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

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.

Name of student (Printed)

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

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

4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

The Superintendent and the student media advisors(s) shall jointly develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy. The regulations shall include definitions of terms and the time(s), place(s), and manner(s) of the dissemination of student media, which shall include timelines for the review of materials.

Definitions

“School-sponsored media” means all student media that are:

- Supported financially by the school;
- Supported by the use of school facilities; or
- Produced in conjunction with a class.

“Student journalist” means a student who gathers, writes, edits, photographs, records, video tapes, or prepares information for dissemination in student media.

“Student media” means any means of communication that are:

- Prepared, substantially written, published, or broadcasted by a student;
- Distributed or generally made available, either free of charge or for a fee, to members of the student body; and
- Prepared under the direction of a student media advisor.

“Student media” does not include media that is intended for distribution or transmission solely in the classroom in which it is produced.

“Student media advisor” means an individual who is employed, appointed, or designated by the District to supervise or provide instruction with respect to student media.

Student Media

While the District recognizes a student’s right of expression under the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, school-sponsored media does not provide an open public 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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

- Prohibited media includes those that:
 - a. Are obscene as to minors;
 - b. Are libelous or slanderous, including material containing defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials, and made with knowledge of their falsity or a reckless disregard of the truth;
 - c. Constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy as defined by state law;
 - d. Suggest or urge the commission of unlawful acts on the school premises;
 - e. Suggest or urge the violation of lawful school regulations;
 - f. Scurrilously attacks ethnic, religious, or racial groups; or
 - g. Harass, threaten, or intimidate a student.

Student Media on School Web Pages

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

1. Not contain any non-educational advertisements;
2. Adhere to the restrictions regarding 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 eighteen (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 any non-school-sponsored literature, publications, or materials shall have school authorities review their non-school-sponsored materials at least three (3) school days in advance of their desired time of dissemination.

School authorities shall review the non-school-sponsored materials, prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those non-school-sponsored materials that are obscene, libelous, pervasively indecent, or advertise unlawful products or services. Material may also be barred from distribution if there is evidence that reasonably supports a forecast that a substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment will likely result from the distribution. Concerns related to any denial of distribution by the principal shall be heard by the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

The school principal or designee shall establish reasonable regulations governing the time, place, and manner of student distribution of non-school-sponsored 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-sponsored materials;
3. Allow no interference with classes or school activities;
4. Specify times, places, and manner where distribution may and may not occur; and
5. Not inhibit a person's right to accept or reject any literature distributed in accordance with the regulations.

Students shall be responsible for the removal of excess literature that is left at the distribution point for more than 7 days.

Cross References: 1.9—POLICY Formulation
4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY
INFORMATION
4.43—BULLYING

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-514
A.C.A. § 6-18-1201 et seq.
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: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: May 11, 2020

4.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

CONTACT BY PARENTS

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

CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or the principal's designee establishing the parent's custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered "no contact" or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with the principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting unsupervised visitation may, to extend authorized by the court order, eat lunch, volunteer in their child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy 4.16, Policy 6.5, and any other policies that may apply. The District shall not act as a supervisor for non-custodial parent visitation purposes under any circumstance.

Arkansas law provides that, in order to avoid continuing child custody controversies from involving school personnel and to avoid disruptions to the educational atmosphere in the District's schools, the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation. The custodial or non-custodial parent may send to/drop off the student at school to be sent to/picked up by the other parent on

predetermined days in accordance with any court order provided by the custodial parent or by a signed agreement between both the custodial and non-custodial parents that was witnessed by the student's building principal.¹ Unless a valid no-contact order has been filed with the student's principal or the principal's designee, district employees shall not become involved in disputes concerning whether or not that parent was supposed to pick up the student on any given day.

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

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

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, 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, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee and leave both a day and an after-hours telephone number.

CONTACT BY PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD INVESTIGATORS

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

Note: ¹ This sentence is based on language in A.C.A. § 9-13-104 (b) and is **NOT** required. School administration should ALWAYS decline any involvement in the fight between parents over whose day it is to pick up the student. The school's interest is that A PARENT or an individual authorized by a PARENT checks the child out or picks the child up, not that the "right" parent checks the child out on the "right" day.

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: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: February 12, 2024

4.16—STUDENT VISITORS

The board strongly believes that the purpose of school is for learning. Social visitors, generally, disrupt the classroom and interfere with learning that should be taking place. Therefore, visiting with students at school is strongly discouraged, unless approved by the principal and scheduled in advance. This includes visits made by former students, friends, and/or relatives of teachers or students. Any visitation to the classroom shall be allowed only with the permission of the school principal and all visitors must first register at the office.

Note: For adult visits see Policy 4.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL and Policy 6.5—VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS.

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.17—STUDENT DISCIPLINE

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

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

The District's administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other

students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to:

- A felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult;
- An assault or battery;
- Drug law violations; or
- Sexual misconduct of a serious nature.

Any disciplinary action pursued by the District shall be in accordance with the student's appropriate due process rights.

The District shall incorporate the District's multi-tiered behavioral intervention procedures in accordance with Policy 4.60 in the application of student discipline.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross References: 1.9—POLICY FORMULATION
4.60—STUDENT BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND RESTRAINT

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-17-113
A.C.A. § 6-18-502
A.C.A. § 6-18-514
A.C.A. § 6-18-2401 et seq.
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT

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

1. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;
2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;
3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;
4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;
5. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;
6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;
7. Possession and use of a personal electronic device except as authorized by Policy 4.47 or by the student's IEP or 504 Plan;
8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;
9. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
10. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
11. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
12. Gambling;
13. Inappropriate student dress;
14. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;
15. Truancy;
16. Excessive tardiness;
17. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability;

18. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;
19. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
20. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, "throwing signs" or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;
21. Sexual harassment;
22. Bullying;
23. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using a wireless communication device;
24. Theft of another individual's personal property; and
25. Antisemitism.

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.

Cross References: Prohibited Conduct #2— Policy # 4.20
 Prohibited Conduct #3— Policy # 4.21, 4.26
 Prohibited Conduct #4— Policy # 4.22
 Prohibited Conduct #5— Policy # 4.23
 Prohibited Conduct #7—Policy 4.47
 Prohibited Conduct #8— Policy # 4.24
 Prohibited Conduct # 13— Policy # 4.25
 Prohibited Conduct # 14— Policy # 4.21
 Prohibited Conduct # 15— Policy # 4.7
 Prohibited Conduct # 16 — Policy # 4.9
 Prohibited Conduct # 17— Policy # 4.43
 Prohibited Conduct # 20— Policy # 4.26
 Prohibited Conduct # 21—Policy # 4.27
 Prohibited Conduct # 22— Policy # 4.43
 Prohibited Conduct # 23— Policy # 4.47
 Prohibited Conduct # 25— Policy # 4.65

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-5-201
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1005
 A.C.A. § 6-16-2001 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-18-222
 A.C.A. § 6-18-502
 A.C.A. § 6-18-514
 A.C.A. § 6-18-515
 A.C.A. § 6-18-707
 A.C.A. § 6-21-609
 A.C.A. § 27-51-1602
 A.C.A. § 27-51-1603
 A.C.A. § 27-51-1609
 DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
 Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.19—CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL

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

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. 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.

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: June 13, 2019

4.20—DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL

Definitions

"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
2. 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 References: A.C.A. § 6-18-511
 DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
 Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.21—STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY

A student shall not threaten, physically abuse, 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 acceptance, is calculated to:

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-17-106
 DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
 Last Revised: July 13, 2020

4.22—WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

Definitions

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

“Possession” means having a weapon on the student’s body or in an area under the student’s control.

“Weapon” means any:

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

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

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

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

Except as permitted in this policy, students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm shall be recommended for expulsion for a period of one (1) year. The superintendent shall have the discretion to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis.

Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school

property. Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a 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.

Cross Reference: 4.31—EXPULSION

Legal References:

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)

A.C.A. § 5-73-133

A.C.A. § 6-18-502

A.C.A. § 6-18-507

A.C.A. § 6-21-608

DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

20 USC § 7961

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: July 13, 2020

4.23—TOBACCO, ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS, AND RELATED PRODUCTS

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

With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the

prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or under any other name or descriptor.

Law enforcement officers and employees of a school are immune from civil liability for the confiscation from a minor on a school campus or at a school-sponsored event of:

- Nicotine, tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, e-liquid products, or cigarette papers; or
- A product that the individual reasonably believes to be a vapor product.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-21-609
A.C.A. § 20-65-103

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.24—DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

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

Therefore, no student in the Huntsville School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy.

This policy applies to any student who:

- Is on or about school property;
- Is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity;
- Has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; 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;¹
- Cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug;
- PCP;
- Amphetamines;
- Steroids;
- “Designer drugs”;
- Look-alike drugs; or
- Any controlled substance.

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

Cross Reference: 4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety
Arkansas Constitution Amendment 98 § 6

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.24.1—STUDENT DRUG TESTING POLICY

MISSION STATEMENT

The Huntsville School District recognizes that drug abuse is a significant health problem for students, detrimentally affecting overall health, behavior, learning ability, reflexes, and the total development of each individual. The Huntsville Board of Education is determined to help students by providing another option for them to say “No”. Drug abuse includes, but is not limited to, the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and the misuse of legal drugs and medications.

DEFINITIONS

Drug: Any substance considered illegal by Arkansas Statutes or which is controlled by the Food & Drug Administration unless prescribed by a licensed physician.

Activity Programs: Any Activity that meets the guidelines of the Arkansas Activities Association and/or sponsored by the Huntsville School District. This includes all school sponsored academic, athletic/spirit and student groups.

School Year: From the first day of classes in the fall, unless the activity begins prior to the first day of classes, in which event, from the first day of practice through the last day of classes in the spring.

POLICY STATEMENT

Huntsville School District (“the district”) conducts a mandatory drug-testing program for students. Its purpose is threefold: (1) to provide for the health and safety of students in all Activity Programs 7-12 and students who park on campus; (2) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs; and (3) to encourage students who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs.

PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS

Consent: Each student wishing to participate in any activity program or park on campus, and the student's custodial parent or guardian, shall consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the District's drug testing program. Written consent shall be in the form attached to this policy. No student shall be allowed to participate in any activity program or park on campus absent such consent.

SELECTION PROCESS

Student Selection: Random testing will be conducted monthly during the school year. Selection for random testing will be by lottery drawing from a "pool" of all students participating in activity programs and who park on campus in the district at the time of the drawing. The number of names drawn will be no less than 2% and no greater than 15% of the population. The selection will be done by the testing agency. **For athletics: Each student who participates in athletics shall be tested before the season begins, if a student plays more than one sport they will only have a mandatory test from the first sport they participated in. From that period forward, the athlete will be in the random pool only. The reason we are testing Varsity athletes is because of health concerns and the amount of demand that is placed on a student's body.**

The superintendent or designee shall take all reasonable steps to assure the integrity, confidentiality and random nature of the selection process including, but not necessarily limited to, assuring that the names of all participating students are in the pool, assuring that the person drawing names has no way of knowingly choosing or failing to choose particular students for the testing, assuring that the identity of students drawn for testing is not known to those involved in the selection process and assuring direct observation of the process by the least intrusive means possible while assuring brevity and privacy.

Refusal to Submit to Testing or Adulteration of Sample: Any student selected who refuses to submit to random drug testing and/or re-testing, who adulterates a sample, or violates the policy in any way will be subject to the provisions of a positive test.

Reasonable Suspicion: If a coach of the team or an administrator has reasonable suspicion that a student is engaging in illegal drug activity, they may request that a student be placed on to the testing list.

SAMPLE COLLECTION

Samples will be collected at a scheduled time on the same day the student is selected for testing or if the student is absent on that day, on the day of the student's return to school. If a student is unable to produce a sample at any particular time, the student will remain until a sample is provided. All students providing samples will be given the option of doing so alone in an individual stall with the door closed.

TESTING AGENCY

The district will choose a qualified agency for the purpose of processing sample results and maintaining privacy with respect to test results and related matters.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

Students who are taking prescription medication may provide a copy of the prescription or a doctor's verification, which will be considered in determining whether a "positive" test has been satisfactorily explained. That documentation will be forwarded to the testing lab with instructions for the lab to consider the student's use of such medication to assure the accuracy of

the result. Students who refuse to provide verification and test positive will be subject to the actions specified below for “positive tests.”

SCOPE OF TESTS

Student samples will not be screened for the presence of any substances other than an illegal drug or for the existence of any physical condition other than drug intoxication. As a quality control measure, the school reserves the right to send any urine sample that appears unusual in color and/or consistency to a laboratory for testing and confirmation or non-confirmation.

RECORDS

The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student’s academic records. The results will be reported only to the superintendent or his designee. All records concerning chemical abuse testing will be maintained by the Superintendent or his/her designee in a separate, locked file. The files on each student will be destroyed upon graduation or two years after termination of enrollment. A student and the student’s custodial parent/legal guardian may obtain a copy of his/her chemical abuse testing records upon written request.

PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF A POSITIVE RESULT

Whenever a student’s test result indicates the presence of illegal drugs (“positive test”), the following will occur: If the sample tests positive, a custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the Superintendent or his designee, the student, the custodial parent or legal guardian, and the student’s principal and head coach or sponsor.

FIRST POSITIVE RESULT

Extra-Curricular Activities: the student will be placed on probation and not be allowed to participate in competitions, presentations and activities of Huntsville School District for a period of 10% of the season.

Parking on Campus: If the student tests positive they will not be allowed to park on campus for a period of twenty days. The student will be recommended for counseling, if any charge is incurred, it will be the responsibility of the parents.

On day twenty-one, the student will be allowed to park on campus again when the parent’s provide a clean drug screen at their expense. If a second test shows positive, they will be treated as a second positive test and those consequences will be enforced as a second positive test. However, the student once they have tested positive, may be subject to monthly random test at the designee’s request.

A student will be required to practice or participate in off-season activities at the head coach’s or sponsor’s discretion, with a doctor’s note clearing the student for practice. Until the student receives a doctor’s clearance letter, they will be treated as missing practice and make up will be at the coach’s discretion. He/she cannot compete or dress out for any competition during the suspension period.

Drug Counseling: If the student attends a certified drug counseling center he/she, may have their suspension reduced by 50%. This has to be at a certified drug counseling center, and must complete the program. This WILL be at the expense of the parents or guardians. This only applies to the first positive test. Anything after the first positive the student will serve the full suspension amount, but will be recommended for drug counseling.

SECOND POSITIVE RESULT

Extra-Curricular Activities: For the second positive test, the student shall be suspended for 50% of their season. This may carry over into another season they participate in.

Parking on Campus: If the student tests positive a second time, they will not be allowed to park to park on campus for a period of 45 days

Drug Counseling is recommended if a student fails a drug test.

A student will be required to practice or participate in off-season activities at the head coach's or sponsor's discretion, with a doctor's note clearing the student for practice. Until the student receives a doctor's clearance letter, they will be treated as missing practice and make up will be at the coach's discretion. He/she cannot compete or dress out for any competition during the suspension period. At the end of the 45 day driving suspension, the student will have to present a clean drug screen at the Parents' expense to resume driving to school

THIRD POSITIVE RESULT

Extra-Curricular Activities: For the third positive result, the student will be suspended from participating in activities for one calendar year.

Parking on Campus: If the student tests positive for the third time, they will be suspended from parking at school for a period of one calendar year. At the end of the one calendar year driving suspension, the student will have to present a clean drug screen at the Parents' expense to resume driving to school.

Drug Counseling is recommended if a student fails a drug test.

A student will be required to practice or participate in off-season activities at the head coach's or sponsor's discretion, with a doctor's note clearing the student for practice. Until the student receives a doctor's clearance letter, they will be treated as missing practice and make up will be at the coach's discretion. He/she cannot compete or dress out for any competition during the suspension period.

FOURTH POSITIVE RESULT

If a student tests positive a fourth time, they will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities or park on the school campus for the remainder of their career at Huntsville High School.

NON-PUNITIVE NATURE OF POLICY

No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the district shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified as soon as possible by the district.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2017

Last Revised:

**4.24.1FA—STUDENT DRUG TESTING FOR EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES/DRIVING PRIVILEGES CONSENT FORM**

I understand that my performance as a participant and the reputation of my school are dependent, in part, on my conduct as an individual. I have read and understood the contents of the Huntsville School District Drug Testing Policy 4.24.1.

I hereby agree to accept and abide by the policies, standards, rules, and regulations set forth by the Huntsville School District School Board and the sponsors for the activity in which I participate.

I authorize Huntsville School District to conduct a breath scan or urinalysis to test for drugs and/or alcohol use.

I authorize Huntsville School District to conduct random tests during the current school year.

I authorize the release of information concerning the results of such a test to Huntsville School District and to the parents and/or guardians of the student.

Permission to participate in Random Drug Testing

This shall be deemed consent pursuant to the Family Education Right to Privacy Act for the release of above information to the parties named above.

Student Printed Name

Student Signature

Grade

Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian Printed

Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Date Adopted: August 14, 2017

Last Revised:

**4.24.1FB—NOTIFICATION OF INITIAL VIOLATION OF STUDENT DRUG TESTING
POLICY**

I, _____, the custodial parent / legal guardian of
_____, a student in the Huntsville School District,
have been notified by officials of Huntsville School District that
_____ (student's name) has tested positive during the drug test
administered under the provisions set by Huntsville School District.

The student is hereby recommended for counseling. If any charge is incurred, it will be the responsibility of the parents. The student will also be placed on probation and not be allowed to participate in competitions, presentations, activities and driving privileges of Huntsville School District according to the drug testing policy. At the end of their suspension, the student will be able to be retested (at the expense of the parent /guardian) under the guidelines set for in the Drug Testing Policy. I, the custodial parent/legal guardian, understand that if the retest results are found to be negative, the so named student will again become eligible for competitions, presentations, activities and driving privileges relating to Huntsville School District. I also understand that the student may be subject to being drug tested with the random pool at the request of the school designee. If any of the subsequent test results are positive, the so named student will be suspended from competition, presentations, activities and driving privileges relating to Huntsville School District according to the drug policy. In addition to the suspension, the student will be immediately recommended for professional counseling and rehabilitation at the expense of the parent.

Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian Printed

School Official Signature

Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Date Adopted: August 14, 2017

Last Revised:

4.25—STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

The Huntsville 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, unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency.

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

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.

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-10-138
 A.C.A. § 6-18-502(c)(1)
 A.C.A. § 6-18-503(c)

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: June 5, 2023

4.26—GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY

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

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

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

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 5-74-201 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1005(b)(2)

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

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

The District believes the best policy to create an educational environment free from sexual harassment is prevention; therefore, the District shall provide informational materials and training to students, parents/legal guardians/other responsible adults, and employees on sexual harassment. The informational materials and training on sexual harassment shall be age appropriate and, when necessary, provided in a language other than English or in an accessible format. The informational materials and training shall include, but are not limited to:

- The nature of sexual harassment;
- The District’s written procedures governing the formal complaint grievance process;¹
- The process for submitting a formal complaint of sexual harassment;
- That the district does not tolerate sexual harassment;
- That students can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences;
- The supports that are available to individuals suffering sexual harassment; and
- The potential discipline for perpetrating sexual harassment.

Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

1. A District employee:
 - a. Conditions the 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;
2. The conduct is:
 - a. Unwelcome; and
 - b. Determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District’s education program or activity; or
3. 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 formal complaint or where no formal 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; mutual restrictions on contact between the parties; changes in work or class locations; leaves of absence; and increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

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

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances 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;
- Circulating or showing e-mails or Web sites 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 sexual harassment, or the parent/legal guardian/other responsible adult of a student who believes their student has been subjected to sexual 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;
- Inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint; and
- explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.

Supportive Measures

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

Formal Complaint

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

- Notice of the District’s grievance process and a copy of the procedures governing the grievance process;
- Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include:
 - The identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known;
 - 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)³ 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 for the appeal is not the same person as the decision-maker that reached the original determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator;
5. Provide all parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome;
6. Issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result; and
7. Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

Confidentiality

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

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

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

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

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

Emergency removal

The District may remove a respondent from the District's education program or activity on an emergency basis only after the completion of an individualized safety and risk analysis that determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies

removal. A removed student will be provided with notice and an opportunity to challenge the removal decision immediately following the removal.

Retaliation Prohibited

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

Disciplinary Sanctions

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

Students who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment or purposely provide inaccurate facts shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. A determination that the allegations do not rise to the level of sexual harassment alone is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a false allegation or materially false statement in bad faith.

Records

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

- Each sexual harassment investigation including:
- Any determination regarding responsibility;
- any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent;
- Any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity;
- Any appeal and the result therefrom;
- All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decision-makers;
- Any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, which must include:
 - The basis for the District's conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent; and
 - Document:
 - If supportive measures were provided to the complainant, the supportive measures taken designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity; or

- If no supportive measures were provided to a complainant, document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

Cross References: 3.26—LICENSED PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT
4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
5.20—DISTRICT WEBSITE
7.15—RECORD RETENTION AND DESTRUCTION
8.20—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.28—LASER POINTERS

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-512
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: July 13, 2020

4.29—INTERNET SAFETY AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, "electronic device" means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

The 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; 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)(l)
 47 CFR 54.520
 47 CFR 520(c)(4)
 A.C.A. § 6-21-107
 A.C.A. § 6-21-111

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
 Last Revised: June 13, 2019

4.29F—STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

Student’s Name (Please Print) _____ Grade Level _____

School _____ Date _____

The _____ 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 unless the Student and his/her parent or guardian have read and signed this agreement.

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 laws and regulations and any State laws and rules. 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. [Note: A.C.A. § 6-21-107 requires the district to have “...provisions for administration of punishment of students for violations of the policy with stiffer penalties for repeat offenders, and the same shall be incorporated into the district’s written student discipline policy.” You may choose to tailor your punishments to be appropriate to the school’s grade levels.]

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;

- b. Gaining intentional access or maintaining access to materials which are “harmful to minors” as defined by Arkansas law;
- c. Using the Internet for any illegal activity, including computer hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
- d. Making unauthorized copies of computer software;
- e. Accessing “chat lines” unless authorized by the instructor for a class activity directly supervised by a staff member;
- f. Using abusive or profane language in private messages on the system; or using the system to harass, insult, or verbally attack others;
- g. Posting anonymous messages on the system;
- h. Using encryption software;
- i. Wasteful use of limited resources provided by the school including paper;
- j. Causing congestion of the network through lengthy downloads of files;
- k. Vandalizing data of another user;
- l. Obtaining or sending information which could be used to make destructive devices such as guns, weapons, bombs, explosives, or fireworks;
- m. Gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to resources or files;
- n. Identifying oneself with another person’s name or password or using an account or password of another user without proper authorization;
- o. Invading the privacy of individuals;
- p. 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.
- q. Using the network for financial or commercial gain without district permission;
- r. Theft or vandalism of data, equipment, or intellectual property;
- s. Attempting to gain access or gaining access to student records, grades, or files;
- t. Introducing a virus to, or otherwise improperly tampering with the system;
- u. Degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance;
- v. Creating a web page or associating a web page with the school or school district without proper authorization;
- w. Providing access to the District’s Internet Access to unauthorized individuals;
- x. Failing to obey school or classroom Internet use rules;
- y. 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; or
- z. 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 e-mail, 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 matter 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 _____

4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student's re-admittance to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) with lawful control of the student,

person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older prior to the suspension. Such notice shall be handed to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) having lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older or mailed to the last address reflected in the records of the school district.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross Reference: 4.7—ABSENCES

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-507
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety
Goss v Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975)

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: July 13, 2020

4.31—EXPULSION

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

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

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

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

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records) that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

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

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

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

Except as permitted by policy 4.22, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of 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.

Cross Reference: 4.22—WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502
A.C.A. § 6-18-507
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal’s designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student’s parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control 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, guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

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

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: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: June 13, 2019

4.33—STUDENTS’ VEHICLES

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

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

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: May 14, 2012

4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross References: 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
 4.7—ABSENCES
 4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY
 INFORMATION
 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-702
 Arkansas State Board of Health Rules Pertaining To Immunization
 Requirements
 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing
 Kindergarten Through 12th Grade Immunization Requirements

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: June 13, 2019

4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS

Prior to the administration of any medication, including any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, to any student under the age of eighteen (18), written parental consent is required. The consent form shall include authorization to administer the medication and relieve the Board and its employees of civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to students in accordance with this policy. All signed medication consent forms are to be maintained by the school nurse.

Unless authorized to self-administer or otherwise authorized by this policy, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter (OTC) medications or any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration while at school. The parent or legal guardian

shall bring the student's medication to the school nurse. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity of the medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify, in the presence of the student, the quantity of the medication(s). Each person present shall sign a form verifying the quantity of the medication(s).

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

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

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

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

Schedule II Medications

Students taking Schedule II medications 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) shall be allowed to attend school.

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

Students taking Schedule II medications not included in the previous sentence³ shall be allowed to bring them to school under the provisions of this policy and shall be permitted to attend and participate in classes **only** to the extent the student's doctor has specifically authorized such attendance and participation. A doctor's prescription for a student's Schedule II medication is **not** an authorization. Attendance authorization shall specifically state the degree and potential danger of physical exertion the student is permitted to undertake in the student's classes and extracurricular activities. Without a doctor's written authorization, a student taking Schedule II medications, other than

those specifically authorized in this policy, shall **not** be eligible to attend classes, but shall be eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP or 504 plans.

Self-Administration of Medication

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

1. Self-administer either a:
 - Rescue inhaler; or
 - Auto-injectable or nasal spray epinephrine;
2. Perform the student's own blood glucose checks;
3. Administer insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
4. Treat the student's own hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia; or
5. Possess on 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 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 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 Medications

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;
3. 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

Division of Elementary and Secondary Education and Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules Governing the Administration of Insulin, Glucagon, and Medication for Adrenal Insufficiency or Adrenal Crisis to Arkansas Public School Students

A.C.A. § 6-18-701

A.C.A. § 6-18-707

A.C.A. § 6-18-711

A.C.A. § 6-18-714
A.C.A. § 6-18-717
A.C.A. § 6-18-720
A.C.A. § 6-18-721
A.C.A. § 17-87-103 (11) and (14)
A.C.A. § 20-13-405

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.35F—MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

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

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

I hereby authorize the school nurse, or designee, to administer the following medication to my student:

Name of medication _____

Name of prescribing health-care provider _____

Dosage _____

Instructions for administering the medication _____

Other instructions _____

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

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

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

Parent or legal guardian signature _____ Date _____

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.35F2—MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)

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

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

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

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate the student's skill level in using the rescue inhalers, auto-injectable epinephrine, and/or nasal spray epinephrine to the nurse.

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

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

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

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

Parent or legal guardian signature

Date _____

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.35F3—GLUCAGON ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

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

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

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

Glucagon _____

Insulin _____

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

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

Parent or legal guardian signature _____

Date _____

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: May 11, 2015

4.35F4—EPINEPHRINE EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)

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

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

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

Date of health-care provider's order _____

Circumstances under which Epinephrine may be administered

Other instructions

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

Parent or legal guardian signature

Date _____

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.35F5—ALBUTEROL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

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

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

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

Date of health-care provider's order _____

Circumstances under which albuterol may be administered _____

Other instructions _____

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

Parent or legal guardian signature _____

Date _____

Date Adopted: June 13, 2019

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.35F6—STRESS AND EMERGENCY DOSE MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year 2021-2022. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The school has developed an individual health plan (IHP) acknowledging that my child has been diagnosed as suffering from adrenal insufficiency. The IHP authorizes the school nurse to administer a stress or emergency dose medication to my child in an emergency situation.

Date of health-care provider's order _____

Circumstances under which the stress or emergency dose medication may be administered

Other instructions _____

In the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel may administer a stress dose or emergency dose medication to my child in an emergency situation.

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

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

Parent or legal guardian signature _____ Date _____

Date Adopted: June 14, 2021

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

4.35F7—STRESS DOSE MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year 2021-2022. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The following must be provided for the student to be eligible to self-administer a stress dose medication. Eligibility is **only** valid for this school for the current academic year.

- a written statement from a licensed health-care provider who has prescriptive privileges that he/she has prescribed the stress dose medication for the student and that the student needs to carry the medication on his/her person due to a medical condition;
- the specific medications prescribed for the student;
- an individualized health care plan developed by the prescribing health-care provider containing the treatment plan for managing adrenal insufficiency of the student and for medication use by the student during school hours; and
- A statement from the prescribing health-care provider that the student:
 - Possesses the skill and responsibility necessary to use and administer the stress dose medication; and
 - Has been instructed on the details of his or her medical condition and the events that may lead to an adrenal crisis.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate his/her skill level in administering the stress dose medication to the nurse.

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

Students who self-carry stress dose medication shall also provide the school nurse with a dose of the stress dose medication to be used in emergency situations.

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

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

Parent or legal guardian signature _____ Date _____

Date Adopted: June 14, 2021

Last Revised:

4.36—STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT

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

If a student becomes seriously ill or is injured while at school and the parent/legal guardian cannot be contacted, the failure to make such contact shall not unreasonably delay the school's

expeditious transport of the student to an appropriate medical care facility. The school assumes no responsibility for treatment of the student. When available, current, and applicable, the student's emergency contact numbers and medical information will be utilized. Parents are strongly encouraged to keep this information up to date.

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002

Last Revised: June 14, 2004

4.37—EMERGENCY DRILLS

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. Students who ride school buses, shall also participate in emergency evacuation drills at least twice each school year.

The District shall annually conduct a lockdown drill at all schools in the District in collaboration with local law enforcement, medical professionals, fire department officials, and emergency management personnel. The lockdown drill training will include use of the District's emergency communication method with law enforcement. Students will be included in the drills to the extent that is developmentally appropriate for the age of both the students and grade configuration of the school.

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

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted to test the implementation of the District's emergency plans in the event of violence, terrorist attack, natural disaster, other emergency, or the District's emergency communication with law enforcement method. Students shall be included in the drills to the extent practicable.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-10-110
 A.C.A. § 6-10-121
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1302
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1303
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1304
 A.C.A. § 6-18-713
 A.C.A. § 12-13-109
 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: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.38—PERMANENT RECORDS

Permanent school records, as required by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), 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
 A.C.A. § 6-28-107
 DESE Rules Governing Student Permanent Records

Date Adopted: June 10, 2002
Last Revised: June 14, 2021

4.39—CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-503(b)
 DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety
 DESE Rules Governing Special Education and Related Services Section
 11.00 - Discipline

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003
Last Revised: July 13, 2020

4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS

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

- Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;

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

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

Notwithstanding Policy 4.1, homeless students living in the district are entitled to enroll in the district's school that 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; and
- The designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools when the child completes the final grade provided by the school of origin.

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

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 nonhomeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

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

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

children and youth, giving priority to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth.

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

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

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

A homeless student shall be immediately eligible to participate in interscholastic activities at the school in which the student is enrolled.

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.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-115
A.C.A. § 9-25-106

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
Commissioner’s Memo COM-18-044

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003
Last Revised: February 12, 2024

4.41—PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

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

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-701 (b), (c), (e)

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003
Last Revised: June 14, 2021

4.41F—OBJECTION TO PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

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

Physical examination or screening being objected to:

____ Vision test

____ Hearing test

____ Scoliosis test

____ Other, please specify _____

Comments: _____

Name of student (Printed)

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

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

4.42—STUDENT HANDBOOK

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

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

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

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003

Last Revised: June 13, 2019

4.43—BULLYING

Definitions

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

“Bullying” means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that:

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

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

1. Cyberbullying;
2. Sarcastic comments "compliments" about another student's personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes;
3. Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate;
4. Mocking, taunting or belittling;
5. Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as "fronting" or "chesting" a person;
6. Demeaning humor relating to a student's actual or perceived attributes;
7. Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans;
8. Blocking access to school property or facilities;
9. Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property;
10. Stealing or hiding books or belongings;
11. Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others;
12. Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 4.27, is also a form of bullying; and/or
13. Teasing or name-calling 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 the student self-identifies as homosexual or transgender (Examples: "Slut", "You are so gay.", "Fag", "Queer").

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the building principal, or designee, as soon as possible. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the building principal, or designee.

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 (5th) school day following the completion of the written report.
3. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who was the alleged victim in a credible report of bullying whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of bullying to be true and the availability of counseling and other intervention services.
4. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person acting 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 actions, the District shall take appropriate steps to remedy the effects resulting from bullying.

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District's prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, legal guardians, person 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.

To prevent multiple, simultaneous investigations into the same alleged conduct, if the facts that support an alleged incident of bullying may also constitute a violation of another District policy; State or Federal law; State rule; or Federal regulation, then the District shall investigate and dispose of the alleged incident of bullying in accordance with the other applicable District policy; State or Federal law; State rule; or federal regulation in lieu of the requirements of this policy.

Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 5-71-217
 A.C.A. § 6-18-514
 DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.44—NATIONAL ANTHEM

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:

- A school-sanctioned band program;
- A school-sanctioned chorale program, vocal group, or vocalist; or
- 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. § 6-10-136
 DESE Rules Governing the Star-Spangled Banner Act

Date Adopted: June 14, 2021
Last Revised: July 11, 2022

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 (7th) grade, or when a seventh (7th) through twelfth (12th) 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 of each; 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 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 in order to graduate.

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

Personal and Family Finance

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

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

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
- World history, one (1) unit
- American 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.

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

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 (7th) grade, or when a seventh (7th) through twelfth (12th) 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. 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 in order to graduate.

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

Personal and Family Finance

All students shall receive credit in a course covering the Personal and Family Finance Standards in order 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 in order 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 – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

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

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

Social Studies: three (3) units

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

Physical Education: one-half (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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.46—PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited:

1. During the first class period of each school day;
2. At the commencement of each school-sanctioned after-school assembly; and
3. 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

Date Adopted: July 11, 2005
Last Revised: June 14, 2021

4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Definitions

“Emergency” means a serious, unexpected, and dangerous situation that requires immediate action, including without limitation:

- An active fire;
- An active tornado or earthquake;
- An active shooter;
- An evacuation of school grounds; or
- A medical emergency

“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” means holding the device, carrying it on their person, or accessing it from storage during the school day.

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:
The device is powered off, stored away, and not accessed during the school day.

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, persons 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 the personal electronic 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;
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 (principal's office) by the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis. ² Students have no right of privacy as to the content contained on any personal electronic devices that have been confiscated.³ 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:

1st offense: 1 day Detention

2nd offense: 1 day ISS

3rd offense: 2 days ISS

4th offense: 3 days ISS

*Major infractions, including refusal to give up cell phone, or repeated infractions may result in a range of consequences from a minimum reprimand to a maximum recommendation for expulsion or notification of law enforcement agencies.

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 increased 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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.48—VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING

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

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

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

The district shall retain copies of video recordings until they are erased which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording. Other than video recordings being retained under the provisions of this policy's following

paragraph, the district's video recordings may be erased any time greater than 3 weeks after they were created.

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

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

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-21-122
20 USC 1232g
20 U.S.C. 7115
34 CFR 99.3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 31

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.49—SPECIAL EDUCATION

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, the 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.

Cross Reference: 6.7—COMPLAINTS

Legal References: 34 C.F.R. part 300
20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.
29 U.S.C. § 794
42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
A.C.A. § 6-41-102
A.C.A. § 6-41-103
A.C.A. § 6-41-201 et seq.

Date Adopted: June 9, 2008
Last Revised: May 11, 2020

4.50—SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS

Except for requests to receive “lactose free” milk, 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:
 - The Arkansas State Medical Board;
 - The Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Chiropractors);
 - The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine (Podiatrists);
- Nurse Practitioners (APRNs in family or pediatric practice with prescriptive authority);
- Physician Assistants (PAs who work in collaborative practice with a physician); and
- Dentists.

The medical statement should include:

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

If the information provided in the medical statement is unclear, or lacks sufficient detail, the district’s Director of Child Nutrition 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 submit a written request for their student to be provided "lactose free" milk. The parent's request is not required to be accompanied by a medical statement in order for it to be granted.

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

Except for requests to receive "lactose free" milk, 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
 Commissioner's Memo FIN-15-122
 Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-051
 Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-008
 Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-023
 Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-025
 7 CFR 210.10(g)

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.51—FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT

Meal Charges

The District participates in USDA's Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and provides meals to all students at no charge. The District does not provide credit for students to charge for a la carte or other food and beverage items available for purchase in the school food service areas. A la carte or other food and beverage items may be purchased by either providing payment for the items at the time of receipt or by having a prepaid account with the District that may be charged for the items. Parents, or students choosing to do so, may pay in advance for a la carte or other food and beverage items through any of the following methods:²

A student's parents will be contacted by authorized District personnel regarding a student's prepaid account balance at the following times: when the student has \$12 or less in his/her account a notice will be sent home.

- Submitting cash or check payment to the school food service office or cafeteria manager;

- Depositing funds through the District’s online service at www.myschoolbucks.com;

Free Breakfast

In accordance with A.C.A. § 6-18-722, a student shall be provided one (1) breakfast at no cost during each school day upon the student’s request regardless of whether the student qualifies for a federally funded free or reduced-price meal.

Legal References: Commissioner’s Memo CNU-17-003
Commissioner’s Memo CNU-17-024
A.C.A. § 6-18-715
A.C.A. § 6-18-722

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

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

The Superintendent or the superintendent’s 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 the foster child’s school of origin, even if a change in the foster child’s placement results in a residency that is outside the district. In such a situation, the District will work with DHS to arrange for transportation to and from school for the foster child to the extent it is reasonable and practical.

Upon notification to the District’s foster care liaison by a foster child’s caseworker that a foster child’s school enrollment is being changed to one of the District’s schools, the school receiving the child must immediately enroll the foster child. 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 the foster child's graduation requirements while detained in a juvenile detention facility or while committed to the Division of Youth Services of DHS, the District shall issue the child a diploma.

Foster Child School Choice

If DHS approves a request from a foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, to transfer to another school in the District or into the district as being in the best interest of the foster child, the District shall allow the foster child to transfer to another school in the District or into the District if the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, submits a request to transfer on a form approved by DESE that is postmarked by no later than June 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; the standards for accreditation; or other applicable State rule or Federal regulation; or

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

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

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

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

When a foster child transfers from the foster child's school of origin to another school in the District or into the District, the foster child or the foster parent is responsible for the foster child's transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to. The District and the

foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may enter into a written agreement for the District to provide the transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to.

Cross References: 4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS
4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE
4.7—ABSENCES

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-233
A.C.A. § 9-28-113

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.53— PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or custody of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6 may request that the multiple birth siblings are placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing not later than the 14th 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: June 13, 2011
Last Revised:

4.54 - STUDENT ACCELERATION

The Board believes that acceleration is an effective and research-based intervention for the academic growth of students who are ready for an advanced or faster-paced curriculum. 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/school¹ Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator. The district/school¹ Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator shall convene the Acceleration Placement Committee 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.

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 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

Date adopted: May 13, 2013

4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION

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

Each time a student is assessed by use of a high-quality literacy screener, with results at least once each semester, the Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis, and teacher(s) of a student in kindergarten through eighth (8th) 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.

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

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

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

- a. The building principal or designee;
- b. The student's teacher(s);
- c. School counselor;
- d. A 504/special education representative (if applicable); and
- e. The student's parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons 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 results;
- 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:
 - Of their student's eligibility to participate in the literacy tutoring grant program;
 - The process for applying for the literacy tutoring grant program; and
 - 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 (3rd) grade, including students who are promoted to the fourth (4th) 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:
 - With a highly-effective rating according to the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
 - 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:
 - With a highly-effective rating in the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
 - 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:

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

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

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

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 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.⁵ Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

Cross References: 3.30—PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION
 4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - SECONDARY SCHOOLS
 4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – ELEMENTARY
 5.13—STUDENT INTERVENTION SERVICES AND 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. § 6-17-429
 A.C.A. § 6-17-431

Date Adopted: May 12, 2014

Last Revised: June 5, 2023

4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Definitions

“Academic Courses” are those courses for which class time is scheduled, which can be credited to meet the minimum requirements for graduation, which is taught by a teacher required to have State licensure in the course or is otherwise qualified under Arkansas statute, and has a course content guide which has been approved by the 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.¹

“Intrascholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.¹

“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 the student's 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 (1) 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.³ Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.⁴

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.⁵

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 the student has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

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

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

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

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Senior High

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

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

STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

Homeless Students

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 the student is enrolled in a district school, to ensure all students are eligible for AAA catastrophic insurance.⁶

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.⁷

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~~ 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.

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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – ELEMENTARY

Definitions

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

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

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

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

Extracurricular Eligibility

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

A student may lose his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities when, in the opinion of the school’s administration, the student’s participation in such an activity may adversely jeopardize his/her

academic achievement. Students may also be denied permission to participate in extracurricular activities as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the administration for inappropriate behavior.

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

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

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

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.

Cross References: 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION
 4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302
 A.C.A. § 6-15-2907
 A.C.A. § 6-16-151
 A.C.A. § 6-18-713
 A.C.A. § 6-28-108
 Commissioner's Memo LS-18-015

Date Adopted: May 12, 2014
Last Revised: June 14, 2021

4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

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

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools subject to 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 sign-up, tryout or participation deadline

established for traditional students. Additionally, the student shall demonstrate academic eligibility by obtaining a minimum test score of the 30th 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 (11th) day of the semester in which the student's interscholastic activity participation is desired. The student must attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.

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

A home-schooled student who has met the try out criteria and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

- standards of behavior and codes of conduct;
- attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students;
- required drug testing;
- permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
- participation or activity fees.

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 student's 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 participation in an interscholastic activity due to number 1 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 participation 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.

Cross Reference: 4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

- 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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.56.2F— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT RESIDENT DISTRICT

Student’s Name (Please Print) _____

Parent or Guardian's Resident Address

Street _____ Apartment _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Student's date of birth ___/___/___ Last grade level the student completed _____

Student has demonstrated academic eligibility by obtaining a verifiable minimum test score of the 30th percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition, or another nationally recognized norm-referenced test approved by the State Board of Education. _____

Name of test, Date taken, and score achieved _____

Extracurricular activity(ies) the student requests to participate in

Course(s) the student requests to take at the school _____

Proof of identity _____

Date Submitted ___/___/___

Parent's Signature _____

Date Adopted: April 13, 2015
Last Revised: June 19, 2017

4.56.2F2— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT NON-RESIDENT DISTRICT

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

Parent or Guardian's Resident Address

Street _____ Apartment _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Student's date of birth ___/___/___ Last grade level the student completed _____

Student has demonstrated academic eligibility by obtaining a verifiable minimum test score of the 30th percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition, or another nationally recognized norm-referenced test approved by the State Board of Education. _____

Name of test, Date taken, and score achieved _____

Extracurricular activity(ies) the student requests to participate in

Course(s) the student requests to take at the school _____

Proof of identity _____

Date Submitted __/__/__

Parent's Signature _____

As the superintendent of the above student's resident district, I agree that the above student may participate in extracurricular activities at Huntsville School District.

Resident Superintendent's Signature: _____

As the superintendent of the Huntsville School District, where the above student desires to participate in extracurricular activities, I agree to allow the student to participate in extracurricular activities at Huntsville School District.

Non-resident Superintendent's Signature: _____

Date Adopted: June 19, 2017

Last Revised:

4.56.3—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

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.

"Private school" means a nonpublic elementary or secondary school that is a registered nonprofit and accredited or licensed by an accrediting association recognized by the State Board of Education.

"Private school student" means a student attending a private school.

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

Private school students whose parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis are legal residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the student's resident school zone if the private school the student attends does not offer the interscholastic activity.

Although not guaranteed participation in an interscholastic activity, private 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 private school student is unable to meet because of his or her enrollment in a private 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.

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 private school 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 (11th) 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 private school 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.

Cross Reference: 4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-16-151
A.C.A. § 6-18-232
A.C.A. § 6-18-238
A.C.A. § 6-18-713
Arkansas Activities Association Handbook

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

Definitions

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

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

General Requirements

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

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

The District administration has the responsibility to evaluate the immunization status of District students. The District shall maintain a list of all students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or who have an exemption provided by ADH to the immunization requirements based on medical, religious, or philosophical grounds. Students who are not fully age appropriately immunized 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 1st is later in the current school year than the thirty (30) days following the student’s admittance). No student shall be withdrawn and readmitted in order to extend the thirty (30) day period. Students may be allowed to continue attending beyond the thirty (30) day period if the student submits a copy of either number 2 or number 4 above.

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

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

Exclusion from School

In the event of an outbreak, students who are not fully age appropriately immunized, are in process, or are exempt from the immunization requirements may be required to be excluded from school in order to protect the student. ADH shall determine if it is necessary for students to be excluded in the event of an outbreak. Students may be excluded for no fewer than twenty-one (21) days or even longer depending on the outbreak. No student excluded due to an outbreak shall be allowed to return to school until the District receives approval from ADH.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross References: 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
 4.7—ABSENCES
 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK
 4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-4-302
 A.C.A. § 6-18-702
 A.C.A. § 6-28-110
 DESE Rules Governing Immunization Requirements in Arkansas Public Schools
 ADH Rules Pertaining to Immunization Requirements

Date Adopted: April 13, 2015

Last Revised: June 14, 2021

4.58—FOOD SHARING AND ITS REMOVAL FROM FOOD SERVICE AREA

Food Sharing Table

In an effort to reduce wasted food and to provide students access to healthy foods when possible, the District shall have in the district cafeteria a food sharing table located at the end of the service line. Prior to leaving the service line, students may place on or retrieve items from the table, at no additional charge, any of the following:

- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten without the peel (e.g. bananas and oranges);
- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten with the peel provided the fruit is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. apples and grapes);
- Raw whole vegetables provided the vegetable is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. carrot sticks);
- Milk; and
- Juice.

Fruit and vegetables to be shared are to be placed into a designated container on the table. Milk and juice to be shared are to be placed in an ice-filled cooler. Milk and juice may not be taken by another student unless the carton is unopened and was completely covered by ice while in the cooler. A student may not return to the table to place an item for sharing after the student has left the service line.

At all times, the sharing table will be under the supervision of the food service staff. Remaining items should be discarded at the end of the meal period, and no item may remain on the table for longer than four (4) hours.

Removing Food Items From the Food Service Area

At the end of the meal period, a student may leave the cafeteria with up to 2 school provided whole fruit or whole vegetable food items. Students may not remove from the cafeteria milk, juice, or any other item requiring a temperature controlled environment.

Except for food service workers as required by their job duties, District employees may only remove school provided food items from the food service area when required by a 504 plan or a student's IEP.

Protocol for food items removed will be established at the building level.

Legal References: Commissioner's Memo FIN 08-076
 Commissioner's Memo FIN 15-052

Date Adopted: April 13, 2015

Last Revised:

4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

The District allows private school and home schooled students whose parents, legal guardians, or other responsible adult with whom the student resides are residents of the District to attend academic courses offered By the District. The District will place a list of courses that a private school or home schooled student may request to attend on its website by:

1. June 1 for courses to be offered during the Fall semester; and
2. November 1 for courses to be offered during the Spring semester.

A private school or home schooled student who desires to attend one or more of the available academic courses shall submit a written request to attend the academic course(s) to the superintendent, or designee, no later than:¹

- a. August 1 for Fall semester courses; or
- b. December 1 for Spring semester courses.

The superintendent, or designee, is authorized to waive the application deadline on a case by case basis.

The District permits a private school or home schooled student to attend a maximum of six (6) courses per semester.

The District may reject a private school or home schooled student's request for attendance if the District's acceptance would:

- Require the addition of staff or classrooms;
- Exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building;
- Cost the District more for the student to attend the academic course than the District receives for the student's attendance;
- Cause the District to provide educational services the District does not currently provide at a financial burden to the District; or
- Cause the District to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Requests to attend an academic course will be granted in the order the requests are received. Upon the receipt of a private or home schooled student's request to attend academic course(s), the District will date and time stamp the request for attendance. If a private school or home schooled student is denied attendance based on a lack of capacity and an opening in the requested course occurs prior to the start of the course, the District will use the date and time stamp on the request for attendance to determine the private school or home schooled student who will be notified of an opening in the requested course.

As part of the request to attend academic courses in the District, a private school or home schooled student shall:

- Indicate the course(s) the private school or home schooled student is interested in attending;
- If the course(s) the private school or home schooled student is interested in attending is being offered by the District in both a physical and a digital format, whether the private school or home schooled student intends to attend the physical course or the digital course;
- Submit, along with the student's application, a copy of the student's transcript indicating that the student has received credit for the course(s), or equivalent course(s), that are a prerequisite to the course(s) the student desires to attend at the District;
- Agree to follow the District's discipline policies; and
- Submit immunization documentation required by Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS.

A private school or home schooled student who fails to attend an academic course by the eleventh (11) day of class or who is absent without excuse for eleven (11) consecutive days during the semester shall be dropped from the course; however, a private school or home schooled student shall not be considered truant for unexcused absences from the course(s) the student is attending at the District.

Private school or home schooled students shall receive a final grade and transcript for each academic course the student completes.

The responsibility for transportation of any private school or home schooled student attending academic courses in the District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents.

The opportunity provided to home schooled students under this policy is in addition to the opportunity provided in Policy 4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS.

Cross References: 4.6—HOMESCHOOLING
 4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME
 SCHOOLED STUDENTS
 4.57-- IMMUNIZATIONS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-509
 A.C.A. § 6-18-232
 A.C.A. § 6-18-702
 A.C.A. § 6-47-401 et seq.
 DESE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning
 DESE Rules Governing Kindergarten Through 12th Grade Immunization
 Requirements in Arkansas Public Schools
 Commissioner's Memo COM-19-021

Date Adopted: April 9, 2018

Last Revised: June 13, 2019

4.60—STUDENT BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND RESTRAINT

Definitions

"Aversive behavioral intervention" means a physical or sensory intervention program that is intended to modify behavior through the use of a substance or stimulus that the intervention implementer knows will cause physical trauma, emotional trauma, or both, to a student, even when the substance or stimulus appears to be pleasant or neutral to others.

Examples of aversive behavioral interventions include, but are not limited to:

- Hitting;
- Pinching;
- Slapping;
- Using a water spray;
- Using noxious fumes;

- Requiring extreme physical exercise;
- Using loud auditory stimulus;
- Withholding meals; and
- Denying reasonable access to toileting facilities.

"Behavioral intervention" means the implementation of a service, support, or strategy to teach and increase appropriate behavior or substantially decrease or eliminate behavior that is dangerous, inappropriate, or otherwise impedes the learning of a student.

"Behavior Intervention Plan" (BIP) means a written plan that:

- Is developed by a problem-solving and intervention team and delineates emotional, social, or behavioral goals for a student and the steps that the school, student, parent of the student, and others will take to positively support the progress of the student towards the student's emotional, social, or behavioral goals;
- Is comprised of practical and specific strategies to increase or reduce a defined behavior or one (1) or more patterns of behavior exhibited by a student; and
- Includes the following at a minimum:
 - A definition or description of the desired target behavior or outcome in specific measurable terms;
 - A plan for preventing and eliminating inappropriate student behavior by changing a condition that is triggering, motivating, underlying, or supporting that behavior as determined through a FBA;
 - A plan for teaching a student to demonstrate appropriate social, emotional, or behavioral self-management, or a new method to address or meet the student's needs;
 - A description of how a specific incentive or consequence will be used as needed to decrease or eliminate inappropriate student behavior and increase appropriate behavior;
 - A plan for managing a crisis situation;
 - A system to collect, analyze, and evaluate data about the student;
 - The school personnel, resources, and training needed before implementation of the BIP; and
 - The timeline for implementing different facets of an intervention, including without limitation when the intervention will be formally reviewed.

"Chemical restraint" means the use of a drug or medication to control the behavior of a student or restrict the free movement of the student; however, chemical restraint does not include the use of medication that is prescribed by a licensed physician, or other qualified health professional acting within the scope of the individual's professional authority under state law, for the standard treatment of a medical or psychiatric condition of a student and is administered as prescribed by the licensed physician or other qualified health professional acting within the scope of the individual's professional authority under state law.

"Crisis" means a situation in which a student engages in a behavior that threatens the health and safety of the student or others and includes without limitation a situation in which the student becomes aggressive or violent at school and is unable to regain self-control without posing a danger of injury to the student or others.

"Crisis intervention" means the implementation of a service, support, or strategy to immediately stabilize a crisis and prevent the crisis from reoccurring after the crisis ends.

"Dangerous behavior" means the behavior of a student that presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others; however, dangerous behavior does not include the following:

- Disrespect;
- Noncompliance;
- Insubordination; or
- Destruction of property that does not create an imminent danger.

"De-escalation" means the use of a behavior management technique that helps a student increase the student's control over the student's emotions and behavior and results in a reduction of a present or potential level of danger that in turn reduces the level of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

"Emergency" means a serious and unexpected situation that requires immediate action and which may be dangerous.

"Functional Behavior Assessment" (FBA) means a problem analysis step that:

- Occurs within the context of data-based problem-solving and involves:
 - The review of existing records and other sources of information;
 - Diagnostic or historical interviews;
 - Structured academic or behavioral observations; and
 - Authentic, criterion-referenced, or norm-referenced tests; and
- Is performed with the goal of determining why a specific problem or situation is occurring in order to directly link a strategic intervention to an assessment and solve or resolve the specific problem or situation.

"Imminent danger" means an existing dangerous situation that could reasonably be expected to immediately cause death or serious physical harm.

"Mechanical restraint" means the use of a device or equipment to restrict the free movement of a student; however, mechanical restraint does not include a device that is used by trained school personnel or a student for a specific and approved therapeutic purpose or safety purpose for which the device was designed or prescribed or a vehicle safety restraint that is appropriately used in the manner for which it was designed during the transport of a student in a moving vehicle.

"Physical escort" means a temporary touching or holding of the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back of a student for the purpose of redirecting or inducing the student to move to a safe location.

"Physical restraint" means a personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to move the student's torso, arm, leg, or head freely; however, physical restraint does not include a physical escort.

"Prone restraint" means restraining a student in a face-down position on the floor or another surface and applying physical pressure to the body of the student to keep the student in the prone position.

"Serious physical harm" means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

"Supine restraint" means the restraint of a student in a face-up position on the student's back on the floor or another surface and with physical pressure applied to the body of the student to keep the student in the supine position.

Multi-Tiered Behavioral Interventions

The District shall establish a multi-tiered system of behavioral interventions for each student who exhibits social, emotional, or behavioral difficulty that may escalate, if not addressed, to potentially dangerous behavior.

Behavior Intervention Team

A behavior intervention team (BIT) shall be established for each student who exhibits social, emotional, or behavioral difficulty that may escalate, if not addressed, to potentially dangerous behavior. The BIT shall include members who are academic and behavioral assessment and intervention professionals.

A student's BIT shall:

- a. Work with the teachers of a student to complete a FBA of the student and an assessment of any problematic situations involving the student;
- b. Consider the need for a BIP with the goal of preventing or resolving the social, emotional, or behavioral difficulty of the student and developing a response that will de-escalate and stabilize a potential emergency situation that approaches the danger level; and
- c. Regularly review the data on incidents involving the use of physical restraint on the student and adjust, as necessary, the procedures concerning the use of physical restraint on the student.

Special education procedures shall be followed if a student is suspected of having a disability that relates to behavioral concerns.

Physical Restraint

Except in the case of a clearly unavoidable emergency situation in which a trained member of school personnel is not immediately available due to the unforeseeable nature of the emergency situation, the physical restraint of a student shall only be used by a member of school personnel who is appropriately trained to administer physical restraint.

When using physical restraint on a student, school personnel shall:

- use the least restrictive technique necessary to end imminent danger or serious physical harm to a student and others;
- Use the safest method available and appropriate to the situation;






- Consider the health and safety of a student, including without limitation whether the student has an existing medical condition that makes the use of physical restraint inadvisable;
- Not restrict the ability of a student to communicate unless the use of a less restrictive technique will not prevent imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
- Use only the amount of force that is reasonably necessary to protect a student or others from imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
- Not verbally abuse, ridicule, humiliate, taunt, or engage in any other similar action towards the student; and
- continuously and visually observe and monitor the student while the student is under physical restraint.

Physical restraint of a student shall only be used for a limited period of time and shall not be used:

- When imminent danger or serious physical harm to the student or others dissipates;
- If a medical condition occurs that puts the student at risk of harm;
- Unless the behavior of the student poses an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
- After the threat of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others dissipates; or
- In the following manner:
 - To punish or discipline the student;
 - To coerce the student;
 - To force the student to comply;
 - To retaliate against the student;
 - To replace the use of an appropriate educational or behavioral support;
 - As a routine safety measure;
 - As a planned behavioral intervention in response to behavior of the student that does not pose an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
 - As a convenience for school personnel; or
 - To prevent property damage unless the act of damaging property committed by the student poses an imminent danger or serious physical harm to the student and others.

Even in an emergency, supine restraint shall not be used on a student except by a staff person who has been certified by a crisis intervention training program and the certified staff person determines that supine restraint is required to provide safety for the student and others.

At no time shall school personnel use the following on a student:

-  Mechanical restraint;
-  Chemical restraint;
-  Aversive behavioral interventions that compromise health and safety;
-  Physical restraint that is life-threatening or medically contraindicated; or
-  Prone restraint or other restraint that restricts the breathing of a student.

Following the first incident of physical restraint used on a student, an FBA shall be conducted unless a previous FBA was conducted for the same behavior that was at issue when the physical restraint was used.

The use of physical restraint on a student as a planned behavioral intervention shall not be included in a student's IEP, 504 Plan, BIP, individual safety plan, or other individual planning document but may be considered as a crisis intervention if appropriate for the student. A student's IEP team or 504 Plan team shall consider whether an FBA should be performed; if a BIP should be developed for the student or if a student's existing BIP should be revised; and if additional behavioral goals and interventions should be included in the student's existing IEP or 504 Plan.

Parents may submit complaints regarding an incident involving the use of physical restraint on their student. A complaint shall be referred for review to the appropriate school personnel:

- The student's BIT;
- The student's IEP team; or
- The student's 504 Plan team.

A complaint by a parent shall be handled by the appropriate District staff in the same manner as a debrief following the use of physical restraint on a student.

Use of a physical restraint technique that is abusive shall be reported to the Child Abuse Hotline and law enforcement.

Reports and Debriefing

After the occurrence of an incident involving physical restraint of a student, the building principal, or the principal's designee, shall be notified of the incident as soon as possible but by no later than the end of the school day when the incident occurred.

The student's parent shall be notified of the incident of the use of physical restraint via verbal or electronic communication as soon as possible but by no later than the end of the school day when the incident occurred. In the event the student's parent is unable to be notified via verbal or electronic communication within twenty-four (24) hours after the incident occurred, then the parent shall be mailed written notification of the incident within forty-eight (48) hours after the incident occurred.

school personnel involved in the incident shall document the incident in a written report, which is to be completed within twenty-four (24) hours after the incident occurred. The written report of the incident shall:

1. Include all information contained in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Physical Restraint or Seclusion Incident Record and Debriefing Report;
2. Be maintained in the student's education record; and
3. Be provided to the student's parent within one (1) school day of the completion of the report.

A debriefing meeting shall be held within two (2) school days after the incident occurred. The following school personnel shall be present at the debriefing meeting:

- a. A member of school personnel who was present during the incident;

- b. A member of school personnel who was in the proximity of the student on whom physical restraint was used immediately before and during the time of the incident;
- c. A school administrator; and
- d. Any other member of school personnel determined to be appropriate by the District.

The purpose of the debriefing meeting shall be to:

- Determine whether the procedures used during the incident were necessary;
- Evaluate the use of any behavioral supports and de-escalation techniques by school personnel before and during the incident;
- Evaluate the school district's behavioral intervention procedures and prevention techniques in order to minimize future use of physical restraint; and
- If a trained member of school personnel was not immediately available due to the unforeseeable nature of the emergency situation when the incident occurred:
 - Reevaluate the training needs of school personnel;
 - Reevaluate the physical restraint policy and practices; and
 - Develop a plan to prevent a future incident.

At a debriefing meeting, school personnel shall:

1. Consider relevant information in the student's education record, including without limitation:
 - a. The concerns of the student's parent;
 - b. The student's social and medical history;
 - c. The student's FBA, if one exists; and
 - d. The student's BIP, if one exists;
2. Consider relevant information from the teachers, parents, and other District professionals;
3. Discuss whether the District's behavioral intervention procedures were appropriately implemented;
4. Discuss the duration and frequency of the use of physical restraint on the student;
5. Discuss appropriate action that may be taken to prevent and reduce the need for physical restraint;
6. Consider whether additional intervention and support is necessary for the student;
7. Consider whether additional intervention and support is necessary for school personnel; and
8. Consider how and when to debrief a person who was not present at the debriefing meeting, including without limitation:
 - a. The student;
 - b. The student's parent; and
 - c. Other school personnel or students who witnessed the incident.

DESE's Physical Restraint or Seclusion Incident Record and Debriefing Report, or an alternative report that includes the same information, shall be completed during the debriefing meeting. A copy of the report shall be:

- Submitted to the building principal;
- Mailed to the student's parent within two (2) days of the date on which the debriefing meeting was held; and

- Maintained as part of the student’s education record along with other documents consulted during the debriefing meeting.

Cross Reference: 3.6—LICENSED PERSONNEL EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-2401 et seq.

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.61—STUDENT USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY ROOM

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 References: A.C.A. § 6-21-120
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing
Public School Policies Relating to Overnight Travel and Use of
Public School Lavatories

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

4.62—STUDENT NAME, TITLE, OR PRONOUN

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: June 5, 2023

Last Revised:

4.63—STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION

The Huntsville 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:

- Homework;
- Classwork;
- Artwork; and

- 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.

Accommodation will be considered for those portions of instructional activities in the schools that unduly burden a student's sincere religious belief provided such accommodation doesn't amount to a significant change in curriculum, program, or course of instruction and when it is possible that a substitution of equally rigorous material that advances the same instructional goals can be arranged. Parents and students are advised that such accommodations are easier to grant when the objection is to non-state mandated Standards material than if the material is required by the Standards.

A student or the student's parent can request the student's teacher accommodate the student's objection based on a religious belief to an instructional activity. Any such request must be made at least twenty-five (25) school days prior to the assignment's due date. Any objection must be raised in accordance with this policy's requirements or it will not be considered.

Upon receiving such a request, the student's teacher shall determine within five (5) work days if an accommodation is possible under the provisions of this policy. If the teacher decides an accommodation cannot be made or if the student or the student's parent believes the accommodation to be unreasonable, the student or the student's parent may request a conference with the teacher and the teacher's principal. A requested conference will occur at a time of mutual convenience, but no later than five (5) working days following the request. The principal shall have five (5) working days in which to make a decision on the appeal. If the student, the student's parent, or the teacher is unsatisfied with the principal's decision, it may be appealed to the District Superintendent who shall convene a conference between the student, the parent and the teacher. The requested conference will occur at a time of mutual convenience, but no later than five (5) working days following the request. The Superintendent shall have five (5) working days in which to make a decision on the appeal which shall be final with no further right of appeal.

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.

The 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 cease 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.

Information on how to participate in a student forum shall be provided to all students.

In addition to the salutatorian and valedictorian selection process in Policy 5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES, the following students may speak during the District’s graduation ceremony:

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.

Date Adopted: June 5, 2023

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

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 does 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 resources and education on AI literacy and digital citizenship. The 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:
 - Gain unauthorized access to District systems; or
 - 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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

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.

Discrimination and harassment based on antisemitism is expressly prohibited.

The 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 District 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 District 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.

Complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism shall be investigated and handled in accordance with Policy 6.7—COMPLAINTS.

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.

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.

A.C.A. § 6-16-2003 encourages schools to:

- Incorporate antisemitism awareness training into any required anti-bias training for students, employees, administrators, and campus police; and
- Integrate Jewish-American heritage curriculum for students that incorporates Jewish experiences in the United States pre- and post-American Revolution; pre- and post-World War II and the Holocaust; and in modern times.

Cross Reference: 6.7—COMPLAINTS

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-16-2001 et seq.

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

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.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-60-1701 et seq.

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

5.1—EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

The Huntsville School District assumes the responsibility of providing students attending its schools a high quality education that challenges each student to achieve to their maximum potential. The District shall endeavor to create the environment within the schools necessary to attain this goal. The creation of the necessary climate shall be based on the following core beliefs:

5. The District's vision statement will be developed with input from students, parents, business leaders, and other community members.
6. All students can be successful learners.
7. Students learn at different rates and in different ways.
8. A primary goal shall be to give students the skills they need to be life-long learners.
9. The education of all citizens is basic to our community's well-being.
10. Student achievement is affected positively by the involvement of parents and the community in the schools.
11. The District is responsible for helping cultivate good citizenship skills in its students.
12. Students reflect the moral and ethical values of their environment.
13. All people have a right to a safe environment.
14. Each person is responsible for his/her own actions.
15. Innovation involves taking risks.
16. Schools are responsible for creating the conditions that promote success.
17. Each person is entitled to retain his/her dignity.
18. All people have the right to be treated with respect and the responsibility to treat others respectfully.
19. For teachers to succeed in cultivating high student achievement, they need to be given the materials, training, and environment necessary to produce such results.

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002

Last Revised:

5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

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.

Each SLIP shall include a literacy plan that includes a curriculum program and a professional development program that is aligned with the schools' 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:

- Statewide assessment results;
- Interim assessment results;
- Similarly situated school's SLIPs; and
- 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. 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 annually submit a District Strategic Plan (DSP) to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education by June 30 for review for the upcoming school year. The DSP shall include, without limitation:

- A literacy and mathematics plan that addresses student supports and acceleration opportunities based on student data and outcomes;
- Information regarding the prioritization and intended use of funding, including, without limitation, Enhanced Student Achievement Funding;
- The support the District will provide to the District's schools identified as in need of targeted support, comprehensive support, or both; and
- Health and wellness goals.

The District shall post the District's DSP to the District's website under State-Required Information, including any updates to the District's DSP.

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, with the most recent annual report posted by September 1 of each year. 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
A.C.A. § 6-15-2919
A.C.A. § 20-7-135
DESE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act
DESE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement
DESE Rules Governing Documents Posted To School District And Education Service Cooperative Websites
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

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.3—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

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 relevancy, 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; or
- Sexual orientation.

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-A.1, 1-A.4
 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

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

5.4—SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAMS

A team structure is officially incorporated into the school-level improvement plan. New school administrators shall receive a description of the teams’ purposes and how each team is constituted; In addition, each new administrator shall receive training on methods for effective teams.

All teams shall create work plans for the year, which shall include specific work products for the team to produce. To aid in maintaining the work plan, all teams shall develop an agenda and keep minutes for each meeting. The school principal shall be responsible for maintaining a file of the agendas, work products, and minutes of all teams.

Leadership Team

Each school shall have a Leadership Team that consists of members that include:

1. The principal;
2. The chair of each Instructional Team;
3. The school guidance counselor;
4. A instructional facilitator; and
5. Other key professionals designated by the principal.

The Leadership Team shall meet for a minimum of one (1) hour at least two (2) times each month during the school year. Based on school performance data and aggregated classroom observation data, the

Leadership Team shall make decisions and recommendations on curriculum, instruction, and professional development; in addition, the Leadership Team shall serve as a conduit of communication to the rest of the faculty and staff.

Instructional Teams

The teachers in each school shall belong to an Instructional Team. The instructional teams shall be organized by:

- a. Grade level;
- b. Grade level cluster; and/or
- c. Subject area.

Each Instructional Team shall appoint a chair for the school year who shall conduct the team meetings and shall be part of the school Leadership Team. Each Instructional Team shall meet for a minimum of forty-five (45) minutes at least two (2) times a month during the school year.

The purpose of the Instructional Teams is to develop and refine units of instruction and review student learning data.

Legal References: DESE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act
 School-Level Improvement Plan Indicator 36
 A.C.A. § 6-17-114
 AG Opinion 2005-299

Date Adopted: April 11, 2016

Last Revised: June 13, 2019

5.5—SELECTION/INSPECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

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 shall follow the procedures outlined in Policy 5.6—CHALLENGE OF INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL 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.

Cross Reference: 5.6—CHALLENGE TO INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Legal References: 20 USC § 1232h
A.C.A. § 6-16-155
A.C.A. § 6-16-157
A.C.A. § 6-16-1006

5.6—CHALLENGE TO INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

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.

Instructional and supplemental materials, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, are selected for their compatibility with the District's educational program and their ability to help fulfill the District's educational goals and objectives. Individuals wishing to challenge or express concerns about instructional or supplemental materials, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, may do so by filling out a *Challenge to Instructional Material* form available in the school's office.

The contesting individual may present a copy of the form to the principal and request a conference be held at a time of mutual convenience. Prior to the conference, the principal shall consult with the teacher regarding the contested material. In the conference, the principal shall explain to the contesting individual the criteria used for the selection of the material and its relevancy to the educational program as well as any other pertinent information in support of the use of the material.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, the principal shall have five (5) working days to submit a summary of the concerns expressed by the individual and the principal's response to those concerns to the Superintendent.

If the contesting individual is not satisfied with the principal's response, the individual may, after the five (5) working day period, request a meeting with the Superintendent where the individual shall present the same *Challenge to Instructional Material* form previously presented to the principal. The Superintendent shall explain to the contesting individual the criteria used for the selection of the material and its relevancy to the educational program as well as any other pertinent information in support of the use of the material.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, the Superintendent shall have five (5) working days to write a summary of the concerns expressed by the individual and the Superintendent's response to those concerns. The Superintendent shall create a file of his/her response along with a copy of the principal's response and a copy of the contesting individual's *Challenge to Instructional Material* form.

If, after meeting with the Superintendent, the contesting individual is not satisfied with the Superintendent's response regarding the appropriateness of the instructional or supplemental material, he/she may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board. The Superintendent shall present the contesting individual's *Challenge to Instructional Material* form to the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting along with the written responses to the challenge. The Board may elect, if it so chooses, to hear brief verbal presentations from the parties involved in the challenge.

The Board shall decide at that meeting or their next regularly scheduled meeting whether to retain the material, limit the availability of the material, or remove the material from the school. The Board's primary consideration in reaching its decision shall be if the instructional and supplemental materials, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, are:

- Misleading;
- Factually inaccurate; or
- Otherwise inappropriate for the intended educational use.

In addition to the notification requirements under Policy 5.5 and all other challenge rights under this policy, parents and legal guardians may opt their students out of any of the following by submission of form 5.6F2 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 except when the item is directly related to a requirement under the Arkansas academic standards; a District employee is 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:

- a. Curricula;
- b. Materials;
- c. Tests;
- d. Surveys;
- e. Questionnaires;
- f. Activities; and
- g. Instruction of any kind.

Students who are excused under this policy from participating in any or all portions of items A-G above shall not be penalized for grading purposes if the student satisfactorily performs alternative lessons related to health.

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 the student turns eighteen (18) years old.

Legal References: 20 USC 1232h
 A.C.A. § 6-16-155

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002
Last Revised: June 5, 2023

**5.6F—REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL OR
SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES**

Name: _____

Date submitted: level one _____ level two _____ level three _____

Instructional material, event, or activity being contested:

Reasons for contesting the material, event, or activity (be specific):

What is your proposed resolution?

Signature of receiving principal _____

Signature of Superintendent _____

Date Adopted: June 14, 2021

Last Revised:

5.7—SELECTION OF LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER MATERIALS

The ultimate authority for the selection and retention of materials for the schools' media centers rests with the Board of Education, which shall serve as a final arbiter in resolving a challenge to any media center materials. Licensed media center personnel shall make the initial selections in consultation with school and district licensed staff. Materials selected shall be in accordance with the guidelines of this policy.

The purpose of the schools' libraries/media centers is to supplement and enrich the curriculum and instruction offered by the District. Promoting the dialogue characteristic of a healthy democracy necessitates the maintenance of a broad range of materials and information representing varied points of view on current and historical issues. In the selection of the materials and resources to be available in each library/media center consideration will be given to their age appropriateness. Materials should be available to challenge the different interests, learning styles, and reading levels of the school's students and that will help them attain the District's educational goals.

Selection Criteria

The criteria used in the selection of media center materials shall be that the materials:

- A. Support and enhance the curricular and educational goals of the district;
- B. Are appropriate for the ages, learning styles, interests, and maturity of the schools' students, or parents in the case of parenting literature;
- C. Contribute to the examination of issues from varying points of view and help to broaden students understanding of their rights and responsibilities in our society;
- D. Help develop critical thinking skills;
- E. Are factually and/or historically accurate, in the case of non-fiction works and/or serve a pedagogical purpose;
- F. Have literary merit as perceived by the educational community; and
- G. Are technically well produced, physically sound (to the extent appropriate), and represent a reasonably sound economic value.

Retention and Continuous Evaluation

Media center materials shall be reviewed regularly to ensure the continued appropriateness of the center's collection to the school's curriculum and to maintain the collection in good repair. Those materials no longer meeting the selection criteria, have not been used for a long period of time, or are too worn to be economically repaired shall be withdrawn from the collection and disposed of. A record of withdrawn media materials including the manner of their disposal shall be maintained for a period of three (3) years.

Gifts

Gifts to the media centers shall be evaluated to determine their appropriateness before they are placed in any media center. The evaluation shall use the same criteria as for all other materials considered for inclusion in the media centers. Any items determined to be unacceptable shall be returned to the donor or disposed of at the discretion of the media specialist. The media centers shall have a list of desired items to give to prospective donors to aid them in their selection of materials to donate.

Kindergarten Through Grade Five (K-5) Libraries

The library media center located in a District elementary school that serves students in kindergarten through grade five (K-5) shall store non-age-appropriate sexual content, including without limitation a book or other resource that is located in the library media center that is available to the public, in a locked compartment.

For purposes of this policy, "non-age-appropriate sexual content" means any materials that include explicit instruction, promotion, or advocacy of sexual ideology, behaviors, or orientations that are not developmentally appropriate for kindergarten through grade five (K-5) students.

A student enrolled in the school shall not view or check out a book or other resource that concerns non-age-appropriate sexual content without the prior written approval from the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student.

District staff who are found to have knowingly violated the provisions of this section of the policy shall be disciplined in accordance with A.C.A. 6-25-107.

Challenges

The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person acting in loco parentis of a student affected by a media selection, or a District employee may formally challenge the appropriateness of a media center selection by following the procedure outlined in this policy. The challenged material shall remain available throughout the challenge process.

Before any formal challenge can be filed, the individual contesting (hereinafter complainant) the appropriateness of the specified item shall request a conference through the principal's office with a licensed media center employee. The complainant shall be given a copy of this policy and the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* prior to the conference. The meeting shall take place at the earliest possible time of mutual convenience, but in no case later than five (5) working days from the date of the request unless it is by the choice of the complainant.

In the meeting, the media specialist shall explain the selection criteria and how the challenged material fits the criteria. The complainant shall explain the complainant's reasons for objecting to the selected material. If, at the completion of the meeting, the complainant wishes to make a formal challenge to the selected material, the complainant may do so by completing the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* and submitting it to the principal's office.

To review the contested media, the principal shall select a committee of five (5) or seven (7) licensed personnel consisting of the principal as chair and at least one media specialist. The remaining committee members shall be licensed personnel with curriculum knowledge appropriate for the material being contested and representative of diverse viewpoints. The task of the committee shall be to determine if the challenged material meets the criteria of selection. No material shall be withdrawn solely for the viewpoints expressed within it and shall be reviewed in its entirety and not selected portions taken out of context.

The principal shall convene a meeting after a reasonable time for the committee members to adequately review the contested material and the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* submitted by the complainant. All meetings of the committee shall be open to the public. The complainant shall be allowed to present the complaint to the committee after which time the committee shall meet to discuss the material. The committee shall vote to determine whether the contested material shall be relocated within the media center's collection to an area that is not accessible to minors. A member from the voting majority shall write a summary of the reasons for their decision. A notice of the committee's decision and the summary shall be given (by hand or certified mail) to the complainant.

If the decision is to not relocate the material, the complainant may appeal the committee's decision to the district Board of Directors by filing a written appeal to the Superintendent within five (5) working days of the committee's decision or of written receipt of the decision. The Superintendent shall present the original complaint and the committee's decision along with the summary of its reasons for its position plus a recommendation of the administration, if so desired, to the Board within fifteen (15) days of the committee's decision. The Board shall review the material submitted to them by the Superintendent and make a decision within thirty (30) days of receipt of the information. The Board's decision is final.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-25-101 et seq.

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.7F—REQUEST FOR FORMAL RECONSIDERATION FORM

Name: _____

Date submitted: _____

Media Center material being contested:

Reasons for contesting the material. (Be specific about why you believe the material does not meet the selection criteria listed in policy 5.7—*Selection of Instructional and Library/Media Center Materials*):

What is your proposed resolution?

Signature of receiving principal _____

Signature of Superintendent (if appealed) _____

Date Adopted: November 10, 2003

Last Revised:

5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS

Use of Copyrighted Work in Face-to-Face Classroom

The Board of Education encourages the enrichment of the instructional program through the proper use of supplementary materials. To help ensure the appropriate use of copyrighted materials, the Superintendent, or designee, will provide district personnel with information regarding the “fair use” doctrine of the U.S. Copyright Code as detailed in the “Agreement on Guidelines for Classroom Copying in Not-for-Profit Educational Institutions with Respect to Books and Periodicals” and “Guidelines for Educational Uses of Music.”

Use of Copyrighted Works in Digital Transmissions

Definitions

“Class session” means the length of time provided for students to access the materials necessary for the completion of course assignments and tests. Depending on the copyrighted work's overall importance to the course, which can vary from a single assignment to an entire course focusing on the copyrighted work, the class session will end on:

- The date set by the teacher for an assignment to be submitted; or
- The date on the school calendar for the end of classes.

“Course packs” are premade compilations of book excerpts; newspaper, magazine, and journal articles; and instructor-authored materials.

“Mediated Instructional activities” includes textbooks, workbooks, and course packs.

“Transmission” is the remote accessing, whether on or off campus, by students of a copyrighted work by means of a closed circuit television, an educational television channel, or in a digital format on a password protected secure webpage.

The District recognizes that advances in technology have resulted in the need for guidelines for the use of copyrighted materials that are transmitted to students through a digital network. While the requirements to use a copyrighted work in a digital transmission have many similarities to those required to use a copyrighted work in a face-to-face classroom, Federal law places several additional requirements on the District's teachers, IT staff, and librarians for the use of a digitally transmitted copyrighted work. The District is dedicated to providing the tools necessary for teachers, IT staff, and librarians to meet these additional Federal requirements.

The District shall make sure the server where materials are stored is secured, whether the server is located locally or remotely.

The District's Informational Technologies staff shall develop the proper protocols and train teachers on their use in order to ensure:

1. The transmission of the copyrighted work is limited to only the students enrolled in the course;
 - Each student shall have a unique ID and password for accessing digital courses/materials; or
 - Each course shall have a unique password to access course materials; and
 - The password to access the course materials shall be changed immediately following the close of the course.
2. To prevent students from retaining or further disseminating the copyrighted work for more than one class session;
 - The print function will be disabled;
 - A transparency shall be placed over any literary work, sheet music, or photograph;
 - Audio and video transmissions will be set to be streamed; and
 - The link to the webpage with a copyrighted work shall be deactivated at the end of the applicable class session.

Teachers who wish to provide copyrighted works to students through a digital transmission as part of a digital course as well as teachers wishing to supplement a face-to-face classroom course with a digital transmission must meet applicable copyright statutes and policy 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES as well as the following requirements in order to use a copyrighted work:

- A. The use of the copyrighted work(s), whether in whole or in part, must be a part of regular classroom instruction and must be directly related and of material assistance to the course content;
- B. The extent of a copyrighted work that is used must comply with one or more of the following criteria:
 - The entirety of a non dramatic literary or musical work may be used. A non dramatic literary work includes poems and short stories. A non dramatic musical work covers all music that is not part of an opera or musical and does not cover the use of the music video format of a song.
 - Dramatic literary and musical works as well as videos may only be used in limited portions. Dramatic literary and musical works may only be used in the same amount as set forth in the requirements for a face-to-face classroom while videos, including music videos, may only have the portion used that is directly related to the subject of the class session and may not be transmitted in their entirety.

- Still images or slides that a teacher would have used in the ordinary course of a face-to-face classroom session on a projector or a transparency may be used in a transmission.
 - Works primarily produced or marketed for use in the digital education market may not be transmitted.
 - Works the teacher had knowledge or reasonably believes to be unlawfully made or acquired may not be used.
 - Mediated Instructional activities may not be transmitted.
- C. A statement that works may be subject to copyright shall be placed in at least one of the following areas to provide notice to students of copyright status:
- Course syllabus;
 - Home webpage for the course;
 - Webpage for the particular class session; and/or
 - webpage with the copyrighted work.

The teacher and the District librarian shall work together when making digital copies of copyrighted work from physical or analog versions and shall fulfill the following requirements:

- I. The amount converted is only the amount allowed by law; **and**
- II. The District has no digital copy of the copyrighted work available; **or**
- III. The District's digital copy of the copyrighted work that is available has technological protections that prevent the use of the copyrighted work in the manner prescribed by law.

The District will not be responsible for any employee violations of the use of copyrighted materials.

Cross Reference: 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

Legal Reference: 17 USC § 101 to 1010(Federal Copyright Law of 1976)

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002

Last Revised: June 14, 2021

5.9—COMPUTER SOFTWARE COPYRIGHT

The District shall observe copyright laws governing computer software reproduction. Unless specifically allowed by the software purchase agreement, the Copyright Act allows the purchaser of software to:

1. Make one copy of software for archival purposes in case the original is destroyed or damaged through mechanical failure of a computer. However, if the original is sold or given away, the archival copy must be destroyed;
2. Make necessary adaptations to use the program; and/or

3. Add features to the program for specific applications. These improvements may not be sold or given away without the copyright owner's permission.

The District shall abide by applicable licensing agreements before using computer software on local-area or wide-area networks.

Legal Reference: 17 USC § 117

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

5.10—ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Definitions

“Artificial Intelligence (AI)” means a machine-based system can, based on a given set of human-defined objectives, make predictions, recommendations, or decisions influencing a real or virtual environment.

“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 does not include items such as spell check or grammar check.

"Automated decision tool" means an AI tool that has been specifically developed and marketed, or specifically modified, to make or to be a controlling factor in making consequential decisions.

The Huntsville 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, including automated decision 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.
A.C.A. § 25-1-128
15 U.S.C. § 6501
20 U.S.C. § 1232g
34 C.F.R. Part 99

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

“Blended Learning” is education in which instruction and content are delivered through supervised instruction in a classroom and online delivery of instruction with some element of student control over time, place, path, or pace.

“Digital Learning” means a digital technology or internet-based educational delivery model that does not rely exclusively on compressed interactive video (CIV). Digital learning includes online and blended learning.

“Instructional Materials” means:

1. Traditional books, textbooks, and trade books in printed and bound form;
2. Activity-oriented programs that may include:
 - a. Manipulatives;
 - b. Hand-held calculators;
 - c. Other hands-on materials; and
3. Technology-based materials that require the use of electronic equipment in order to be used in the learning process.

“Online Learning” is education in which instruction and content are delivered primarily over the Internet. The term does not include print-based correspondence education, broadcast television or radio, videocassettes, compact disks and stand-alone educational software programs that do not have a significant Internet-based instructional component.

“Public School Student Accessing Courses at a Distance” means a student who is scheduled for a full course load through the District and attends all classes virtually.

Digital Course Offerings

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format and shall be tailored to meet the needs of each student.

All digitally offered courses shall meet or exceed the State Board of Education's curriculum standards and requirements and be capable of being assessed and measured through standardized or local assessments. Additionally, the District shall ensure there is sufficient infrastructure to handle and facilitate a quality digital learning environment.

The District shall annually determine what District created digital learning courses it will provide to our students. The District may also choose to provide digital learning courses by contracting with outside providers of such courses, who have been pre-approved as part of the Arkansas Course Choice Program by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The School Board shall determine the provider method or combination of methods for the District. The Superintendent shall ensure that all digital learning courses provided to District students, regardless of the source of the course, have been approved by DESE.

District created digital courses and any digital courses the district purchases from outside providers shall adhere to the guidelines for the use of digitally transmitted copyrighted materials set forth in Policy 5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS as well as applicable statutory requirements.

The District shall require all outside providers to incorporate Policy 5.8 as a condition of the service contract. Failure of the outside provider to abide by Policy 5.8 shall constitute a breach of contract and the outside provider shall be responsible for any costs resulting from such breach.

A student may elect to take any scheduled courses digitally if offered digitally by the District or, if applicable, through the Arkansas Course Choice Program. The student's attendance in the student's digital course(s) shall be determined in accordance with Policy 4.7—ABSENCES.

The District is responsible for providing all instructional materials for each student who enrolls in a District approved digital learning course.

Except as required by Policy 5.19, the District may restrict a student's access to digital courses when the student's building principal determines the student's participation in such a course would not be academically appropriate based on the student's past performance in digital courses. Furthermore, the student's building principal may revoke a student's eligibility to continue taking a digital learning course if the student's performance during the semester indicates the student is not succeeding in the course.

Cross References: 4.7—ABSENCES
 5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS
 5.19—ARKANSAS COURSE CHOICE PROGRAM

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-16-1401 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-16-1701 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-18-213
 A.C.A. § 6-18-222
 A.C.A. § 6-28-109
 DESE RULES GOVERNING DISTANCE AND DIGITAL LEARNING

Date Adopted: May 12, 2014
Last Revised: February 12, 2024

5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Internships

The Board of Directors believes that students who intend to begin careers immediately upon high school graduation or intend to complete post-secondary training prior to starting a career can benefit from an internship experience. The desired outcomes of the District's internship program include students advancing computer science skills, sharpening soft-skills, and learning new skills while in a workplace environment. The internship program provides intense, competency-based worksite immersion in advanced computer science concepts while linking the internship participants to current resources, information, and guidance from computing professionals.

Students who wish to participate in the internship program shall submit an application to the counselor. In order for a student to be eligible to participate in the internship program, the student must have:

1. Received enough credits to qualify as a junior;
2. Either:
 - Have at least one (1) credit from a Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) approved computer science course; or
 - Submit computer science work product that satisfactorily demonstrates the competencies expected within the DESE Computer Science Standards to counselor; and
3. At least a 2.5 GPA.

The student participating in an internship program is responsible for making sure the counselor receives documentation authenticated by the student's supervisor of the hours worked by the student, proof of the student having completed projects, and regular evaluations of the student's work by the student's internship supervisor.

A student who completes a computer science internship shall receive credit for the internship as a Computer Science Flex Credit based on the amount of documented on-the-job work hours as follows:

- a. Half (1/2) credit for completing sixty (60) on-the-job work hours; or
- b. One (1) credit for completing one hundred twenty (120) on-the-job work hours.

Independent Studies

A Computer Science Independent Study Program shall be designed to enrich the student's computer science educational experience. A student who desires to complete an independent study shall:

1. Either:
 - Have at least one (1) credit from an DESE approved computer science course; or
 - Submit computer science work product that satisfactorily demonstrates the competencies expected within the DESE Computer Science Standards to a local advisor;
2. Develop an educational plan that is tied directly to extending the computer science concepts found within:
 - The most current revision of the Arkansas High School Computer Science Standards;
 - College Board AP Computer Science Principles or A; and/or
 - IB Computer Science SL or HL;
3. Submit the study plan to a local advisor for approval;
4. Have at least a 2.5 GPA; and
5. Produce a final product for presentation.

The advisor is responsible for reviewing, monitoring, and approving the student's study plan. The study plan should include anticipated objectives that allow the advisor to evaluate the student's study progress. The student is responsible for submitting regular written reports to the advisor concerning the student's progress towards the student's independent study goals.

The student's hours of study shall be documented by the most appropriate of the following methods:

- Being assigned a class period during the instructional day that is dedicated to the student's independent study;
- Using the District's system to track student time for digital courses if the student's attendance and assignments are through a digital classroom; and
- Using another hour tracking system approved by the district Superintendent that provides for accurate tracking of hours and provides safeguards against improper reporting by the student.

A student who completes a computer science independent study shall receive credit for the independent study as a Computer Science Flex Credit based on the amount of documented study hours as follows:

- a. Half (1/2) credit for completing sixty (60) study hours; or
- b. One (1) credit for completing one hundred twenty (120) study hours.

Legal References: Arkansas Computer Science Standards for Grades 9-12 Internship Program
 Arkansas Computer Science Standards for Grades 9-12 Independent Study

Date Adopted: March 13, 2017

Last Revised: June 13, 2019

5.13—STUDENT INTERVENTION SERVICES AND SUMMER SCHOOL

School Year Student Intervention Services

The Huntsville School District shall offer intervention programs during the school year to those students in kindergarten through twelfth grade (K-12) not performing at grade level.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-16-704
 A.C.A. § 6-16-705
 A.C.A. § 6-16-706

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002

Last Revised: May 11, 2020

5.14—HOMEWORK

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the District. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student's educational development. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful.

Teachers should be aware of the potential problem students may have completing assignments from multiple teachers and vary the amount of homework they give from day to day.

Parents shall be notified of this policy at the beginning of each school year.

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002

Last Revised: July 16, 2018

5.15—GRADING

Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, persons standing in loco parentis, or teachers. If the progress of a student is unsatisfactory in a subject, the teacher shall attempt to schedule a parent-teacher conference. In the conference, the teacher shall explain the reasons for difficulties and shall develop, cooperatively with the parents, a plan for remediation, which may enhance the probability of the student succeeding. The school shall also send timely progress reports and issue grades for each nine (9) week grading period to keep parents/guardians informed of their student's progress.

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

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

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

The District shall use Standards-based grading in the District's K-2 elementary schools.

The grading scale for all schools other than K-2 elementary 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
B = 3 points
C = 2 points
D = 1 point
F = 0 points

The grade point values for accelerated learning courses and other approved 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 forty (40) days. A student transferred in with a grade of eighty-three percent (83%) earned in ten (10) days at the previous school. The student had a grade of seventy-five percent (75%) in our district's school earned in the remaining thirty (30) days of the grading period. Ten (10) days is twenty-five percent (25%) of forty (40) days while thirty (30) days is seventy-five percent (75%) of forty (40) days. Thus the final grade would be $(0.25 \times 83) + (0.75 \times 75) = 77\%$.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-902
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f)
Standards For Accreditation 5-A.1
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing
Grading and Course Credit

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.16—COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE PREREQUISITES AND PROGRESSION

Traditional Progression

A student who has not previously received a computer science credit may elect to take an introductory level computer science course. A student who passes a computer science course level is eligible to take the next level computer science course in the same computer science course emphasis.

Alternative Progression

A student who does not have credit for any computer science course, the introductory level computer science course for the particular computer science emphasis, or the preceding level course for the computer science emphasis may be placed in a computer science course based on any combination of the following factors:

- The student's grade point average;
- Recommendation from the student's teacher(s);
- Completion of computer science internships or independent studies;
- Demonstration of previous computer science work by the student; or
- Proficiency report from a computer science proficiency evaluation tool.

Cross Reference: 5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Legal References: Arkansas Computer Science Standards for Grades 9-12
Commissioner's Memo COM-17-051

Date Adopted: March 13, 2017

Last Revised: June 13, 2019

5.17.HSD—HONOR/HIGH HONOR GRADUATES; VALEDICTORIANS/ SALUTATORIANS

HIGH HONOR GRADUATES (SPH)

Students who wish to graduate with high honors or who wish to be class valedictorian or salutatorian must have successfully completed the minimum core of courses recommended for preparation for college as defined by the State Board of Higher Education and the State Board of Education. High honor graduates at St. Paul High School must also have completed the Smart Core Curriculum and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 derived from courses taken for high school credit.

HONOR GRADUATES (SPH)

Students who have successfully completed the minimum core of courses recommended for preparation for college as defined by the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board of Education and have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher will be designated as honor graduates. The GPA shall be derived from courses taken for high school credit. The honor graduates at St. Paul High School must have completed the Smart Core Curriculum.

HIGH HONOR GRADUATES (HHS)

Students at Huntsville High School who wish to graduate with high honors or who wish to be class valedictorian or salutatorian must have successfully completed the minimum core of courses recommended for preparation for college as defined by the State Board of Higher Education and the State Board of Education. They must also have completed at least nine (9) honors, advanced placement, or concurrent credit courses with a minimum of two advanced placement courses in the areas of math, science, or social studies, and two advanced placement courses in the English area (one must be either AP English Language or AP English Literature). The high honors graduate must also have two (2) courses of the same foreign language and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 (Starting with 2028 graduates, the GPA requirement will be 3.75) derived from courses taken for high school credit. The high honors graduate must complete the Smart Core Curriculum.

HONOR GRADUATES (HHS)

Students who have successfully completed the minimum core of courses recommended for preparation for college as defined by the State Board of Higher Education and the State Board of Education and have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 (Starting with 2028 graduates, the GPA requirement will be 3.5 or higher will be designated as honor graduates. They must have completed at least four (4) honors or advanced placement courses with a minimum of one advanced placement course in the area of math, science, or social studies, and one advanced

placement course in the English area. The honors graduate must also have one (1) course in foreign language. The honors graduate must complete the Smart Core Curriculum.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-101 (a) (2)
 A.C.A. § 6-18-101 (b)

VALEDICTORIANS AND SALUTATORIANS

The high honor student(s) with a GPA of higher than 4.0 and who have been enrolled in Huntsville High School or St. Paul High School for his/her entire senior year shall serve as the valedictorian of his/her graduating class.

The high honor student(s) with the highest GPA of 4.0 or under and who has been enrolled in Huntsville High School or St. Paul High School for his/her entire senior year shall serve as the salutatorian of his/her graduating class.

If qualifications are not met for valedictorian, the high honor graduate with the highest GPA will become valedictorian and the high honor graduate with the next highest GPA will be salutatorian.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-101 (a) (1)
 A.C.A. § 6-18-101 (b)
 A.C.A. § 6-61-217(a)

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002
Last Revised: July 16, 2024

5.18—HEALTH SERVICES

The Board believes that healthy children promote a better learning environment, are more capable of high student achievement, and will result in healthier, more productive adults. Therefore, the goal of the District's health services is to promote a healthy student body. This requires both the education of students concerning healthy behaviors, as well as providing health care services to pupils.

The District shall develop an age-appropriate seizure education program for the District's students consistent with training programs and guidelines developed by the Epilepsy Foundation of America.

While the school nurse is under the supervision of the school principal, the delegation of health care duties shall be in accordance with the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act and the Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules Chapter Five: Delegation of Nursing Care.

Annually, the information reported in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Health Services Survey shall be provided to the Board.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-709

Date Adopted: August 12, 2002

Last Revised: June 5, 2023

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 cocurricular 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.

Cross Reference: 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-15-1701 et seq.

Date Adopted : June 10, 2025

Last Revised : May 2, 2025

5.20—DISTRICT WEBSITE

The Huntsville School District shall maintain a web page to provide information about its schools, students, and activities to the community. This policy is adopted to promote continuity between the different pages on the district website by establishing guidelines for their construction and operation.

The Huntsville School District website shall be used for educational purposes only. It shall not create either a public or a limited public forum. Any link from any page on the District's site may only be to another educational site. The website shall not use "cookies" to collect or retain identifying information about visitors to its website nor shall any such information be given to "third parties." Any data collected shall be used solely for the purpose of monitoring site activity to help the district improve the usefulness of the site to its visitors.

Each school's web page shall be under the supervision of the school's Web Master and the District's website shall be under the supervision of the District's Web Master. They shall have the responsibility for ensuring that web pages meet appropriate levels of academic standards and are in compliance with these guidelines and any additional administrative regulations. To this end, the District and School Web Masters shall have the authority to review and edit any proposed changes to web pages to ensure their compliance with this policy. All such editing shall be viewpoint neutral.

District and school web pages shall also conform to the following guidelines:

1. All pages on the District's website may contain advertising and links only to educational sources.
2. The District's home page shall contain links to existing individual school's web pages and the school home pages shall link back to the District's home page. The District's home page may also include links to educational extracurricular organization's web pages, which shall also link back to the District's home page.
3. Photos along with the student's name shall only be posted on web pages after receiving written permission from the student's parents or the student if the student is over the age of eighteen (18).
4. The District's web server shall host the Huntsville District's website.
5. No web page on the District website may contain public message boards or chat rooms.
6. All web pages on the District website shall be constructed to download in a reasonable length of time.
7. The District's home page shall contain a link to a privacy policy notice, which must be placed in a clear and prominent place and manner.
8. With the exception of students who may retain the copyright of material they have created that is displayed on a District web page, all materials displayed on the District web site are owned by the District.
9. The District shall include the following information on its website through a link located on the District's homepage titled "State Required Information":
 - a. Local and state revenue sources;
 - b. Administrator and teacher salary and benefit expenditure data;
 - c. District balances, including legal balances and building fund balances;
 - d. Minutes of regular, emergency, and special meetings of the school board;
 - e. The district's budget for the ensuing year;
 - f. A financial breakdown of monthly expenditures of the district;

- g. The salary schedule for all employees including extended contract and supplementary pay amounts;
- h. Current contract information (not including social security numbers, telephone numbers, personal addresses or signatures) for all district employees;
- i. The district's annual budget;
- j. The annual statistical report of the district;
- k. Agenda of regular, emergency, and special meetings of the District board of directors;
- l. The names, email addresses, position (including zones), and terms of office for all members of the school district board of directors;
- m. The district's personnel policies;
- n. The annual School Performance Report;
- o. School-Level Improvement Plans;
- p. The District Strategic Plan;
- q. Student discipline policies;
- r. Comprehensive School Counseling Plan;
- s. The District financial policies;
- t. Student handbooks;
- u. The Annual Report to the Public;
- v. The parent, family, and community engagement plan;
- w. The Immunization waiver report from Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS;
- x. School District Calendar;
- y. List of statutory, rule, or Standards for Accreditation waivers the District has received under A.C.A. § 6-15-103;
- z. The total amount of State funds used for teacher salaries;
- aa. The District's policy addressing the selection, relocation, retention and challenging of materials that are physically present in the library and available to the public;

The information and data required for items A through N in 9 above shall be the actual data for the previous two (2) school-years and the projected data for the current school-year.

Before July 15 of each year, the District shall post on its website the following information:

- The dyslexia intervention programs used during the previous school year that were specifically responsive to assisting students with dyslexia;
- The number of students during the previous school year who received dyslexia intervention; and
- The total number of students identified with dyslexia during the previous school year.

If the District's reading curriculum is not taken from the DESE list of approved curricula, the District shall post the reading curriculum the District uses and a statement that the curriculum is not on the list of DESE approved curricula.

The District shall include the following information on its website that may be accessed through a link located on the District's homepage titled "Title IX/Sex Discrimination":

- Contact information for the District's Title IX Coordinator;

- A statement that any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, to the Title IX Coordinator in person or by using the mailing address, telephone number, or email address provided. A report may be made at any time, including during non-business hours, and may be on the individual's own behalf or on behalf of another individual who is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment;
- Copies of the District's sexual harassment policies;
- Copies of the District's Procedures governing the grievance and appeal process;
- The process for filing a formal complaint of sexual harassment; and
- Direct links to or copies of the materials used to train the District's Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decision-makers.

The District shall include the following information on its website that may be accessed through a link located on the District's homepage titled "Military Families":

- The student enrollment application process;
- Career-ready pathways and other academic or education programs offered;
- Required academic courses for each curriculum and elective course options;
- School and community-sponsored extracurricular activities, including without limitation individual and team sports, clubs, junior reserve officer training corps opportunities, and Purple Star School program ambassadors;
- Notable District and District school Purple Star School Programs;
- The District military family education coordinator contact information; and
- The District schools' military family education facilitator contact information.

The District shall post the following on the District website that may be accessed through a link titled "Antisemitism/Title VI":

1. The District's definition of antisemitism;
2. A statement that antisemitism is prohibited in the District's educational programs and activities;
3. A statement that complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism may be filed with the Title VI Coordinator;
4. Contact information for the District's Title VI Coordinator; and
5. Information on how to file a complaint of antisemitism with the Title VI Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Education.

The District and school webmasters are responsible for ensuring all District webpages meet required standards to be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Cross References: 1.14—MEETING AGENDA
 3.26—LICENSED PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT
 3.59—ANTISEMITISM PROHIBITED
 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
 4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT
 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS
 4.65—ANTISEMITISM PROHIBITED
 5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT
 5.3—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
 8.20—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT
 8.60—ANTISEMITISM PROHIBITED

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-11-129
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1402

A.C.A. § 6-15-2006
A.C.A. § 6-15-2101
A.C.A. § 6-15-2914
A.C.A. § 6-15-2919
A.C.A. § 6-16-2001 et seq.
A.C.A. § 6-17-429
A.C.A. § 6-17-2403
A.C.A. § 6-17-1901
A.C.A. § 6-18-702
A.C.A. § 6-18-2001 et seq.
A.C.A. § 6-25-105
A.C.A. § 6-28-108
A.C.A. § 6-28-301
A.C.A. § 6-41-606
A.C.A. § 6-41-611
DESE Rules Governing How to Meet the Needs of Children With
Dyslexia
DESE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and
Accountability Act
DESE Rules Governing Act 1240 Waivers
DESE Rules Governing Documents Posted to School District an
Education Service Cooperative Websites
Standards For Accreditation 12.02.1, 1-B.2, 2-B.1, 2-H.2, 3-A.1, 3-
A.2, 3-A.9, 3-B.1, 3.B.2.1, 5-A.1
20 U.S.C. § 1232 g
15 U.S.C. § 6501 (COPPA)
34 C.F.R. § 106.8
34 C.F.R. § 106.45

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.20 F1—PERMISSION TO DISPLAY PHOTO OF STUDENT ON WEB SITE

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

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

Name of student (Printed)

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

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

Date

**5.20 F2—PERMISSION TO DISPLAY STUDENT INFORMATION ON
WEB SITE**

I hereby grant permission to the Huntsville School District to display my/my student's name (if student is under the age of eighteen {18}) in conjunction with my/my student's home address, email address, telephone number, and/or my parents' names

It is understood, however, that once the information is displayed on a web site, the District has no control over how the information is used or misused by persons with computers accessing the District's web site.

I (we) agree to defend and hold harmless the members of the Huntsville School Board, the Huntsville School District, its officers, employees, agents, successors and assignees from and against any and all claims and liabilities resulting from displaying my/my student's specified information.

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of student (only necessary if student is over 18)

Signature of parent (required if student is under 18)

Date

5.20.1—WEB SITE PRIVACY POLICY

The Huntsville School District operates and maintains a web site for the purpose of informing the citizens of the district about its activities. The web site does not use “cookies” or ISP addresses to collect or retain personally identifying information about visitors to its web site nor is any such information given to “third parties.” Any data collected is used solely for the purpose of monitoring site activity to help the district improve the usefulness of the site to its visitors.

The site serves no commercial purpose and does not collect any information from individuals for such purpose.

Photographs of students, when associated with the student’s name, shall not be displayed on any page of the district’s web site without the prior written consent of the parent (or the student if 18 or older).

The site provides for email communication between the District and individuals for the purpose of exchanging information regarding the District and its activities or between teachers and their students. The site may also provide for password protected communication between the District and its staff.

Legal References: 15 U.S.C. § 6501 (COPPA)

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003

Last Revised: July 16, 2018

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 take 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.

Legal References: DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit
A.C.A. § 6-15-902
A.C.A. § 6-16-1201 et seq.

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.22—CONCURRENT CREDIT

A ninth (9th) through twelfth (12th) 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 DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course 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 core subject area/unit requirements.

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 of higher education 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 graduation ceremonies.

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 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.

Cross Reference: 4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

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 Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.23—EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN SCHOOLS

The Huntsville School District is committed to providing a quality education for all students in each of the district's schools. The equitable distribution of district resources is one means the district shall use to ensure all of its students receive a quality education. The Board directs that services in Title I schools, when taken as a whole, are substantially comparable to services in schools that are not receiving Title I funds. Curriculum materials, instructional supplies, and the percentages of qualified personnel shall be equivalent between all schools in the district when compared on a *school-by-school basis*. Specifically, the goal of the district is to have its students given an equitable opportunity to learn regardless of the school they attend within the district.

The Board understands that the equivalence between schools shall not be measured by such things as:

- a. Changes in enrollment after the start of the school year;
- b. Varying costs associated with providing services to children with disabilities,
- c. Unexpected changes in personnel assignments occurring after the beginning of the school year;
- d. Expenditures on language instruction education programs and;
- e. Other expenditures from supplemental State or local funds consistent with the intent of Title I.

Legal Reference: 20 USC § 6321(a),(b), and (c)

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

5.24—STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN SURVEYS

No student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that is administered or distributed by a school, and is funded in whole or in part by any program administered by the U.S. Department of Education without the prior written consent of the student's parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis that reveals information concerning the following:

1. Political affiliations;
2. Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or ~~his/her~~ the student's family;
3. Sex behavior and attitudes;

4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis; or
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

No surveys, analyses, or evaluations shall be administered without the prior approval of the school principal.

The school shall take reasonable precautions to protect students' privacy during their participation in the administration of any survey, analysis, or evaluation containing one or more of the eight (8) categories listed above.

Any survey created by a third party, or funded, in whole or in part, as part of any US Department of Education administered program, containing one or more of the eight (8) categories listed above shall be available to be inspected by a student's ~~parent/guardian~~ parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis before the survey is administered or distributed by a school to a student. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis wishing to inspect a survey, analysis, or evaluation shall be able to do so in the administrative office of the administering school where the survey, analysis, or evaluation shall be available for inspection for a period of ten (10) business days after the notice of intent to administer the survey, analysis, or evaluation is sent. The notice shall include information regarding how the survey, analysis, or evaluation will be administered; how it will be utilized; and the persons or entities that will have access to the results of the completed survey, analysis, or evaluation. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis may refuse to allow their student to participate before or after reviewing the survey, analysis, or evaluation. The school shall not penalize or otherwise retaliate against a student whose Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis exercised their right to refuse to allow their student to participate in the survey, analysis, or evaluation.

The above requirements of this policy do not apply to a survey administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Except for assessments mandated by State or Federal law; State Rule; or Federal regulation and standardized scholastic achievement tests, prior written permission from a student's Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is required before any survey, analysis, or evaluation is administered to a student if the survey, analysis, or evaluation:

- A. Responses are to be provided to a person or entity other than another public school, school district, or any branch of the Federal Government; and
- B. Requests or requires a student to provide any of the eight (8) categories of information listed above; and/or
- C. Requests or requires a student to provide any of the following:
 - A student's name;

- The name of the student’s parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, person standing in loco parentis, or other member of the student’s family;
- The address, telephone number, or email address of a student or a member of a student’s family;
- A personal identification number, such as a social security number, driver’s license number, or student identification number of a student or a member of the student’s family;
- Any information, the disclosure of which is regulated, or prohibited by any other State or federal law; State rule; or Federal regulation.

The rights provided to parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis under this policy transfer to the student when ~~he/she~~ the student turns eighteen (18) years old.

Legal References: 20 USC § 1232h
A.C.A. § 6-18-1301 et seq.

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003

Last Revised: July 16, 2024

**5.24F1—OBJECTION TO PARTICIPATION IN SURVEYS, ANALYSIS,
OR EVALUATIONS**

I, the undersigned, being a parent or guardian of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to participation by the student named below in the following survey, analysis, or evaluation.

I choose not to have my student participate in the following survey, analysis, or evaluation.

Name of specific survey _____

____ All surveys

Name of student (Printed)

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

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

5.24F2—PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN A SURVEY, ANALYSIS, OR EVALUATION

I, the undersigned, being a parent or guardian of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby grant my permission for the student named below to participate in the following survey, analysis, or evaluation.

Name of survey

Name of student (Printed)

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

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

5.25—MARKETING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

The Huntsville School District shall not collect, disclose, or use personal information for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or to otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose.

Personal information is defined, **for the purposes of this policy only**, as individually identifiable information including

1. The first and last name of a student or a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis;
2. a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town),
3. telephone number, and
4. social security identification number.

The district may collect, disclose, or use personal information that is collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions such as the following:

- a. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment;
- b. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low cost literary products;
- c. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools;
- d. Tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
- e. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school related or education related activities; and
- f. Student recognition programs.

Legal Reference: 20 USC § 1232h (c)

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003

Last Revised: July 16, 2018

5.26—ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The District shall provide an eligible alternative learning environment (ALE) for each eligible ALE student enrolled in a District school. The ALE shall be part of an intervention program designed to provide guidance, counseling, and academic support to students who are experiencing emotional, social, or academic problems. Placement of a student in an ALE **shall not** be punitive in nature.

The superintendent or designee shall appoint an Alternative Education Placement Team which shall have the responsibility of determining student placement in the ALE. A student may be enrolled in an ALE only on the referral of the Alternative Education Placement Team. The team's placement decision is final and may not be appealed.

The team is to be comprised of the following:

- a school counselor from the referring school;
- the ALE administrator and/or ALE teacher;
- the building principal or assistant principal from the referring school;
- a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis (if they choose to participate);
 - The District shall document its efforts to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to schedule a meeting or a phone call for a placement meeting at the convenience of the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis, and maintain such documentation in the student's Student Action Plan (SAP).
- LEA special education/504 representative (if applicable);
- at least one (1) of the student's regular classroom teacher(s); and
- if the District so chooses, the student.

Students who are placed in the ALE shall exhibit at least two (2) of the following characteristics:

1. Ongoing, persistent lack of attaining proficiency levels in literacy and mathematics;
2. Abuse: physical, mental, or sexual;
3. Frequent relocation of residency;
4. Homelessness;
5. Inadequate emotional support;
6. Mental/physical health problems;
7. Pregnancy;
8. Being a single parent;
9. Personal or family problems or situations;
10. Recurring absenteeism;
11. Dropping out from school; or

12. Disruptive behavior.

Before or upon entry into the ALE, the ALE program shall assess the student in order to provide intervention services designed to address the student's specific educational and behavioral needs, with the focus for behavioral needs on long-term improvement of the student's ability to control the student's behavior.

No later than five (5) school days after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall develop a signed agreement between the ALE; the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis (if they choose to participate); and the student, outlining the responsibility of the ALE; parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis; and the student to provide assurance that the plan for each student is successful.

No later than one (1) week after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall assess the student's current functioning abilities and all relevant social, emotional, academic, career, and behavioral information and develop an SAP outlining the intervention services to be provided to the student. The SAP may be revised from time to time by the ALE placement team. The SAP shall contain at a minimum:

- a. A plan of intervention services to be provided to address the student's specific educational needs and, if appropriate, the student's behavioral needs;
- b. Goals and objectives necessary to achieve positive reintegration into the regular educational environment;
- c. Exit criteria on which to base a student's return to the regular educational environment;
- d. Documentation of the presence of the characteristics listed above that were the reason for the student's referral to the ALE program;
- e. Documentation of the specific ALE programming and supports that will address each identified characteristic or situation causing a barrier to the student's success; and
- f. A positive behavior or transitional plan prior to a student's return to the regular educational environment.

The district's ALE program shall follow class size, staffing, curriculum, and expenditure requirements identified in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Rules.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-20-2305(b)(2)
A.C.A. § 6-48-101 et seq.
DESE Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding – 3.01, 4.00, and 8.0
DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.26.1—ALE PROGRAM EVALUATION

The ALE program shall be evaluated at least annually to determine its overall effectiveness at providing a non-punitive environment that is conducive to learning, that eliminates traditional barriers to learning, and at compliance with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding. The evaluation shall specifically address how the use of ALE funds is in alignment with the district's district strategic plan in addressing identified achievement gaps and student performance deficiencies.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-2914
DESE Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.27—ENGLISH LEARNERS

The district shall utilize the special needs funding it receives for identified English Learners (EL) on activities, and materials listed in the DESE Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding.

The expenditures of EL supplemental funding shall be evaluated at least annually to determine their overall effectiveness. The evaluation shall specifically address how the use of EL funds is in alignment with the district's district strategic plan in addressing identified achievement gaps and student performance deficiencies.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-2914
A.C.A. § 6-20-2305(b)(3)
DESE Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding - 3.09, 5.00,
and 8.00
Standards For Accreditation 2-J.2

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.28—ENHANCED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT FUNDING EXPENDITURES

Funding received from the state based on the number of students eligible for free and reduced-priced meals under the National Student Lunch Act shall be expended in accordance with guidelines outlined in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding.

Using District specific data, the District shall conduct the DESE developed needs assessment to identify areas where Enhanced Student Achievement (ESA) funds need to be directed. The District shall include the use of the District's ESA funds in the District's District Strategic Plan.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-2914
A.C.A. § 6-15-2919
A.C.A. § 6-20-2305(b)(4)
DESE Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding - 3.12, 3.17,
3.18, 6.00, and 8.00

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

5.29—WELLNESS POLICY

The health and physical well-being of students directly affects their ability to learn. Childhood obesity increases the incidence of adult diseases occurring in children and adolescents such as heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes. The increased risk carries forward into their adulthood. Research indicates that a healthy diet and regular physical activity can help prevent obesity and the diseases resulting from it. It is understood that the eating habits and exercise patterns of students cannot be magically changed overnight, but at the same time, the Board of Directors believes it is necessary to strive to create a culture in our schools that consistently promotes good nutrition and physical activity.

The problem of obesity and inactivity is a public health issue. The Board of Directors is keenly aware that it has taken years for this problem to reach its present level and will similarly take years to correct. The responsibility for addressing the problem lies not only with the schools and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), but with the community and its residents, organizations and agencies. Therefore, the District shall enlist the support of the larger community to find solutions that improve the health and physical activity of our students.

Wellness Committee

To enhance the district's efforts to improve the health of our students, a wellness committee shall be formed. It shall be structured to include representatives from each appropriate grade level group (elementary, middle, junior and senior high) on the membership of the district committee, to ensure age-appropriate recommendations are made that correlate to the District's grade configurations. The wellness committee shall have the powers and responsibilities delegated to it by statute and Rule and are incorporated into this policy by reference. The overarching goal of the wellness committee shall be to promote student wellness by monitoring how well the District is doing at implementing this policy. The wellness committee shall use modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, and 11 of the Centers For Disease Control' (CDC) School Health Index as a basis for annually assessing each school's progress toward meeting the requirements of this policy. The results of the annual assessment shall be included in the District's district

strategic plan (DSP), provided to each school's principal, and reported to the board. Goals and objectives for nutrition and physical activity shall also be included in the SDSP.

The wellness committee shall be made up of Individuals from the following groups to the extent interested persons from each group desire to be included in the development, implementation, and periodic review of the District's wellness policy:

- Members of the District's Board of Directors;
- School administrators;
- School nutrition personnel;
- Teacher organizations;
- Teachers of physical education;
- Parents;
- Students;
- Professional groups (such as nurses);
- School health professionals (such as school nurses, school counselors, and social workers); and
- Community members.

The wellness committee shall provide written recommendations to the District's Child Nutrition Director concerning menus and other foods sold in the school cafeteria. Such recommendations shall be based, at least in part, on the information the Committee receives from the District on the requirements and standards of the National School Lunch Program and from menus for the National School Lunch Program and other food sold in the school cafeteria on a quarterly basis.

The wellness committee will meet at least quarterly. Meeting dates for the wellness committee will be placed on the District's calendar.

School Health Coordinator

To assist the wellness committee in ensuring that the District fulfills the requirements of this policy, a District level School Health Coordinator (Designated District Official) shall be appointed. In addition, a school level School Health Coordinator shall be appointed who shall be responsible for assisting the District level School Health Coordinator in ensuring that each school fulfills the requirements of this policy.

Goals

In its efforts to improve the school nutrition environment, promote student health, and reduce childhood obesity, the District will adhere to the DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards And Body Mass Index For Age Assessment Protocols. To promote nutrition, physical activity, and other school based activities that will improve student wellness, the District, working with the wellness committee, has established the following goals:

1. Implement a grade appropriate nutrition education program that will develop an awareness of and appreciation for nutrition and physical activity throughout the curriculum;
2. Engage students in healthy levels of vigorous physical activity;
3. Strive to improve the quality of physical education curricula and increase the training of physical education teachers;

4. Follow the Arkansas Physical Education and Health Education Frameworks in grades K-12;
5. Not use food or beverages as rewards for academic, classroom, or sports performances;
6. Establish class schedules and bus routes that do not directly or indirectly restrict meal access;
7. Provide students with ample time to eat their meals in pleasant cafeteria and dining areas;
8. Abide by the current allowable food and beverage portion standards;
9. Meet or exceed the more stringent of Arkansas' or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Nutrition Standards for reimbursable meals and a la' carte foods served in the cafeteria;
10. Restrict access to competitive foods as required by law and rule;
11. Conform new and/or renewed vending contracts to the content restrictions contained in the Rules and reduce district dependence on profits from the sale of competitive foods;
12. Provide professional development to all district staff on the topics of nutrition and/or physical activity;
13. Utilize the School Health Index available from the CDC to assess how well the district is doing at implementing this wellness policy and at promoting a healthy environment for its students.

Food and Beverages Outside of the District's Food Service Programs

The District will ensure that drinking water is available without charge to all students throughout the school including, but not limited to, in the District's food service areas.

All food and beverages sold to students on school campus during the school day by school administrators or school non-licensed or licensed staff (principals, coaches, teachers, club sponsors, etc.); students or student groups; parents or parent groups; or another person, company, or organization associated with the school shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks requirements and Arkansas Nutrition Standards at a minimum. These restrictions include, but are not limited to, food and beverages sold in vending venues (machines, ice chests, cabinets) in school stores or as part of school fundraisers.

All food and beverages provided, but not sold, to students on the school campus during the school day by school administrators or school non-licensed or licensed staff (principals, coaches, teachers, club sponsors, etc.); students or student groups; parents or parent groups; or another person, company, or organization associated with the school shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks requirements and Arkansas Nutrition Standards at a minimum. These restrictions include, but are not limited to, food and beverages provided in vending venues (machines, ice chests, cabinets) in school stores or as part of school fundraisers.

Up to a maximum of nine (9) times per school year, school administration may schedule school wide events where food and beverages provided to students are not required to meet the Federal Smart Snacks standards during the scheduled time. The schedule of the events shall be by school, approved by the principal, and shall be part of the annual school calendar.

Food and beverages outside of the District's food service programs may not be sold, served, or provided to students in the District's food service areas during meal times.

Elementary students shall not have in-school access to vending machines.

The District does not place nutrition restrictions on food or beverages brought from home that are intended for personal consumption only.

Advertising

In accordance with the USDA regulations, oral, written, or graphic statements made for the purpose of promoting the sale of a food or beverage product that are made by the producer, manufacturer, seller, or any other entity with a commercial interest in the product shall only be permitted on school campus during the school day if they meet or exceed the Federal Smart Snacks standards. This restriction does not apply to:

- Materials used for educational purposes in the classroom, including, but not limited to:
 - The use of advertisements as a media education tool; or
 - Designing and implementing the health or nutrition curriculum;
- Clothing, apparel, or other personal items used by students and staff;
- The packaging of products brought from home for personal consumption; and
- Currently existing advertisements on school property, including but not limited to, the exterior of vending machines, posters, menu boards, coolers, trash cans, cups used for beverage dispensing, and other food service equipment; however, all future contracts and replacement items shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks standards.

Adoption Awareness Instruction

The District shall provide any information provided to students on the District's adoption awareness instruction that was in written form to the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to a pregnant student who is enrolled in the District.

Breast Feeding

In addition to providing age-appropriate education for students regarding the nutritional benefits of breastmilk and breastfeeding practices, the District shall provide:

- Space in the District's school facilities for District employees, students, and volunteers who are breastfeeding mothers that is a private, secure, and sanitary room or other location, other than a toilet stall, that contains Access to a power source for a breast pump or any other equipment used to express breast milk where an employee, student, or volunteer can express breast milk;
- Space in the District's school facilities for District students who are breastfeeding mothers that is a private, secure, and sanitary room or other location, other than a toilet stall, where a student can breastfeed the student's child;
- Permission to bring a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk to school;
- Access to a place to safely store breast milk, which shall include, but not be limited to, a refrigerator or cooler in:
 - A nurse's office;
 - A teachers' lounge; or
 - Another private location or location with limited accessibility in which the breast milk may be safely secured;
- Access to a location to clean a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk at school.
- Break time:

- To an employee or volunteer for the purpose of expressing breast milk that, to the extent possible, shall run concurrently with existing break times; and
- To a student that is a reasonable amount of time to accommodate the student's need to express breast milk or to breastfeed the student's child on the District's campus;
- That a student shall not incur an academic penalty for expressing breast milk or for breastfeeding the student's child on the District's campus; and
- A student the opportunity to make up any work missed due to expressing breast milk or for breastfeeding the student's child on the District's campus.

Child Care

The District shall provide student mothers and fathers information regarding available child care services.

Community Engagement

The District will work with the wellness committee to:

- a. Encourage participation in extracurricular programs that support physical activity, such as walk-to-school programs, biking clubs, after-school walking etc.;
- b. Encourage the implementation of developmentally appropriate physical activity in after-school childcare programs for participating children;
- c. Promote the reduction of time youth spend engaged in sedentary activities such as watching television and playing video games; and
- d. Encourage the development of and participation in family-oriented community-based physical activity programs.

The District will annually inform the public:

- Of the web address where the policy is located;
- Of any changes made to this policy since the previous year;
- Of the health and wellness priority goals in the District's SDSP;
- That a printed copy of the policy may be picked up at the District's central office; and
- The amounts and specific sources of funds received and expenditures made from competitive food and beverage contracts.

Assessment of District's Wellness Policy

At least once every three years, with input from the SNPACC, the District shall assess both the District as a whole and individual schools' status in regards to the implementation and compliance of the goals of this policy, including the health and wellness goals in the District's SDSP. The assessment shall be based, at least in part, on:

- The extent to which District schools are in compliance with this policy;
- The extent to which this policy compares to other model local school wellness policies;
- The annual reviews of this policy based on modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, and 11 of the CDC's School Health Index; and
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

On the years the assessment occurs, the assessment results shall be reported to the public, including parents, students, and other members of the community as part of the District's annual report to the public.

The District will update the wellness policy based on the results from the three (3) year assessment.

District Website

The District will place on its website:

- The name, District phone number, and District email address for the District Level School Health Coordinator;
- The names, district phone numbers, and district email addresses for the School Level School Health Coordinators;
- The names of the members of the wellness committee;
- Meeting dates for the wellness committee;
- Information on how community members may get involved with the SNPAAC wellness committee;
- A copy of this policy;
- A copy of the annual review of this policy based on modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, and 11 of the CDC's School Health Index; and
- A copy of the most recent three (3) year assessment of this policy.

Legal References: Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act 42 U.S.C. § 1751 et seq. as amended by PL 111-296 (Section 204) of 2010. (Section 204 is codified at 42 U.S.C. § 1758(b))
Child Nutrition Act of 1966 42 U.S.C. § 1771 et seq.
7 C.F.R. § 210.18
7 C.F.R. § 210.31
A.C.A. § 6-15-2919
A.C.A. § 6-16-158
A.C.A. § 6-18-234
A.C.A. § 6-18-719
A.C.A. § 6-20-709
A.C.A. § 11-5-116
A.C.A. §§ 20-7-133, 134, and 135
DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards And Body Mass Index For Age Assessment Protocols Allowable Competitive Foods/ Beverages - Maximum Portion Size List for Middle, Junior High, and High School
Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-010
Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-013
Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-016
Nutrition Standards for Arkansas Public Schools

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025

Last Revised: May 2, 2025

SCHOOL, HOME, AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

6.1—COMMUNICATION GOALS

The single most significant factor in student achievement is the teacher. The teacher's effectiveness is greatly enhanced when supported by the school community as a whole, the student's home, and the community at large. The Arkansas General Assembly and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education have demonstrated their understanding of the importance of involving such groups by repeatedly mandating their inclusion in the educational system and process. Communication with staff, parents, grandparents, legal guardians, business, and community members is fundamental to increasing their concern for, and involvement in, raising student achievement.

Communication should be two-way between the District and the public. The communications program shall strive to:

1. Increase mutual understanding, trust, and support between the District and parents, business, and the community as a whole;
2. Keep District staff regularly informed of upcoming District programs and events as well as noteworthy staff and student accomplishments to enable all the staff to help promote positive public relations;
3. Create and disseminate brochures, flyers, and fact sheets that will help parents and community members better understand school policies and procedures and acquaint them with areas where their volunteer services are most needed;
4. Inform legislators of the accomplishments of the District's students and staff, as well as how proposed legislation could affect the district;

5. Maintain good relations with the news media and provide the media with pertinent news releases; and
6. Increase the participation of parents, grandparents, legal guardians, business, and community members in school activities and programs.

The Board will appoint committees, when appropriate, to help the District examine issues facing it. Such committees may include members of the public, students, parents, and school employees, as well as members of the Board. Members may serve until the committee makes its non-binding recommendations to the Board.

Any committee, which includes among its members a member of the School Board, shall operate according to the requirements of the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

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, with the most recent annual report posted by September 1 of each year. 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. § 6-15-1005(c), (f)(1)(2)
A.C.A. § 6-16-603 (a) (3)
A.C.A. § 6-18-2003
A.C.A. § 25-19-106
Standards for Accreditation 3-B.1, 3-B.2, 3-B.2.1, 5-A.1
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards 4.0; 10.03
DESE Rules Governing Documents Posted To School District And Education Service Cooperative Websites

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

6.2—RELATIONS WITH SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

The Board recognizes and values the many contributions support organizations make to the District's schools. Parent/teacher organizations and booster clubs work to augment and strengthen the District's educational and extracurricular objectives through the goods and services they provide.

Groups wishing to be recognized as a support organization must have open membership and have their by-laws approved by the school principal, the Superintendent, and the Board. School personnel

shall assist approved booster organizations in their efforts to the extent practicable. Meetings of such organizations, cleared through the principal, shall not be subject to school use fees. School staff members are encouraged to attend and participate.

Fund-raising activities are to be approved in advance by the principal or his/her designee. Prior to the donation of equipment and/or supplies to the school, the organization should seek the advice of the principal to help ensure the compatibility of the donation with present school equipment. All equipment donated to the District becomes the property of the District.

Date Adopted: July 8, 2002
Last Revised:

6.3—PUBLIC GIFTS AND DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOLS

The District and the Board of Education may receive monetary gifts or donations of goods or services that serve to improve or enhance the goals of the District. Any gifts to the District become the property of the District and are subject to the same regulations as any other District owned property.

It is a breach of ethical standards and a violation of Arkansas law for any Board member, administrator, or District employee to receive a gift of any kind in return for employment with the District, or to influence the award of any contract or transaction with the District. All personnel shall examine the “reasonableness” of any gift or donation against its potential for real or perceived violation of the aforementioned ethical standards before accepting any gift or donation in the name of a school or the District.

The Board reserves the right to not accept any gift or donation that would not contribute to the attainment of District goals or that would obligate the District to unacceptable outlays of District resources. The administration shall present for Board consideration and approval any gifts or donations the administration deems could so obligate the District.

The Board will strive to honor the donor’s intent regarding gifts earmarked for a specific purpose; however, laws and District’s needs change with time and the District reserves the right to adjust the use of any gift to meet current needs of the educational program.

The Board authorizes the superintendent, or the superintendent’s designee, to act as the District’s official representative for all school-affiliated online fund raisers.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-24-110
 A.C.A. § 6-24-112

Date Adopted: July 8, 2002
Last Revised: June 19, 2017

6.4—VOLUNTEERS

Enlisting the support of volunteers is a way the District can expand the scope of resources and knowledge available to enrich the students' educational experiences, while strengthening the relationship between the school and the community. Volunteers can also perform non-instructional tasks that allow licensed personnel more time to devote to instruction.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining a program to coordinate the services volunteers are willing and able to contribute with the needs of District personnel. The program shall establish guidelines to ensure volunteers are aware of pertinent District policies and rules. Volunteers who violate school policies or rules, or knowingly allow students to violate school rules, may be asked to leave the school campus. The guidelines should also include a provision for evaluation of the volunteer program and a method for soliciting suggestions from both the volunteers and staff for its improvement.

All volunteers who intend to act as head coaches or assistant coaches must:

1. Be at least twenty-two (22) years of age; and
2. Meet the requirements adopted by the Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) to volunteer for any athletics program for grades seven (7) through twelve (12).

A member of the board of directors of the District or the spouse of a member of the board of directors of the District may not be a registered volunteer for the District unless a majority of the disinterested members of the Board of Directors approves a resolution for the board member or board member's spouse to be a registered volunteer. The resolution approving the board member or board member's spouse to be a registered volunteer shall be effective for only one (1) school year.

A volunteer may act as a head coach in all varsity junior and senior high sports administered by the AAA except in the following sports:

- Football;
- Basketball; and
- Track and field.

Background Checks for Volunteers

For the purposes of this policy, "clear background check" means that:

- A background check was performed on the potential school volunteer in accordance with A.C.A. §§ 12-12-1601 et seq.;

- The potential school volunteer has not committed any of the crimes or offenses contained in A.C.A. §§ 6-17-410, 6-17-411 or 6-17-414 according to both the National and Arkansas background checks;
- The potential school volunteer's name was not found on the Child Abuse Central Registry; and
- The Arkansas Educator Licensure System does not indicate the potential volunteer to:
 - Have a currently suspended or revoked educator's license; or
 - Be the recipient of a current Level 3 or Level 4 public notification of ethics violation.

A person wishing to volunteer in a capacity that requires a background check may not perform volunteer services requiring a background check until a clear background check is received by the District. Once received, a clear background check is good for 5 years; a background check renewal must be applied for and a clear background check received prior to the time of renewal or an interruption of permitted volunteer service could occur. A clear background check will be accepted of any individual wishing to volunteer provided it was conducted within the timeframe provided for in this policy.

The Application for an initial background check may be made through the District administrative office. The District may charge the potential volunteer the same fee charged by the State of Arkansas for performing the check. For a volunteer who has passed his/her previous background check, the District will incur the fee charged by the State of Arkansas for performing a renewal background check.

A person who failed a previous background check may petition the Board for a waiver from this policy's requirement. The petition shall be accompanied by a signed authorization for disclosure of the individual's entire criminal and child abuse registry history. In deciding whether to grant a waiver, the board may take into consideration: the circumstance or circumstances surrounding the act or omission that lead to the conviction, Child Abuse Registry true finding, or the receipt of the Level 3 or Level 4 Public Notification of Ethics Violation; the age of the person at the time of the act or omission; the length of time that has passed without reoffending; and other relevant circumstances. If the Superintendent recommends a waiver be granted, the Board may adopt a resolution by majority vote providing an exception to this policy's requirement for a time period not to exceed five (5) years. The board must consider this matter in open session, and may not confer or deliberate in closed or executive session.

The board shall not have the authority to waive the application of this policy to any potential volunteer who is a Registered Sex Offender or whose educator license has been revoked or is currently suspended.

Clear background checks for school volunteers are required for those individuals who are required to be or who seek to become Registered Volunteers, as defined in A.C.A. § 6-22-102 et seq. In addition to volunteers wishing to participate in the registered volunteers program, clear background checks are required for:

- 1: School volunteers who wish to accompany students on overnight school trips.
- 2: School volunteers who wish to volunteer to work one-on-one or in small groups of five (5) or fewer students, such as a tutor or a mentor.

No information relating to the application for or receipt of a criminal background check, including that a background check has or has not been applied for, shall be subject to disclosure under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act, as provided by A.C.A. §§ 12-12-1601 et seq. Requests for background checks and reports on background checks obtained under this policy shall be retained by the district for a minimum of three (3) years.

The superintendent or a third-party vendor shall report to the state board the name of any person working as a registered volunteer in an athletic coaching capacity who:

1. Has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or has been found guilty of any felony or misdemeanor listed in A.C.A. § 6-17-410(b);
2. Has been arrested or charged with any felony or misdemeanor listed in A.C.A. § 6-17-410(b);
3. Has intentionally compromised the validity or security of any student test or testing program administered or required by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE);
4. Has knowingly submitted falsified information or failed to submit information requested or required by law to DESE, the State Board, or Arkansas Legislative Audit; or
5. Has a true report in the Child Maltreatment Central Registry.

The District shall maintain the following information on volunteers:

- a. The total number, location, and duties of all volunteers;
- b. The total number of annual hours of service provided by volunteers; and
- c. Any reimbursements made to volunteers for expenses, transportation, or other costs incurred in connection with volunteer services.

Volunteers who are mandated reporters will be made aware of their status as mandated reporters of child maltreatment and will receive training on the responsibilities of a mandated reporter.⁷

Registered volunteers who will be working with students in an athletic coaching capacity or are in the process of obtaining a coaching certificate through the Arkansas Activities Association shall be informed that they are bound by the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators and shall receive training on the Code of Ethics.

At least once every three (3) years, registered volunteer coaches shall receive training related to the recognition and management of concussions, dehydration, or other health emergencies; students' health and safety issues related to environmental issues; communicable diseases; and sudden cardiac arrest. The training may include a component on best practices for a coach to educate parents of students involved in athletics on sports safety. Registered volunteer coaches shall maintain a Basic Life Support certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillation.

Legal References: A.C.A. §§ 6-17-301
A.C.A. § 6-17-410
A.C.A. § 6-17-411
A.C.A. 6-17-414
A.C.A. § 6-17-428

A.C.A. § 6-18-110
A.C.A. § 6-18-708
A.C.A. § 6-22-101 et seq.
A.C.A. §§ 12-12-1601 et seq.
A.C.A. § 12-18-402
A.C.A. § 12-18-909(g)(21)
A.C.A. § 21-13-101 et seq.
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing
Background Checks
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing
the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators

Date Adopted: June 10, 2025
Last Revised: May 2, 2025

6.5—VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

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 and receive authorization from the building principal or the principal's designee before the individual may enter the school proper. No one shall be exempt from this requirement. Visitors who are Level 3 or Level 4 sex offenders may only enter a school campus under the provisions listed in Policy 6.10.

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 classtime 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.

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.

Cross References: For non-adult visitors see Policy 4.16—STUDENT VISITORS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-21-606
A.C.A. § 6-21-607

Date Adopted: July 8, 2002
Last Revised: July 16, 2024

6.6—FUND RAISING

All fund raising activities held in the District or in the name of the District must be pre-approved in writing by the Superintendent and affected school principal. Approval will be predicated on the potential for return relative to the time and energy to be invested in the fund raising. Fund raising that conflicts excessively with and/or detracts from student or teacher instructional time in either the planning or the execution of the activity will not be approved.

Neither an individual school nor the District shall be liable for any contract between clubs or organizations and third parties.

Student participation in any fund raising activity shall:

1. Be voluntary. Students who choose not to participate shall not forfeit any school privileges. It shall not be considered discriminatory to reward those who participate; and
2. Not influence or affect the student’s grade.

For purposes of this policy, “Door-to-door sales” means the selling of merchandise outside of the child's home and off the school grounds.

Secondary Schools

Fund raising in the secondary schools may only be done by officially sanctioned student clubs, spirit groups, school PTAs, or parent booster clubs. Student clubs and spirit groups must receive written approval from their sponsor and the school principal before submitting the fund raising proposal to the Superintendent.

Door to door fundraising activities are generally discouraged. If approved, students wishing to participate who are under the age of eighteen (18) must return to their sponsor a signed parental notification and permission form.

Elementary Schools (K-6)

Fund raising in the elementary schools may only be done by the school or a school sponsored organization. Door to door fundraising activities are generally discouraged, but there shall be no more than one (1) such activity per school per school year.

Schools must provide written notification of the following to parents or legal guardians of elementary students who participate in fund raising programs:

1. Student participation in fund raising programs is voluntary;
2. Students who do not participate will not forfeit any school privileges;
3. Students may not participate in fund raising programs without written parental permission returned to school authorities;
4. An elementary student who sells fund raising merchandise door to door must be accompanied by a parent or an adult; and
5. Unless the school provides supervision, parents must accept responsibility for appropriate adult supervision.

Online Fund Raisers

All school-affiliated online fund raisers must be approved by the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee. The superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall act as the point of contact for all school-affiliated online fund raisers. An employee may be disciplined, up to and including termination, if the employee establishes:

- a. A school-affiliated online fund raiser without the permission of the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee; or
- b. The employee as the point of contact for a school-affiliated fund raiser instead of the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee.

For purposes of this policy, a "school-affiliated online fund raiser" includes, but is not limited to, a fund raiser intended to raise funds for a particular teacher's classroom, grade, student club or organization, or athletic team.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-1102
 A.C.A. § 6-18-1104

Date Adopted: July 8, 2002
Last Revised: June 19, 2017

6.7—COMPLAINTS

It is a goal of the Board and the District to be responsive to the community it serves and to continuously improve the educational program offered in its schools. The Board or the District welcomes constructive criticism when it is offered with the intent of improving the quality of the system's educational program or the delivery of the District's services.

The Board formulates and adopts policies to achieve the District's vision and elects a Superintendent to implement its policies. The administrative functions of the District are delegated to the Superintendent, who is responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the District. Individuals with complaints concerning personnel, curriculum, discipline (including specific discipline policies), coaching, or the day to day management of the schools need to address those complaints according to the following sequence:

1. Teacher, coach, or other staff member against whom the complaint is directed
2. Principal
3. Superintendent

Other than in the few instances where statutorily allowed or required, student discipline and personnel matters may not be discussed in Board meetings. Individuals with complaints regarding such matters need to follow the sequence outlined above.

Unless authorized by the Board as a whole for a specific purpose, no individual Board member has any authority when acting alone. District constituents are reminded that the Board serves as a finder of fact, not unlike a jury, in matters such as student suspensions initiated by the Superintendent, expulsions, and personnel discipline. For this reason, the board may not be involved or informed prior to a board hearing on particular disciplinary matters.

Complaints that are related to district use or administration of federal funds generated through specific programs identified by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and authorized in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act may be taken directly from a patron or by referral from DESE. If taken directly from a patron, the complaint may be submitted by either a signed statement or by a certified, recorded deposition or statement in which the complainant is identified. The complaints shall be addressed in the following manner:

1. The complaint shall be referred to the federal programs director, who shall assemble a team of at least two (2) people to investigate the complaint.
2. Throughout the investigation, sufficient notes and records will be taken and maintained to substantiate the position of the findings of the investigation.
3. The team will interview the complainant and others as necessary to enable the team to make a determination of the validity of the complaint. The team may consult with individuals with knowledge or expertise in the matter which is the subject of the complaint, including legal counsel.
4. The investigation of complaints referred by the DESE shall be completed within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the complaint, unless a longer time period has been approved by the DESE.
5. The investigation of complaints made directly to the district shall be completed within forty (40) calendar days unless there are extenuating circumstances; in such a case, a preliminary report shall be made within forty (40) calendar days of receipt of the complaint, which shall include an explanation of the unusual circumstances requiring additional time to complete the investigation.
6. The report of the conclusions of the investigation shall be given to the complainant. It shall contain:
 - a. A summary of the allegations of the complaint;
 - b. A summary of the investigative actions taken by the team;
 - c. A summary of the findings concerning each alleged violation or implied violation; and
 - d. A statement of corrective actions needed to resolve the issues involved in each allegation and finding of the complaint.

Date Adopted: July 8, 2002
Last Revised: June 13, 2019

6.8—DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIALS

The District shall devise and maintain a system for distributing District communications and other printed materials between the Administration and the schools. Use of the system by employees or employee organizations shall be with prior approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Distribution of printed materials, flyers, photographs, or other visual or auditory materials not originating within District schools to students or staff shall have prior approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Date Adopted: July 8, 2002
Last Revised:

6.9—MEDIA RELATIONS AND NEWS RELEASES

It is important that the District maintain good relations with the media. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall devise and implement a plan for the release of pertinent information to the media regarding educational programs, awards, or other student and staff achievements, and special events. The plan shall not require schools to clear the release of public service announcements through the District Administration prior to their release, but may require schools to obtain the approval of the District Information Office* prior to the release any statistical type data.

The District shall attempt, within reason, to accommodate media requests for interviews and shall endeavor to be fair and impartial in its treatment of media representatives.

The release of information to the media shall be done in a timely manner, either by written releases or by telephone interviews, to keep patrons abreast of newsworthy District achievements and shall strive to be factual and objective with personal opinions duly noted.

The Board encourages students and staff to participate in academic competitions and programs. Awards earned in such endeavors shall be communicated to the media. Award recipients may also be recognized at Board meetings.

Date Adopted: July 8, 2002
Last Revised:

6.10—SEX OFFENDERS ON CAMPUS (MEGAN’S LAW)

The Huntsville School District shall work with area law enforcement in a manner consistent with applicable state law and Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules to communicate the presence of a sexual offender. When necessary, law enforcement may contact building principals to provide information concerning registered sex offenders. The decision regarding the school principals to be notified rests solely with law enforcement officials; law enforcement officials use a rating system to determine who needs to be notified, which is according to the sex offender’s dangerousness to the community.

In turn, building principals should notify any employee who is regularly in a position to observe unauthorized persons on or near the school’s property in the ordinary course of their employment. Employees notified could include any of the following: aides, bus drivers, coaches, maintenance staff, professional support staff, school level administrative staff, security personnel, teachers’ assistants, and teachers.

It is important that school personnel who receive sex offender notifications understand that they are receiving the sex offender notifications in their official capacity and are **not** to disseminate information about an offender to anyone outside the school. If school personnel are asked about notification information by an organization using school facilities, the organization should be referred to the area law enforcement agency that issued the notice.

Persons **not** to be notified, except at the specific discretion of area law enforcement officials, include: members of parent-teacher organizations, other schools, organizations using school facilities, students, parents or guardians of students, and the press. District personnel may inform the press about procedures that have been put in place and other general topics, but may not reveal the name or any other specifics regarding an offender.

A parent or guardian who is a Level 1 or Level 2 sex offender shall be allowed to enter the school campus to attend parent-teacher conferences or any other activity that is appropriate for a parent, guardian, or community member.

Level 3 and Level 4 sex offenders may only enter the school campus in the following instances:

1. The offender is a student attending school in the district;
2. To attend a graduation or baccalaureate ceremony;
3. It is a non-student contact day according to the school calendar or no school-sponsored event is taking place on campus;
4. The offender is a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the district and goes directly to the school office to have school personnel deliver medicine, food, or personal items for the student;
5. The offender is a parent or guardian of a student and enters the school campus where the student is enrolled to attend a scheduled parent-teacher conference **and** the offender is escorted to and from the conference by a designated school official or employee.

A Level 3, but not a Level 4, sex offender may attend a school sponsored event for which an admission fee is charged or tickets are sold or distributed if the sex offender:

- Is the parent, guardian, great-grandparent, or is related by blood or marriage within the second (2nd) degree of consanguinity to a student enrolled in the public school; and
- Notifies the administration of the school in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours before the start of the event that he or she will be attending the event.

A Level 3 and Level 4 sex offender who is the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the district and who wishes to enter the school campus in which the student is enrolled for any other purpose than those listed above, must give reasonable notice to the school principal or his/her designee. The principal or designee may allow the sex offender to enter upon the campus provided there is a designated school official or employee to escort and supervise the sex offender while they remain on campus. The sex offender shall not enter upon the school campus until such time as a designated school official or employee is available.

Copies of the notification from law enforcement should be kept in a secure place accessible to teachers and staff, but should not be posted on school bulletin boards or made available to students or members of the community at large.

Legal References: Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Guidelines for “Megan’s Law”
 A.C.A. § 5-14-132
 A.C.A. § 12-12-913 (g)(3)
 A.C.A. § 28-9-212

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003

Last Revised: June 14, 2021

6.11—PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - DISTRICT

The Huntsville 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 affect 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.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318
A.C.A. § 6-15-1702
A.C.A. § 6-15-1703
A.C.A. § 6-15-1704
A.C.A. § 6-28-116
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Parental
Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement
Commissioner’s Memo COM-20-021

Date Adopted: April 14, 2003
Last Revise: June 5, 2023

6.12—PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - SCHOOL

Huntsville 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, Huntsville School shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parent, family, and community engagement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, families, and the community. To achieve such ends, the school shall work to:

1. Involve parents, families, and the community in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school;
2. Have a coordinated engagement program where the engagement activities of the school enhance the involvement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPPY, 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, Huntsville School shall develop a compact that outlines the responsibilities of parents, students, and the school staff in raising student academic achievement and in building the partnerships that will enable students to meet the State's academic standards.

Huntsville 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.

Huntsville 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.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1702
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1703
 A.C.A. § 6-15-1704
 A.C.A. § 6-28-116
 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Parental
 Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement
 Commissioner's Memo COM-20-021

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