# McLoud Public Schools Student and Family Guide to Success 2023-2024

The mission of McLoud Public Schools is to work together with families and our community to provide a safe, quality education that builds relationships while engaging and challenging all students.



**Every Student, Every Day, Whatever It Takes!** 

www.mcloudschools.us

#### **McLoud Board of Education**

President - Dustin Greenberg Vice-President - Bobby Howard Clerk - Shelton Mapira Deputy Clerk-Doug Vanscoyoc Member - Dustin Conley

#### **McLoud Schools Contact Information**

Ph: 405-964-3314
Web site: <u>www.mcloudschools.us</u>
SAFE Call 1-800-732-3225 x 651
Transportation Office: 405-964-3642

**Superintendent: Rhonda Hockenbury** 

Phone: 964-3314 ext. 5262

Assistant Superintendent/Special Services Director: Angie Drew

Phone: 964-3314 ext.4242

**Child Nutrition: Cindy Shamrock** 

Phone: 964-3314 ext. 6295

<u>Indian Education/Impact Aide:</u> Jami Eddings

Phone: 964-3314 ext 7214

<u>Gifted and Talented:</u> Melanne Greenwood

Phone: 964-3312 ext 5282

Director of Secondary Ed/Athletic Director: Joe Bob Ross

Phone: 964-3314 ext.6288

<u>School Nurse:</u> Tiffany Garrison Phone: 964-3314 ext. 4112

## **Message from the Superintendent**

Welcome back! I am excited for you and all of the opportunities that await you at McLoud Public Schools. This year will be filled with adventure, learning, academic growth, and celebration. I challenge each of you to set goals for yourself and work your hardest to achieve them. You have great administrators, teachers, and staff to support you along the way! Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year. - Rhonda Hockenbury

## **Message from the Assistant Superintendent**

McLoud parents, students, and staff, welcome back to a wonderful fun-filled school year! We are looking forward to partnering with you to ensure our students reach their full potential. Our staff is committed to providing high-quality learning experiences for the students of McLoud and anticipates a fantastic 2023-2024 school year. Together, I know we can make this school year one of growth and achievement for all students. If I can be of any assistance in the future, please don't hesitate to reach out. -Angie Drew

## **MPS/INFORMATION**

## **Vision**

Our district empowers all students to embrace learning.

## We Believe in a Growth Mindset

Students with a growth mindset are constantly trying to learn and grow to better themselves. They enjoy challenges and believe that their intelligence, talents, and basic abilities can be increased or enhanced through hard work and dedicated effort.

## District Core Values

- Working Together to Create a Culture of Respect and Excellence
- Celebrating the Whole Child and their Potential
- Taking Personal Responsibility for our Growth and Success

## **MPS/INFORMATION**

## EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY Board Policy AE



The philosophy of the McLoud Public School System is based on the concept that the school exists for individual students at all socioeconomic levels. It should concentrate on providing, through teaching and counseling, equal and adequate opportunities for all students to develop intellectually, physically, socially, and vocationally in order that they might make a contribution to society, that they might be capable of enjoying a cultural, moral, and spiritual life, and that they might recognize and accept their responsibilities in preserving the democracy which has provided for these opportunities.

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#### **Be Here, It's Important!**



Your child's daily attendance in school is critical to his or her academic and personal success. It is understandable that some challenges to your child's school attendance are unavoidable, such as an illness or a family emergency. However, it is important to understand the impact of absences from school, specifically if they become frequent.

## Did you know?

Students can suffer academically even if they miss one or two days of school per month.

### **Strategies to Improve Student Attendance**

- Make getting to school on time every day a priority in your family.
- Talk with your child about the importance of school
- attendance from an early age and the negative effects of too many absences.
- When necessary, create a safe space for your child to share what is keeping him/her from participating in

- school on a regular basis. Communicate any concerns with your school's staff as soon as possible.
- Have a backup plan for getting your child to school when there are difficulties with transportation, family illness, or other challenges.
- Schedule appointments for after-school hours whenever possible.
- Monitor students' school attendance to make sure your child is in class on time every day.
- Contact your child's school to discuss supports and services that can help maintain regular attendance.

## **MPS/ATTENDANCE**

\*(Elementary defined as grades PreK-6)

\* (Secondary defined as grades 7-12)

#### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

McLoud Public Schools requires that all students be in compliance with the school attendance laws of Oklahoma State below: Violation of the attendance policy may subject students to disciplinary action that may include contacting the District Attorney and/or administrative discipline.

#### SECTION 232: RECORDS OF ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS

"If a child is absent without valid excuse for four (4) or more class days within a four-week period or is absent without valid excuse for seven (7) or more class days within a semester, the attendance officer shall notify the parent, guardian or custodian of the child and immediately report such absences to the district attorney for juvenile proceedings pursuant to Title 10 of the Oklahoma Statutes and/or the local Juvenile Court.

#### The following are considered valid excuses in this policy:

- 1. Absences covered by a doctor's statement showing the date or dates the student was under a doctor's care. The statement must be presented within two (2) school days upon the student's return for the absence to be exempt. The student's return is subject to verification by a school official.
- 2. School Activities
- 3. Absences that occur as a result of religious holy days.
- 4. Court appearances
- 5. Funerals
- 6. Forty-eight (48) hours to treat and clear head lice with appropriate medical documentation upon return to school.

Family vacations are not exempted, and such absences will count toward the maximum absences allowed per semester.

#### The Principal will make the final decision concerning unusual circumstances.

Parents must call or contact the appropriate office on the day of the student's absence to report absences. If a parent does not call in, an effort will be made to contact the parent concerning their child's absence. Each student will be allowed one day for each day missed in this manner to make up work. The exception to this would be long-term semester assignments with due dates established by the teacher. Students who are tardy or are checked out before 3:20 pm will not be eligible for perfect attendance recognition. Except in cases of emergency, students should not be checked out before 3:20 pm. Students who have an excused absence will not qualify for perfect attendance awards.

#### ATTENDANCE RELATED INFORMATION/TARDY POLICY

A student is tardy to class if he/she isn't in the room when the tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m. Students who arrive after 8:15 a.m. are ineligible for perfect attendance recognition; likewise, students who are checked out early are ineligible for perfect attendance recognition. It is the parent's responsibility to get their students to school on time. Letters will be mailed to parents for repeat violations.

For students arriving after 8:00 a.m., parents/guardians (elementary) must walk students inside the building and check them in through the main office. Secondary students are allowed to check in independently. At the same time, a student leaving before 3:20 p.m. must check out through the main office.

If a student misses more than 15 minutes of a secondary class period, he/she will be marked in the grade book as absent from the class, and it will count toward the (8) days allowed per semester. Upon checking in, if a student is late to class more than 15 minutes, the student is still required to report to class.

#### **TRUANCY POLICY**

If a student leaves school during the day, he/she must be checked out through the office by their parent or guardian. Any student leaving school without permission from the office will be considered truant.

#### TARDY POLICY

A student is tardy to class if he/she isn't in the room when the tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m. Students who arrive after 8:15 a.m. are ineligible for perfect attendance recognition; likewise, students who are checked out early are ineligible for perfect attendance recognition. It is the parent's responsibility to get their students to school on time. Letters will be mailed to parents for repeat violations. For students arriving after 8:00 a.m., parents/guardians must walk students inside the building and check them in using the computer check-in system. At the same time, a student leaving before 3:20 p.m. must check out through the main office.

Records of tardies will be kept by each teacher. Three (3) tardies constitute an absence and will be counted as such in conjunction with the attendance policy. Excessive tardies may result in disciplinary action being taken.

#### <u>ATTENDANCE/ACTIVITIES POLICY</u>

The Superintendent and the Board of Education will annually review the scheduling of activities so that minimal interruptions occur in the instructional program of a child.

The Board of Education will appoint an Internal Activities Review Committee. The committee will be responsible for reviewing and approving any deviation from the activities policy. The committee will consist of all building principals, transportation director, athletic director, and one classroom teacher from each of the following: elementary (K-6), junior high (7-8), high school (9-12). The committee will recommend changes in policy to the Board of Education.

The maximum number of absences for activities, whether sponsored by the school or outside agency/organizations, which removes the student from the classroom will be ten (10) for any one class period of each school year. Activity absences are recorded by teachers utilizing the student reporting program, Wengage. Excluded from this number are state and national levels of school sponsored contests. State and national contests are those for which a student must earn the right to compete. The criteria for earning the right to represent the school in any activity or contest must be submitted in writing by local school sponsors and approved by the Board of Education.

## MPS/GENERAL INFORMATION

#### **NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

McLoud Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, qualified handicap, or veteran status. This institution is an equal opportunity employer. McLoud Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. For information concerning this policy contact Rhonda Hockenbury, (405) 964-3314, P.O. Box 240, McLoud, OK 74851.

#### **RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

It is the policy of the McLoud Board of Education that the residence of any child for school purposes shall be the legal residence of the parents, guardian, or person having legal custody who has assumed permanent care and custody of the child and holds legal residence within the district as defined in 70 O.S. Sec. 1–113 ©. Provided that such parent, legal guardian, person, or institution having legal custody contributes in a major degree to the support of such child, and that legal status has been determined either by legal parenthood, court–appointed custody, or by execution of a power of attorney to delegate care and custody powers to another person, as specified in HB 2536. Provided, further, that any child residing in the district who is entirely self–supporting shall be considered a resident of the school district if the child works and attends school in the school district.

The superintendent or designee may require the submission of evidence of residency in order to determine whether the student is eligible to attend the public schools or programs without payment of nonresident tuition. Such evidence may include, but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- 1. Proof of payment of local personal income tax or ad valorem taxes.
- 2. Title to a residential property in the district, or a valid unexpired lease agreement, or receipts for payment of rent on a district residence in which the applicant actually resides;
- 3. Proof of provisions of utilities;
- 4. A valid, unexpired motor vehicle operator's permit or motor vehicle registration;
- 5. Maintenance of voter registration;
- 6. Notarized affidavit verifying residence and that the affiant has assumed the permanent care and custody of the student. (The filing of a false affidavit shall be subject to punishment in accordance with 70 O.S. 1-1134 (a) (1).)

#### **ANNUAL NOTICE OF FERPA RIGHTS**

On March 1, 1998, the School Board of McLoud Public Schools adopted a "Student Record Policies and Procedures" policy for the school district. This policy is designed to meet the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). A copy of this policy will be kept in the superintendent's office and in each principal's office. In the course of a child's education, the McLoud School District will keep records as deemed necessary to provide programs to meet his/her needs and interests. A parent has the right to inspect and review any and all records, files, and data related to his/her child. These records will be available for such review at any time during the regular school day. It is the right of the student's parents, legal guardians, or an eligible student to seek to correct parts of the student's educational record which he/she believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's rights. This right includes the right to a hearing to present evidence that the record should be changed if the district decides not to alter it according to the parent or eligible student's request. The procedure for this is part of the "Student Records Policies and Procedures" policy.

It is the intent of the McLoud School District to limit the disclosure of the information contained in a student's educational records except: (1) by the prior written consent of the student's parent or the eligible student, (2) as directory information, or (3) under certain limited circumstances, as permitted by FERPA.

The McLoud School District proposes to designate the following personally identifiable information contained in a student's educational record as "directory information", and it will disclose that information without prior written consent: (1) the student's name; (2) the names of the student's parents; (3) the student's date of birth; (4) the student's class designation (i.e., first grade, tenth grade etc.); (5) the student's extracurricular participation; (6) the student's achievement awards or honors; (7) the student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team; (8) the student's photograph; and (9) the school or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in this school district.

Opt-out provision – Upon request, military recruiters and institutions of higher learning shall have access to secondary students' names, addresses, and telephone listings, unless an objection is made by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The building principal or designee shall notify parent(s)/guardian(s) that they may make this objection.

In case the parent of a student, a student or a former student who is 18 years old, or a citizen of the McLoud School District believes that the district is violating the Family Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), that person has the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education. The address is:

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202-4605 www.cd.gov/offices/OM/fpco

A translation will be provided for anyone not able to read and understand the policy or anyone not able to read and understand English

#### **OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE**

Students may apply for Oklahoma's Promise. To qualify for Oklahoma's Promise, a student must: be an Oklahoma resident; be the child of parents, custodians, or guardians who earn less than \$60,000 per year; graduate from an Oklahoma high school that is accredited by the State Board of Education. Applications must be completed during the school year in the 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grade year and be witnessed by the parent(s), custodian (s), or guardian(s), who agree to help the student comply with Oklahoma's Promise requirements. If all requirements are met, Oklahoma's Promise will pay a student's tuition. An application may be obtained from the school counselor. Refer to the school counselor for classes which are necessary for Oklahoma's Promise eligibility.

#### **DRIVING**

Permission to drive a motor vehicle onto and park on District premises is a privilege granted to students. This privilege is conditional upon the student driver complying with several rules, such as providing evidence the student has a license to operate a motor vehicle, having verification of insurance, and ensuring whatever vehicle the student drives onto school property, regardless of who owns the vehicle or rides in the vehicle, is clean of all items not allowed on District property under school discipline codes and handbooks. The privilege of driving a vehicle onto District property may be taken away for failure to comply with these requirements and may also be taken away for failure to operate a vehicle in a safe manner on District premises. The District has a vital interest in seeing that students, staff, patrons, and visitors on District premises are not subjected to harm due to the operation of vehicles. The purpose of this policy's application to students who drive vehicles on District premises is to protect the health and well-being of students, staff, patrons, and visitors who drive onto District premises or walk across District parking lots and other areas in which motor vehicles are permitted. Students driving cars or any type of motor vehicle to school MUST have a valid driver's license, insurance verification, and a McLoud school parking permit. The vehicle must be parked when first arriving and cannot be moved until the end of the school day unless special authorization is obtained.

Passengers are not to be transported in the back of pickup trucks. Any vehicle that is on school property may be subject to search by school officials. Students must park in the spaces located in the south parking lot. Students may not park in the JH parking lot. Students are asked not to cut through the parking lots. Violation of this request will jeopardize the student's privilege of driving his or her vehicle on campus for a period determined by the principal. Every driver is expected to obey all safety rules at all times with special emphasis around the school. DRIVING TO SCHOOL IS A PRIVILEGE THAT SHOULD NOT BE ABUSED. THERE WILL BE NO LOITERING IN THE PARKING LOT AT ANY TIME. LOITERING AT A VEHICLE MAY BE JUST CAUSE FOR A SEARCH.

#### **ACTIVITY/FIELD TRIPS**

For a student to be eligible to participate in any activity or field trip that takes him/her outside class time, including weekends, he/she must be in good standing academically with each teacher (Eligibility List). Classroom behavior will also be taken into account to qualify for field trips. Field trips in excess of two per grade per year will require special permission from school administrators. **Students must go and return in school transportation if provided**. Special arrangements must be made with the activity sponsor if students wish to go or return in a manner other than school provided transportation. Such request must be made in writing and given to the activity sponsor and then to the administrator.

#### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Pursuant to Senate Bill 815: "The board of education of each school district shall ensure that the public schools within the district observe approximately one minute of silence each day for the purpose of allowing each student, in the exercise of his or her individual choice, to reflect, meditate, pray, or engage in any other silent activity that does not interfere with, or impede other students in the exercise of their individual choices."

#### <u>**IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**</u>

TITLE 70, Section 1210.191, Oklahoma Statutes, 1970:

"Rules & Regulations for Immunization for School Children," As Amended June 1976

#### Legal Requirements

The law requires that parents or guardians of all minor children in grades pre-K through twelfth grade for all public, parochial, or private schools in the State of Oklahoma present a certificate of required immunizations upon school entry.

#### PLEASE READ THE BULLETS BELOW FOR ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Childcar e	Preschool- Pre KG	KG - 6 <sup>th</sup>	7-8	9-12	
4 DTaP	4 DTaP	5	5 DTP/DTAP*	** 5 DTP/DTap	
		DTP/DTAP**	& 1 Tdap		
		*	booster		
1- 4 PCV*	Not required for school				
3	3 IPV/OPV	4 IPV/OPV	4 IPV/OPV	4 IPV/OPV	
IPV/OPV		***			
1 MMR	1 MMR	1 MMR	2 MMR	2 MMR	
1 -4 Hib* & **	Not required for school				
3 Hep B	3 Hep B	3 Hep B	3 Нер	3 Hep B****	
			B****		
2 Hep A	2 Hep A	2 Hep A	2 Hep A	2 Hep A	
1	1 Varicella	1 Varicella	1 Varicella	1 Varicella	
Varicell					
a					

\*The number of doses of PCV and or Hib may range from 1 to 4 depending on the age of the child when the first dose is received

\*\* Children may be complete with three (3) or four (4) doses depending on the brand of Hib vaccine used.

\*\*\* If the 4<sup>th</sup> dose of DTP/DTaP is administered on or after the child's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday, then the 5<sup>th</sup> dose of DTP/DTaP is not required.

\*\*\*\* If the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose of IPV/OPV is administered on or after the child's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday, the 4th dose of IPV/OPV is not required.

\*\*\*\*\* Previously unimmunized adolescents 11 through 15 years of age may receive a two (2) dose series of Merck Adult Hepatitis B vaccine to comply with this requirement. All other children (younger or older) must receive three (3) doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.

- The table above lists the vaccines that are <u>required</u> for children to attend child care, preschool, kindergarten through twelfth grade. Additional vaccines may be <u>recommended</u> but are <u>not required</u>. For example, a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of the varicella vaccine is recommended before entering kindergarten, but not required by Oklahoma law.
- Children attending licensed childcare facilities must be up-to-date for their age for the vaccines listed.
- All measles, mumps, rubella (MMR), varicella, and hepatitis A vaccine doses must be administered on or after the child's first birthday (or within 4 days before the birthday.
- For doses given on or after January 1, 2003, the 5<sup>th</sup> dose of DTaP must be

- given on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday or within 4 days before the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. This rule does not apply to doses given before 2003.
- A parental history of a child having varicella (chickenpox) disease is acceptable in lieu of a varicella vaccine.
- Hib and PCV vaccines are not required for students in preschool, pre-kindergarten, or kindergarten programs operated by schools.
- It is not necessary to restart the series of any vaccine if the next dose due was not given on schedule because longer than recommended time intervals between doses do not affect final immunity.
- Children may be allowed to attend school if they have received the first dose in the series of any multi-dose vaccine <u>but must complete the series</u> <u>on schedule</u>. These children are "in the process of receiving" immunizations.

For further immunization information please call the Immunization Service at 405-271-4073 or 1-800-234-6196 or visit our website at <a href="http://imm.health.ok.gov">http://imm.health.ok.gov</a>

The official certification or immunization record card, ODH218B, is distributed by the Oklahoma State Department of Health. Other certification forms are acceptable only if they have the type and date of immunization given. The signature of a licensed physician or authorized representative of the State or local health department is required.

Releases from these immunization requirements by parental request, religious reasons, or due to health are acceptable. Forms for these releases may be obtained at the principal's office. New students are to bring immunization records when enrolling.

#### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL**

Any child who is determined to be afflicted with a contagious disease, as currently defined by the Oklahoma Department of Health, shall be prohibited from attending school until a health professional has determined that the child is free of contagious disease or that the disease is no longer contagious. When a student has been excluded from school for a contagious disease, a written medical statement will be required before re-entry to school. Please refer to the Oklahoma State Department of Health's **School health guide** for more information on some of the conditions-that may be considered contagious. Students that have been absent from school due to a medical procedure (which may include: surgery, bone injury, or mental illness) must bring a medical release to the school secretary or district nurse before re-entry to school. Students with vomiting or diarrhea must not have had an episode for 24 hours before returning to school. Any child that has been under a physician's care must present a doctor's release to the office to return to class. Students, who do not, will be sent home until one is provided.

<u>Temperature</u>: Students with a fever greater than 100° must be fever free for 24 hours without medication prior to returning to school.

#### **MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE**

What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal (men-in-jo-kok-ul) disease is a rare but sometimes fatal disease caused by a bacterium called Neisseria meningitis. The disease causes either meningitis, severe swelling of the brain and spinal cord, or meningococcemia, a serious infection of the blood.

Who is at risk from meningococcal disease?

Although the risk is extremely low, disease does occur. Babies less than a year old have the highest risk for meningococcal disease, but no vaccine is available to protect them.

Teenagers and young adults, aged 15 to 22 years, are at increased risk because of behaviors that spread the disease. On average two to three people in this age group get meningococcal disease every year in Oklahoma. More than half of these could be prevented by vaccines.

College freshmen living in dormitories have a greater chance of contracting the disease than other persons of their age. Others at increased risk are those with immune system problems, without a spleen, and traveling to parts of the world where the disease is more common.

How is the disease spread?

The disease is spread by droplets in the air and direct contact with someone who is infected. That includes coughing or sneezing, kissing, sharing a water bottle or drinking glass, sharing cigarettes, lipstick, lip-balm-anything an infected person touches with his or her mouth.

Is meningococcal disease dangerous?

Yes, every year in the United States about 2,500 people are infected and about 300 people a year die in spite of treatment with antibiotics. Of those who live, about 400 a year lose their arms or legs, become deaf, have problems with their nervous systems, become mentally retarded, or suffer seizures or strokes. This is why preventing the disease is important. If your child has symptoms of meningococcal disease contact your health-care provider immediately.

Signs and Symptoms of Meningitis

- Headaches
- Fever
- Chills
- Stiff neck
- Extreme tiredness
- Vomiting
- Sensitivity to light
- Rash of small purplish black-red dots

How can meningococcal disease be prevented?

Vaccines can prevent many types of meningococcal disease, but not all types.

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There are two vaccines available in the United States that protect against four of the five most common strains of meningococcal bacteria. The newest vaccine, called Menactra, or MCV4, is currently available for:

- Adolescents entering high school (15 years of age),
- College freshmen who live in dormitories
- Other people at high-risk 11 through 55 years of age.

There is a shortage of both vaccines because the company that makes the vaccines has not been able to keep up with the demand; therefore, it may be difficult to get the vaccine. However, healthcare providers are saving the vaccine for these groups.

The earlier vaccine, called Menomune or MPSV4, was effective in older children and teenagers but booster doses were needed every three to five years. The new vaccine protects against the same types of meningococcal bacteria and probably will not require booster doses. MPSV4 is still used for children 2 through 10 years old and adults over 55 who are at risk.

Teenagers and young adults can also reduce their risk by taking good care of themselves, eating a balanced diet, getting enough sleep and exercise, as well as avoiding cigarettes and alcohol.

#### **HEAD LICE**

Students found to have live head lice will be sent home at the end of the school day and parents/guardians will be notified. The discovery of a student with head lice will be kept in strict confidence. Students sent home will not be allowed to return to school without being seen by a health professional or may produce a label from an approved lice shampoo treatment bottle, and will then be inspected by the school nurse to assure treatment has been accomplished. If you are not financially able to purchase approved lice treatment shampoo, please talk with the school nurse, as outside resources may be available. The school nurse will work with families throughout the lice eradication process until the child is lice free.

#### **ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

Accident insurance is available to all students at the start of the school year. We suggest you consider this coverage especially if your family is not insured with a separate health policy. The school does not carry accident insurance on students.

## <u>NOTICE TO PARENTS REGARDING CHILD IDENTIFICATION, LOCATION, SCREENING, AND EVALUATION</u>

This notice is to inform parents of the child identification, location, screening, and evaluation activities to be conducted throughout the year by the local school district in coordination with the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Personally identifiable information shall be collected and maintained in a confidential manner in carrying out the following activities:

#### REFERRAL

Preschool children ages three (3) through five (5) and students enrolled in Pre-K-12 who are suspected of having disabilities which may require special and related services may be referred for screening and evaluation through the local schools. Local school districts coordinate with the Soonerstart Early Intervention Program in referrals for identification and evaluation of infants and toddlers who may be eligible for early intervention services from birth through two (2) years of age or for special education and related services beginning at three (3) years of age. The Oklahoma Area-wide Service Information System (OASIS), through a toll-free number (1-800-42-OASIS), also provides statewide information and referrals to local schools and other service providers.

#### **SCREENING**

Other screening activities may include: review of records and education history, interviews, observations, and specially developed readiness or educational screening instruments. Results of all screenings are made available to parents or legal guardians, teachers, and school administrators. No child shall be educationally screened whose parent or legal guardian has filed a written objection with the local school district.

Visual Screening – Fourth through Sixth Grade will participate in a vision screening annually at the elementary campus with Vizavance.

Educational Screening – Educational screening includes procedures for the identification of children who may have special learning needs, may be eligible for special education and related services, or need academic interventions. Each school district in the State provides educational screening.

- Second through twelfth grade students shall be screened as needed or upon request of the parents, legal guardian, or teacher.
- Students entering the public school system from another state or from within the state without previous educational screening shall be educationally screened within 6 months of the date of such entry.

#### **EVALUATION**

Evaluation means procedures used in accordance with Federal laws and regulations to determine whether a child has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that the child needs. The term means a procedure used selectively with an individual child and does not include basic tests administered or procedures used with all children in a school, grade, or class. Written consent of the parent or legal guardian for such evaluation must be on file with the local school district prior to any child receiving an initial evaluation for special education and related services purposes.

#### **COLLECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION**

Educational records containing personally identifiable information collected by schools in the identification, location, screening, and evaluation of children shall be maintained in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the <u>Policies & Procedures for Special Education in Oklahoma.</u> School districts develop and implement a local policy regarding the collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction of confidential student records. Parents may obtain a copy of the local policy from the local school district's administrator.

These are the rights of parents and children regarding personally identifiable information in accordance with FERPA.

- To inspect the student's educational records.
- To request the amendment of education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.
- To consent to disclose education records, except where consent is not required to authorize disclosure.
- To file complaints with the Family Policy and Regulations Office, United States Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202, concerning the alleged violations of the requirements of FERPA (34 CFR 99.1-99.67).
- To obtain a copy of the FERPA policy adopted by the local school district upon request being made to the local school administrator.

Before any major identification, location, or evaluation schools shall provide notice to parents. Accommodations for other languages or means of communications may be provided upon request. Such notice shall occur at least annually prior to conducting these activities and shall include the rights of parents under FERPA.

For further information, contact Special Services Director, McLoud Public Schools, PO Box 240, McLoud, Ok 74851, 405-964-3314.

#### <u>PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES</u>

Parent-Teacher conferences will be scheduled in September and February (Please check the school calendar for dates). The purpose of these conferences is to have teachers and parents meet face-to-face to discuss student progress. The conferences are of great importance for all concerned and should be attended if at all possible. Teachers will send home sign-up sheets at the appropriate time to schedule these conferences. Conferences are typically scheduled for a fifteen minute duration; if more time is needed, please schedule to meet with the teacher another day.

#### **SAFE SCHOOL REWARDS**

Rewards may be available for information on vandalism, possession of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, drug paraphernalia, dangerous weapons, larceny of school property, or any behavior that would endanger the students, faculty, or staff of McLoud Schools. Any information received will be kept confidential.

#### **DISRUPTIVE ITEMS**

Items which are disruptive to the educational process are not allowed at school. Examples of such items are radios, tape players, electronic equipment, toys, trading cards, or other items disruptive to the educational process. Earbuds/Headphones are allowed before school, after school, and at lunch at the Secondary level. The administration reserves the right to add other items which they deem inappropriate in an educational environment. Items brought to school in violation of this policy that are stolen will not be searched for.

#### **DRUG-FREE SCHOOL**

(Federal Regulations)

Illegal and Illicit Drugs, (Drug Paraphernalia), Tobacco and Alcohol

- a. Use of illicit drugs and unlawful possession and use of alcohol or tobacco is wrong and harmful; therefore, we advocate a "NO USE, NO TOLERANCE" policy.
- b. McLoud School has a smoke-free, tobacco-free campus. Use of tobacco by students is prohibited by law. Students are not permitted to smoke, chew, dip, use, or have in their possession any tobacco during school hours. This policy is in effect during all school-sponsored activities.
- c. Students are prohibited from using, being under the influence of, possessing, furnishing, or selling alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or other mood-altering substances at school, while in school vehicles, or at any school-sponsored event.
- d. "Illicit drugs" includes steroids and prescription and over the counter medications being used for an abusive purpose, i.e., when they are not used in compliance with the prescription or directions for use and are not being used to treat a current health condition of the student. "Mood-altering substances" include paint, glue, aerosol sprays, and similar substances.
- e. Violation of this rule will result in the imposition of disciplinary measures, which may include suspension for the remainder of the current term and the following term.
- f. Student violation of this rule, which also constitutes illegal conduct, will be reported to law enforcement authorities.

#### 2. Necessary Medications

- a. Students may not retain possession of and self-administer any medication at school for any reason with the exception of prescription inhalers.
- b. Students who have a legitimate health need for over-the-counter or

prescription medication at school shall deliver such medication to the school nurse or principal with parental authorization, in compliance with Oklahoma law and school policy and procedures regarding administering medicine to students.

c. Violations of this rule will be reported to the student's parents by the principal and may result in discipline, which can include suspension.

#### 3. Distribution of Information

- a. Information for students and their parents about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and reentry programs in this geographic area is available from the principal at each student's school.
- b. Copies of these rules shall be provided to all students and their parents at the beginning of each school year.

#### 4. Illicit use of Drugs and/or Alcohol

a. Illicit use of drugs and or alcohol during the school day and or school activities may be subject to drug testing and disciplinary action by the school and or law enforcement agencies. Refusal to submit to drug testing will result in disciplinary action.

#### **VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE**

In order to recognize and pay tribute to veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II or the Korean War, an Oklahoma state law has been enacted which authorizes school districts to grant high school diplomas to those veterans who are eligible. To be eligible for a high school diploma pursuant to this act a veteran shall:

- 1. Have been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States of America.
- 2. Have served on active duty or have been discharged with a service-connected disability between the dates of September 16, 1940, and December 31, 1946, or between the dates of June 17, 1950, and January 31, 1955.
- 3. Be a resident of the state of Oklahoma.

The date of November 11 is hereby designated "Veterans Day" in and for the public schools of this state. In any year in which the date of November 11 is a Saturday or Sunday or classes are not in regular session, the public schools of this state shall observe the previous school day as "Veterans Day" as provided for in this section.

#### **CELL PHONES**

All school organizations hold learning as a core value. It is imperative that school districts be sensitive to changes in technology and culture which increase the probability of student academic growth. All secondary students

are provided a school owned device to meet digital learning requirements. Naturally, cell phones possess functions which if used inappropriately can disrupt the learning environment and create the possibility for other problematic behavior. Ultimately, in a changing world, we must be willing to respond by embracing innovation but also limiting potential risks. Realizing the undeniable benefits, McLoud Public Schools adopts the policy of acceptable cell phone usage at school while creating reasonable expectations for limits of use that do not provide a benefit to the school environment. Possession and use of a cell phone must fall within these guidelines:

- 1. A device (chrome book or computer) will be checked out to students for use at the Secondary level. In nearly all circumstances, cell phone usage is no longer required for class learning activities. Therefore, the expectation is that student cell phones will remain on silent and be put away and not used during class time.
- 2. Teachers will have students use the district provided digital device for class activities. The use of cell phones will only be allowed in special circumstances, for specific learning activities, and at the direction of the teacher.
- 3. Cell phones must be on silent upon entering the site building, unless directed by the teacher, and remain on silent through the remainder of the class day.

4. Access for charging will vary from building to building.

- 5. Cell phone cameras and audio recorders may be only used for specific educational benefit and only with prior permission of the teacher or administrator.
- 6. Considerable leniency for cell phone use will be allowed in emergency situations. However, cell phone use should not interfere with the student's ability to follow directions or adhere to safety advisement from school personnel.
- 7. Cell phones may be used in other areas within the school, on school grounds, and on school transportation as designated by the administration. Designated areas may vary from school to school with the district.
- 8. Students who choose to bring cell phones to school do so at their own risk. The school district assumes NO LIABILITY for lost or stolen cell phones.
- 9. Watches that possess activated functionality as a cellular device (cell phone) will fall under the provisions of this policy.

Student use of cell phones at McLoud Public Schools is a privilege, not a right. Failure to adhere to established guidelines will result in consequences similar to the consequences levied for other disruptions to the educational process including the confiscation or banning of cell phones. Cell phone abuse will result in the following punitive measures:

- 1st Offense: Phone taken away until end of day (to be picked up by student). The offense logged on Wengage with a warning.
- 2nd Offense: Phone picked up by parents during school hours and or consequence deemed adequate by the site administrator.

 3rd Offense: Loss of privileges to use any electronic device on District property.

\*Certain steps may be bypassed, and other punitive measurements may be enacted based on the severity of the offense.

\*Under NO circumstances will a student be academically punished for not owning or possessing a cell phone.

#### **CELL PHONE GUIDELINES FOR ELEMENTARY (ONLY)**

Possession and use of a cell phone must fall within these guidelines:

- 1. Elementary students' cell phones must be turned off and put away upon entering the school building.
- 2. Teachers have the authority to allow phone usage in their respective classrooms for educational purposes.
- 3. Use of student phones will not be allowed during cafeteria or recess.
- 4. School electrical outlets will not be used as charging stations for student cell phones.
- 5. Cell phone cameras and audio recorders may be only used for specific educational benefit and only with prior permission of the teacher or administrator.
- 6. Considerable leniency for cell phone use will be allowed in emergency situations, however, cell phone use should not interfere with the student's ability to follow directions or adhere to safety advisement from school personnel.
- 7. Students who choose to bring cell phones to school do so at their own risk. The school district assumes NO LIABILITY for lost or stolen cell phones.

Student use of cell phones at McLoud Public Schools is a privilege, not a right. Failure to adhere to established guidelines will result in consequences similar to the consequences levied for other disruptions to the educational process including the confiscation or banning of cell phones. Cell phone abuse will result in the following punitive measures:

- 1st Offense: Verbal warning student turns off the phone in the presence of teacher and allowed to put away.
- 2nd Offense: Phone is taken away and sent to the office parent will be notified phone may be picked up at the end of the day.
- 3rd Offense: Logged in Wengage with a loss of privileges (loss of recess, detention, site-based work detail). Further consequences will be determined by the Site Principal
- \*Certain steps may be bypassed, and other punitive measures may be enacted based on the severity of the offense.
- \*Under NO circumstances will a student be academically punished for not McLoud Public School 2023-2024 Guide to Success

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owning or possessing a cell phone.

#### **DRESS CODE**

It is the intent to permit students to dress according to current fashions and at the same time restrict extremes and indecencies which distract and/or disrupt the main purpose of the educational program. Due to the relationship between one's appearance and behavior, students must be dressed in reasonable and modest appropriate attire that will not cause distraction disruption.

Any attire which disrupts the educational process is prohibited. The student dress code applies at school, on school vehicles, and to participants at school-sponsored or authorized activities. Students who are dressed inappropriately will be asked to change and may be counted absent from any classes they miss.

The principal's discretion will judge questionable attire. Faculty may be asked to articulate how reported violations create a disruption to the teaching/learning process. Violations may result in disciplinary action. The principal may make exceptions for spirit days or special activities. Pre Approval is required.

The following is a general guide regarding proper dress.

- 1. Apparel should be of appropriate length to assure that areas where typical undergarments are located are not visible.
- 2. No frayed, shredded, holey, ripped, or torn garments that expose skin above the minimum length requirements for shorts and skirts may be worn.
- 3. Leggings and tights must be covered by an opaque top that covers the essential hip/pelvis area of the student.
- 4. Halter tops, off-the-shoulder tops, bare midriff tops, tank tops, backless garments, mesh shirts, muscle shirts, or outer garments that have the appearance of underwear or sleepwear are prohibited. Clothing that is too tight or loose (including "sagging") is not to be worn. The student's torso, chest, or undergarments should not show at any time, including while sitting, bending, or leaning. Sleeveless blouses must cover most of each shoulder. Necklines should be modest and appropriate.
- 5. Offensive writing, suggestive slogans, or logos which pertain to beer, liquor, drugs, or tobacco, or carry connotations of immorality, vulgarity, obscenity, or nudity, or promotion of violence on any person or article of clothing, belt buckles, jewelry, school materials, etc. will not be allowed.
- 6. Students must wear shoes. Cleats, house shoes, roller shoes, or shoes that limit physical activity or safety should not be worn. Blankets are not allowed except for PreK. students during afternoon rest periods.
- 7. Headgear may not be worn inside the buildings at any time. Examples include, but are not limited to caps, hats, bandannas, and sunglasses. Hoods on sweatshirts or sweaters may not be worn over the head inside the buildings at

any time. Exceptions for approved school activities, religious or medical reasons are at the discretion of the building principal.

8. Any known gang/cult related attire or personal grooming is prohibited. Students may not wear colors, clothing, or identified articles denoting gang/cult membership.

9. Biker or animal chains/collars/spikes may not be worn. Jewelry or personal items or manner of dress which could cause harm to self or others may not be

worn.

10. Clothing normally worn when participating in a school-sponsored extracurricular activity or sports activity may be worn to school when approved by the school administration. No costumes outside of spirit days.

Exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of the building principal as there may be clothing, hairstyles, or accessories not specifically addressed herein that are so disruptive to the educational process that the principal may need to take immediate corrective action.

#### **BOOKS, BELONGINGS, AND MONEY**

All money brought to school is the responsibility of the parent and child. The school will not assume responsibility for individual books, purses, or belongings left unattended in classrooms, in lockers (including P.E. and athletics), or on school grounds. At the discretion of the building principal, book bags, gym bags, backpacks, etc. may be prohibited at school and/or required to remain inside the student's assigned locker throughout the school day.

#### **DELLVERIES**

Due to personnel limitations and to avoid interruptions of the school's academic environment, McLoud Public Schools must vet and limit parents' delivery of food, flowers, balloon bouquets, or similar items intended to acknowledge individual students. Exchange of goods must be delivered by a parent or legal party designated by guardian(s) on Wengage. Third-party deliveries will not be accepted unless prior approval is given by the site principal.

#### **RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS**

McLoud Public Schools will be fully compliant with all provisions of Senate Bill 615 (2022 Session).

The excerpt below outlines guidelines for student use. Students who need reasonable accommodations described above should contact the school Principal for further guidance and assistance.

"...To ensure privacy and safety, each public school and public charter school that serves students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grades in this state

shall require every multiple occupancy restroom or changing area designated as follows:

- 1. For the exclusive use of the male sex; or
- 2. For the exclusive use of the female sex.

Each public school or public charter school in the state shall provide a reasonable accommodation to any individual who does not wish to comply with the provisions of subsection B of this section. A reasonable accommodation shall be access to a single occupancy restroom or changing room...."

Reference: SB 615 (2022).

"Only one student at a time is allowed to be inside bathroom stalls or single occupancy restrooms. Students violating this rule are subject to disciplinary action to include the possibility of suspension from school."

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

McLoud Public Schools urges extreme caution in the use of social media platforms by our students. Many social media platforms allow users to create multiple accounts. This allows students to create accounts that are not readily identifiable. This means that a student could create an account where other students are targets of comments and media which might be demeaning, embarrassing, disrespectful, and even illegal. Often it requires a police report filed on the part of the parent to attempt to secure assistance in finding out the real identity of an account. McLoud Public Schools staff will attempt to investigate all claims; however, parents should be advised that our ability to identify person(s) using the account for inappropriate purposes may be impossible. We would encourage parents to monitor their student's social media presence and even consider limiting their child's use of social media to responsible platforms.

#### **CAFETERIA MEAL PRICES FOR 2023-2024**

Meal prices are available prior to the start of school. Contact the child nutrition director, school office, or school cafeteria.

Free and reduced lunch applications are available to all students. Criteria and eligibility information are determined by federal and state regulations. Information is available on these programs in the principal's office. Refunds for overpayment of cafeteria bills will be given per written request by parents. Students not wishing to purchase meals may bring their lunch and must eat in the cafeteria or in the student lounge. Students must adhere to the following rules during lunch:

- 1. Respect the rights of others; do not "cut" in the lunch line.
- 2. After eating, leave the table as clean as possible for the next person.

- 3. Take tray, eating utensils, and empty cartons to the receiving window.
- 4. Cafeteria food must remain in the cafeteria.

There is no place where the lack of proper social training will manifest itself more obviously than at the table. McLoud students are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen. Hats will not be worn in the cafeteria.

STUDENTS MAY CHARGE UP TO 10 DAYS. AFTER THAT TIME ALL CHARGES MUST BE PAID OR THE STUDENT WILL BE SERVED AN ALTERNATE MEAL.

#### **PROCEDURE FOR ELECTING QUEEN CANDIDATES**

To be a queen candidate, a student must be currently enrolled in grades 9-12 and must not be on the ineligible list, either probation or ineligible from the time of selection until the completion of the coronation. The athletes (basketball players for basketball, football players for football, wrestlers for wrestling, and soccer players for soccer) will nominate \*THREE senior queen candidates and two attendants from each class. The student body will then elect a senior as queen. Once a person has served as queen during the school year, she may not be considered as a candidate for any queen position that school year.

In basketball and soccer, boys will nominate two candidates one year while the girls will nominate one candidate. The following year girls will nominate two candidates with the boys nominating one candidate. The following will be the schedule:

2023-2024 girls two---boys one

#### **OFFICIAL MCLOUD LETTER JACKET**

The official McLoud Letter Jacket has a red body with white sleeves. A McLoud Letter "M" may not be displayed on any other color-combination letter jacket worn at school or during school functions. The school shall contract with a supplier at least once per school year to provide an opportunity for students to purchase a letter jacket at a competitive price.

#### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All students are expected to act with civility, personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights, and property; and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their own efforts. An environment of academic integrity is requisite to respect for self and others and a civil community.

Academic integrity includes a commitment to not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation, or deception. Such acts of dishonesty include cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another person's work as one's own, using internet sources without citation, taking or having another student take your exam, tampering with the work of another student, facilitating other

students' acts of academic dishonesty, etc. Lack of academic integrity can result in administrative disciplinary consequences.

#### **MEDICAL MARIJUANA**

Students whose medical condition requires the use of medical marijuana are allowed to access and utilize marijuana in accordance with state law. School personnel are not legally permitted to administer medical marijuana to students. The district will provide a private location for a caregiver to administer medical marijuana to students at school. Oklahoma law limits who may act as a caregiver and any caregiver will have a medical marijuana license designating them to act on behalf of a student. The caregiver is responsible for bringing the medical marijuana to the qualifying student and promptly removing the medical marijuana from the premises after consumption or use. Upon arriving at school, the caregiver will follow district protocol with regard to check-in and departure.

There will be no smoking on school premises of any substance 24/7 in accordance with the state's no smoking law. At no time will marijuana be grown or stored on school premises.

School employees will not under any circumstances:

- a. Assist students in obtaining or using medical marijuana;
- b. Store medical marijuana for students;
- c. Take and/or use a student's medical marijuana;
- d. Serve as a student's designated caregiver, unless the student is the child or in the legal custody of the employee.

The district reserves the right to discipline employees or students who fail to adhere to Oklahoma law and/or the requirements of this policy. Such disciplinary action will be addressed in accordance with the student discipline code and/or the standards of conduct for employees. Employees may be subjected to termination or non reemployment.

If a student has specific procedures regarding medical marijuana that are written into the student's Individual Education Program (IEP) and such procedures are consistent with state and federal law, those provisions will take precedence over this policy.

## **MPS/DISCIPLINE**

#### STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The McLoud Board of Education believes that the school's primary goal is to educate, not discipline. However, education includes establishing norms of social behavior and assisting students in understanding and attaining those norms. When the behavior of an individual student comes into conflict with the rights of others, corrective actions are necessary for the benefit of the individual and the school. The teacher of a child attending a public school has the same rights as a parent or guardian to control and discipline that child while the child is in attendance on campus, on district transportation, or while participating in any school function authorized by the school district.

Each student will be treated in a fair and equitable manner. Disciplinary action will be based on a careful assessment of the circumstances surrounding each infraction. The following are some examples of these circumstances:

- The student's attitude.
- The seriousness of the offense
- The effect of the offense on other students.
- Whether the incident is isolated or habitual behavior.
- Any other circumstances which may be appropriately considered.

Standards of behavior for all members of society are generally a matter of common sense. The examples of behavior listed below are not acceptable in society, generally, and in a school environment, particularly. The involvement of a student in these kinds of behaviors will generally require remedial or corrective action. These examples are not intended to be exhaustive, and the exclusion or omission of an unacceptable behavior is not an endorsement or acceptance of such behavior. When, in the judgment of a teacher or administrator, a student is involved or has been involved in unacceptable behavior, appropriate remedial or corrective action will be taken.

- 1. Unexcused lateness to school.
- 2. Unexcused lateness to class.
- 3. Cutting class or leaving class without permission.
- 4. Leaving school without permission.
- 5. Refusing recess detention and/or in-school detention.
- 6. Tobacco use.
- 7. Truancy.
- 8. Possessing or using alcoholic beverages or other mood-altering chemicals.
- 9. <u>S</u>tealing.
- 10. Forgery, fraud, or embezzlement.
- 11. Assault, physical and/or verbal or fighting.
- 12. Students who instigate fights but are not actively involved.

- 13. Possession of weapons.
- 14. Distributing obscene literature.
- 15. Destroying/defacing school property.
- 16. Open defiance of teacher/administrative authority.
- 17. Profane language.
- 18. Public display of affection.
- 19. Bullying.
- 20. Displaying any threatening behavior, whether a pattern of behavior or isolated action, or directed at another person, that a reasonable person would believe indicated potential for future harm to students, school personnel, or school property.
- 21. Failing to follow district policy for wireless telecommunications devices
- 22. Violating the rules of the school

In administering discipline, consideration will be given to alternative methods of punishment to ensure that the most effective discipline is administered in each case. In all disciplinary actions, teachers and administrators will be mindful of the fact that they are dealing with individual personalities. The faculty may consider consultation with parents to determine the most effective disciplinary measures.

In considering alternatives for disciplinary actions, the faculty/administration of the school district will consider the alternatives listed below. However, the school is not limited to these alternative methods, nor does this list reflect an order or sequence of events to follow in disciplinary actions. The Board of Education will rely upon the judgment and discretion of the administrator to determine the appropriate remedial or corrective action in each instance. When administrators have reasonable belief during their investigatory work that violations have occurred (i.e. fights, a sexual offense, weapon, drugs, vandalism) the police will be notified in a timely manner.

In considering alternatives for disciplinary actions, the faculty/administration of the school will consider the following:

- 1. Conference with student.
- 2. Conference with parents.
- 3. Lunch/Recess Detention.
- 4. In-school Detention.
- 5. Referral to school counselor.
- 6. Behavior contract.
- 7. Changing student's seat assignment.
- 8. Requiring a student to make financial restitution for damaged property.
- 9. Requiring a student to clean or straighten items in facilities damaged by his/her behavior.
- 10. Restriction of privileges.

- 11. Involvement of local authorities.
- 12. Referring students to appropriate social agency.
- 13. Corporal punishment.
- 14. Suspension.
- 15. Expulsion.
- 16. Other appropriate disciplinary action as required and as indicated by the circumstances.

The school is not limited to these alternative methods, nor does the list reflect an order or sequence of events to follow in disciplinary actions.

Teachers will keep records concerning disciplinary actions for each student outlining methods used to remedy problems (i.e., classroom/behavior modifications, revoking privileges, contacting parents, etc.). <u>After</u> classroom disciplinary measures have failed, the teacher will write an office referral accompanied by the student agenda. When the student reports to the office the following steps may be taken: The severity of the offense may require more serious consequences; for example, out of school suspension.

#### **DANGEROUS WEAPON**

- 1. In order to provide a safe environment for the students and staff of the McLoud School District, the Board of Education adopts this policy prohibiting the possession of dangerous weapons and replicas and facsimiles of dangerous weapons.
- 2. Dangerous weapons, including but not limited to firearms, are a threat to the safety of the students and staff of the School District. In addition, possession of dangerous weapons, or replicas or facsimiles of dangerous weapons, disrupts the educational process and interferes with the normal operation of the School District.
- 3. For the foregoing reasons and except as specifically provided in paragraph 13 below, possession by any student or employee of a dangerous weapon, as that term is defined in this policy, or a replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, while on school property, at a school-sponsored activity, or on a school bus or vehicle, is prohibited.
- 4. For purposes of this policy, "possession of a dangerous weapon" includes, but is not limited to, any person having a dangerous weapon: (1) on his person; (2) in his locker; (3) in his vehicle; (4) held by another person for his benefit; or (5) at any place on school property, a school bus or vehicle, or at a school activity with such person's knowledge or the weapon's location.
- 5. A dangerous weapon includes, but is not limited to, a pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, air gun or spring gun, slingshot, bludgeon, blackjack, brass knuckles, or artificial knuckles of any kind, nunchucks, dagger, bowie knife, dirk knife, butterfly knife, any knife the blade of which can be opened by a flick of a button or pressure on the handle, any pocketknife where the blade is carried in a partially opened position, any pocket knife that can be locked in place, razor, dart, ice pick, explosive smoke bomb, incendiary device, sword cane, hand chains, or any replica or facsimile thereof.

- 6. Any student in possession of a dangerous weapon, or a replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, in violation of this policy, may be placed under emergency suspension from school, pending an investigation of the incident by the appropriate school or legal authorities. Students who violate this policy may be suspended from school and all activities for any period of time up to the maximum period authorized by law. Additionally, school administrative staff members may seek to file criminal charges against the student.
- 7. Any employee in possession of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, in violation of this policy may, pursuant to applicable board policy, be placed under immediate suspension from duties pending an investigation of the incident by the appropriate school or legal authorities and may be dismissed or subjected to other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the superintendent of schools or board of education. In addition, School District employees who willfully or negligently fail to enforce this policy are subject to disciplinary action, which may include dismissal. Any disciplinary action for any employee, including dismissal, will be in accordance with any Board policy and any negotiated agreement which is applicable to the employee.
- 8. If a teacher or other school employee has a reasonable suspicion to believe that a student is in possession of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, the teacher or employee shall immediately investigate the matter and shall confiscate any such weapon found if this can be accomplished without placing any student or staff in jeopardy, and shall immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee. If the teacher or employee does not believe that the weapon can be confiscated safely, the teacher or employee shall immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee of the situation.
- 9. If a teacher or other school employee has a reasonable suspicion to believe that any employee or other person is in possession of a dangerous weapon, or a replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, in violation of this policy, he shall immediately report the matter to his immediate supervisor or the superintendent of schools or his designee.
- 10. If the principal or his designee learns that a student or employee is believed to be in possession of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile, thereof, the principal or designee shall observe the following procedure:
  - a. Immediately investigate the matter and contact the police, if appropriate.
  - b. If not already confiscated by an employee of the School District and if it can be accomplished without risk of injury, the principal or designee.
  - c. Notify the superintendent of schools or designee.
  - d. In the case of a student, notify the parents.
  - e. Cooperate fully with the police.
  - f. Transfer confiscated weapons to the police department.
- 11. Except as may be required by law for disabled and handicapped students, McLoud Public School 2023-2024 Guide to Success

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any student in possession of a dangerous weapon, replica, or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, shall not be eligible for placement in any alternative education program, intervention program or be eligible to transfer to another School District school site in lieu of suspension.

12. A student, who has been suspended from another school district because of the possession of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, shall not be allowed to attend McLoud Schools.

13. An exception to this policy may be granted for students or employees participating in an authorized curricular or extracurricular activity or team involving the use of demonstration of a dangerous weapon, or replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon. For this exception, written prior approval by the principal, in consultation with the superintendent of schools, is required.

14. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, the rights of due process for all students and the rights of handicapped and disabled students must be

observed in accordance with applicable law and school board policies.

#### PROCEDURE FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

The principal of the school shall suspend a student according to the following procedure: The principal may, if deemed in the best interest and/or safety of the school and students to suspend at any time. (Educational plan for out of school suspension will be provided on an individual basis)

Efforts will be made to notify the student and the parent/guardian orally or in writing, stating the reason and terms of the suspension and the student's right of appeal before the Suspension Committee (consisting of two teachers and two other administrators) of a suspension of more than ten (10) days. Written notification of an appeal to the Suspension Committee must occur within five school days from the date of the suspension notification. The Suspension Committee will notify the student and his/her parent/guardians of its decision and inform them of the student's right of appeal to the Superintendent.

In the event of an appeal to the Superintendent, a written notification of an appeal must occur within five school days from the date of the Suspension Committee's findings. The Superintendent will notify the student and his/her parents/guardians, in writing, of the Superintendent's decision and the student's right to appeal to the Board of Education.

#### **SUSPENSION OF STUDENTS K-12**

The term suspension or suspended as used in this policy and Oklahoma Law means that the student has been removed from attendance at any school. Alternative in-school placement, in-school restrictions, detention, and similar disciplinary options or correctional measures are not considered by law to be out-of-school suspensions and therefore, do not require or involve the due process procedures set forth herein.

Students may be suspended from school for engaging in any of the following while on school grounds, on school vehicles and buses, at school-sponsored or sanctioned activities/events, or at designated school bus stops:

- 1. Creating or attempting to create a classroom disturbance
- 2. Disobeying a school teacher or administrator willfully and openly
- 3. Using profanity or vulgar language or expressions
- 4. Defying the school administrator's authority
- 5. Fighting
- 6. Assaulting (physically and/or verbally), and/or battering a student or school employee, volunteer, or any other person
- 7. Assaulting (physically and/or verbally), and/or battering a school employee outside of school premises or outside of school activities if the assault has led, or is predicted to lead, to a disruption of the educational process
- 8. Possessing or using any dangerous instrument or a dangerous weapon as defined in the Oklahoma statutes as the following: "pistol, revolver, switchblade knife, spring-type knife, knife having a blade which opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button spring, or other device in the handle of the knife, blackjack, loaded cane, billy, hand-chain, metal knuckles, or any other offensive weapons."
- 9. Possessing, using, transmitting, selling or being under the influence of a narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, counterfeit drugs, non-intoxicating beverage, controlled or uncontrolled dangerous substance; and/or being in possession of, transmitting, or selling drug paraphernalia to include vapor products.
- 10. Inciting, encouraging, promoting, or participating in attempts to interfere with the normal educational process
- 11. Engaging in acts of immorality
- 12. Vandalizing, defacing, or causing damage to school property or any property
- 13. Continuing excessive absenteeism from school
- 14. Violating the rules and/or regulations of the school persistently
- 15. Possessing and/or using tobacco products
- 16. Stealing school property, property belonging to employees or students, or any other property 17. Possessing stolen property
- 18. Engaging in conduct which jeopardizes the safety of others
- 19. Joining or holding membership in secret clubs, fraternities, sororities, or other secret organizations
- 20. Harassing, intimidating, or bullying (either verbally or physically) a student, school employee, volunteer, or any other person (Ref: Sections 24-100.3 and 24-100.4 of Title 70, Oklahoma State Statutes)
- 21. Harassing, intimidating, or bullying a school employee outside of school premises or outside of school activities if the actions have led, or are predicted to lead, to a disruption of the educational process
- 22. Sexually harassing and/or engaging in misconduct toward a student, school employee, volunteer, or any other person
- 23. Sexually harassing a school employee outside of school premises or outside of school activities if the sexual harassment has led, or is predicted to lead, to a disruption of the educational process

- 24. Using any electronic communication, whether or not such communication originated at school or with school equipment, if the communication is specifically directed at students or school personnel and concerns harassment, intimidation, or bullying at school. ("Electronic Communication" means the communication of any written, verbal, or pictorial information by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, a cellular telephone or other wireless telecommunication devices, or a computer.)
- 25. Exhibiting any threatening behavior, whether a pattern of behavior or isolated action, or directed at another person, that a reasonable person would believe indicates potential for future harm to students, school personnel, or school property
- 26. Possessing any ammunition, including bullets, shells, explosive caps, explosives, etc.
- 27. Threatening bodily harm to a student, staff member, or school volunteer, or threatening harm to school/personal property
- 28. Attempting to cause physical bodily injury, or acting in a manner that could reasonably cause bodily injury to a school employee or a person volunteering for a school
- 29. Attempting to cause physical bodily injury, or acting in a manner that could reasonably cause bodily injury to a school employee outside of school premises or outside of school activities if the actions have led, or are predicted to lead, to a disruption of the educational process
- 30. Failing to follow district policy for wireless telecommunication devices or Electronic Network Usage
- 31. Violating the rules of the school MPS / Discipline In addition to the above, pursuant to Title 70 Oklahoma Statutes, Section 24-101.3, students who are guilty of any of the following acts may be suspended out-of-school by the administration of the school district:
- a. violation of a school regulation,
- b. immorality,
- c. adjudication as a delinquent for an offense that is not a violent offense. For the purpose of this policy, "violent offense" shall include those offenses listed as the exception to the term "nonviolent offense" as specified in Section 571 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes. "Violent offense" shall include the offense of assault with a dangerous weapon but shall not include the offense of assault, d. possession of an intoxicating beverage, low point beer, as defined by Section 163.2 of Title 37 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or missing or stolen property if the property is reasonably suspected to have been taken from a student, a school employee, or the school during school activities/events, and
- e. possession of a dangerous weapon or a controlled dangerous substance, as defined in the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act. Possession of a firearm shall result in out-of-school suspension for a period of not less than (1) one year as provided in Title 70, Oklahoma Statutes, Section 24-101.3. The term of this suspension may be modified by the district superintendent on a case-by-case basis. For the purpose of this policy, the term "firearm" shall mean and include all weapons as defined by 18 U.S.C., Section 921.

The principal shall exercise his/her discretion as to the length of time of the suspension. When determining whether cause exists for suspension or determining the length of a suspension, the student's prior history of disciplinary infractions may be considered, particularly when similar infractions have occurred in the past and other forms of discipline have not deterred such behavior. Before a pupil is suspended out of school, the principal shall consider and apply, if appropriate, alternative in-school placement options that are not to be considered suspension, such as placement in an alternative school setting, reassignment to another classroom, or in-school detention. Serious disciplinary cases may result in a student being suspended from school for the remainder of the present semester plus the succeeding semester.

#### **PROCEDURE OF APPEAL TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Any student suspended from school for more than ten (10) days, will have the right to appeal the decision of the Superintendent to the Board of Education. In the event a student desires to appeal a suspension to the Board of Education, the student will give written notice to the Superintendent at least five (5) days prior to the next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting. Five days means five (5) business days excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays legally declared by the State of Oklahoma. If such notice of appeal is not received by the designated time, said suspension will be considered final.

#### **SUMMARY**

Nothing in this policy will restrict the administrator or teacher from having the same right of control and discipline as that held by the parent in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma. Nothing in this policy will be construed to deny the student's right to fair and orderly hearings, appeals, counsel, and due process in cases which may end in suspension.

This policy will be interpreted by the principals and their designees in a manner which they deem just, given the circumstances of the individual case. Additionally, administrators will have the authority to enforce other reasonable disciplinary action which they find warranted by situations not covered in the disciplinary action alternatives.

Parents or guardians and the students residing in this school district will be notified at the beginning of each school year that such a policy is in effect. A copy of this policy will be made available to parents or guardians upon request at any time during the school year.

Teachers, parents, guardians, and students are invited and encouraged to participate in the formulation of disciplinary policies, rules, and regulations by suggesting to administrators appropriate means of discipline for specific infractions.

#### **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

Sexual harassment is a kind of discrimination. It means that someone is treated differently because of his or her sex. It is behavior or words that: are directed at a person because of his or her sex, are uninvited, unwanted, and unwelcome, cause a person to feel uncomfortable or offended, create an environment that makes learning difficult, may be repeated or may be very offensive on a one time basis.

Think about words or acts you direct at other individuals. Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of sexual harassment or harassment based on race, color, national origin, or disability by a student, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of the School District, or by any other person who is participating in, observing, or otherwise engaged in activities, including sporting events and other extracurricular activities should immediately report the alleged acts to the building counselor or administrator for investigation.

#### THREATS AND THREATENING BEHAVIOR

Pursuant to Oklahoma State Law - 70 O.S. 24-100.8 (OSCN 2018)

Law enforcement must be notified by any school employee upon any threat made to any person or property by a student.

- A. As used in this section, "threatening behavior" means any verbal threat or threatening behavior, whether or not it is directed at another person, which indicates potential for future harm to students, school personnel, or school property.
- B. An officer or employee of a school district or member of a board of education shall notify law enforcement of any verbal threat or act of threatening behavior which reasonably may have the potential to endanger students, school personnel, or school property.
- C. Officers or employees of a school district or members of a board of education shall be immune from employment discipline and any civil liability for communication information pursuant to subsection B of this section in good faith if they reasonably believe a person is making verbal threats or exhibiting threatening behavior.
- D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose a specific liability on any school district. Added by Laws 2018, c. 323, 1, eff July 1, 2018.

# **BULLYING POLICY**

McLoud Public Schools is committed to creating and maintaining a learning environment that is free from bullying and harassment. No student will be subject to bullying, hazing, or harassment, or other forms of persecution by student or employee. For the purposes of this policy, hazing is defined as the deliberate harassment of a student by means of rough practical jokes or

causing the student to perform meaningless, difficult, or humiliating tasks. Bullying is defined as a type of violence that occurs when someone uses his or her power unfairly and repeatedly to hurt someone else. Violence is defined as any word, look, sign, or act that hurts a person's feelings or things. This policy is not intended to deprive school district authorities of taking necessary and appropriate disciplinary action toward any student or employee. Students or employees who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

# PROHIBITING HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (REGULATION)

The McLoud Public Schools' student conduct code prohibits bullying. This regulation further explains the negative effects of that behavior and seeks to promote strategies for prevention.

# Statement of Board Purpose in Adopting Policy

The Board of Education recognizes that bullying of students causes serious educational and personal problems, both for the student victim and the initiator of the bullying. The board observes that this conduct:

- Has been shown by national and state studies to have a substantial adverse effect upon school district operations, the safety of students and faculty, and the educational system at large.
- 2. Substantially disrupts school operations by interfering with the district's mission to instruct students in an atmosphere free from fear, is disruptive of school efforts to encourage students to remain in school until graduation, and is just as disruptive of the district's efforts to prepare students for productive lives in the community as they become adults.
- 3. Substantially disrupts healthy student behavior and thereby academic achievement. Research indicates that healthy student behavior results in increased student academic achievement. Improvement in student behavior through the prevention or minimization of intimidation, harassment, and bullying toward student victims simultaneously supports the district's primary and substantial interest in operating schools that foster and promote academic achievement.
- 4. Substantially interferes with school compliance with federal law that seeks to maximize the mainstreaming of students with disabilities and hinders compliance with Individual Educational Programs containing objectives to increase the socialization of students with disabilities. Targets of bullying are often students with known physical or mental disabilities who, as a result, are perceived by bullies as easy targets for bullying actions.
- 5. Substantially interferes with the district's mission to advance the social skills and social and emotional well-being of students. Targets of intimidation, harassment, and bullying are often "passive-target" students who already are lacking in social skills because they tend to be extremely sensitive, shy, display insecurity, anxiety, and/or distress; may

have experienced a traumatic event; may try to use gifts, toys, money, or class assignments or performance bribes to protect themselves from intimidation, harassment, or bullying; are often small for their age and feel vulnerable to bullying acts; and/or may resort to carrying weapons to school for self-protection. Passive-target victims who have been harassed and demeaned by the behavior of bullies often respond by striving to obtain power over others by becoming bullies themselves and are specifically prone to develop into students who eventually inflict serious physical harm on other students, or, in an effort to gain power over their life or situation, commit suicide.

- 6. Substantially disrupts school operations by increasing violent acts committed against fellow students. Violence, in this context, is frequently accompanied by criminal acts.
- 7. Substantially disrupts school operations by interfering with the reasonable expectations of other students so that they can feel secure at school and not be subjected to frightening acts or be the victim of mistreatment resulting from bullying behavior. Bullying often involves expressive gestures, speech, and physical acts that are sexually suggestive, lewd, vulgar, profane, or offensive to the education or social mission of this school district, and at times involves the commission of criminal acts. This behavior interferes with the curriculum by disrupting the presentation of instruction and also disrupts and interferes with the student-victim or bystander's ability to concentrate, retain instruction, and study or operate free from the effects of bullying. This results in reluctance or resistance to attend school.

#### **Definition of Terms**

# 1. Statutory definition of harassment, intimidation, and bullying:

70 O.S. §24–100.3(c) of the School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act defines the terms "bullying," as including, but not limited to a pattern of harassment, intimidation, threatening behavior, physical acts, verbal or electronic communication, directed toward a student or group of students that results in or is reasonably perceived as being done with the intent to cause negative educational or physical results for the targeted individual or group and is communicated in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission or the education of any student that a reasonable person should recognize will:

- A. Harm another student;
- B. Damage another student's property;
- C. Place another student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or damage to the student's property; or
- D. Insult or demean any student or group of students in such a way as to disrupt or interfere with the school's educational mission or the education of any student.

#### 2. The "Reasonable Person" Standard

In determining what a "reasonable person" should recognize as an act placing a student in "reasonable" fear of harm, staff will determine

"reasonableness" not only from the point of view of a mature adult, but also from the point of view of an immature child of the age of the intended victim along with, but not limited to, consideration of special emotional, physical, or mental needs of the particular child; personality or physical characteristics, or history that might cause the child to be particularly sensitive to efforts by a bully to humiliate, embarrass, or lower the self esteem of the victim; and the discipline history, personality, and physical characteristics of the individual alleged to have engaged in the prohibited behavior.

3. General Display of Bullying Acts

Bullying, for purposes of this section of the regulation, includes harassment and intimidation, and vice versa. According to experts in the field, bullying, in general, is the exploitation of a less powerful person by an individual taking unfair advantage of that person, which is repeated over time, and which inflicts a negative effect on the victim. The seriousness of bullying acts depends on the harm inflicted upon the victim and the frequency of the offensive acts. Power may be, but is not limited to, physical strength, social skills, verbal ability, or other characteristics. Bullying acts by students have been described in several different categories.

- A. <u>Physical Bullying</u> includes harm or threatened harm to another's body or property, including, but not limited to, what would reasonably be foreseen as a serious expression of intent to inflict physical harm or property damage through verbal or written speech or gestures directed at the student-victim, when considering the factual circumstances in which the threat was made and the reaction of the intended victim. Common acts include tripping, hitting, pushing, pinching, pulling hair, kicking, biting, starting fights, daring others to fight, stealing or destroying property, extortion, assaults with a weapon, other violent acts, and homicide.
- B. <u>Emotional Bullying</u> includes the intentional infliction of harm to another's self-esteem, including, but not limited to, insulting or profane remarks, insulting or profane gestures, or harassing and frightening statement when such events are considered in light of the surrounding facts, the history of the students involved, and age, maturity, and special characteristics of the students.
- C. <u>Social Bullying</u> includes harm to another's group acceptance, including, but not limited to, harm resulting from intentionally gossiping about another student or intentionally spreading negative rumors about another student that results in the victim being excluded from a school activity or student group; the intentional planning and/or implementation of acts or statements that inflict public humiliation upon a student; the intentional undermining of current relationships of the victim-student through the spreading of untrue gossip or rumors designed to humiliate or embarrass the student; the use of gossip, rumors, or humiliating acts designed to deprive the student of awards, recognition, or involvement in school activities; the false or malicious spreading of an untrue statement or statements about another student that exposes the victim to contempt or

- ridicule or deprives the victim of the confidence and respect of student peers; or the making of false statements to others that the student has committed a crime, or has an infectious, contagious, or loathsome disease, or similar egregious representations.
- D. **Sexual Bullying** includes harm to another resulting from, but not limited to, making unwelcome sexual comments about the student; making vulgar, profane, or lewd comments or drawings or graffiti about the victim; directing vulgar, profane, or lewd gestures toward the victim; committing physical acts of a sexual nature at school, including the fondling or touching of private parts of the victim's body; participation in the gossiping or spreading of false rumors about the student's sexual life; written or verbal statements directed at the victim that would reasonably be interpreted as a serious threat to force the victim to commit sexual acts or to sexually assault the victim when considering the factual circumstances in which the threat was made and the reaction of the intended victim; off-campus dating violence by a student that adversely affects the victim's school performance or behavior, attendance, participation in school functions or extracurricular activities, or makes the victim fearful at school of the assaulting bully; or the commission of sexual assault, rape, or homicide. Such conduct may also constitute sexual harassment – also prohibited by McLoud Public Schools.

# Procedures Applicable to the Understanding of and Prevention of Bullying of Students

1. Student and Staff Education and Training

All staff will be provided with a copy of the district's policy on the prevention of bullying of students. All students will be provided a summary of the policy and notice that a copy of the entire policy is available upon request. McLoud Public Schools is committed to providing appropriate and relevant training to staff regarding the identification of behavior constituting bullying of students and the prevention and management of such conduct. Students, like staff members, shall participate in an annual education program that sets out expectations for student behavior and emphasizes an understanding of bullying of students, the district's prohibition of such conduct, and the reasons why the conduct is destructive, unacceptable, and will lead to discipline. Students shall also be informed of the consequences of bullying conduct toward their peers.

2. McLoud Public Schools' Safe School Committee

The safe school committee has the responsibility of studying and making recommendations regarding unsafe conditions, strategies for students to avoid harm at school, student victimization, crime prevention, school violence, and other issues that interfere with adversely affecting the maintenance of safe schools. With respect to student harassment, intimidation, and bullying, the safe school committee shall consider and make recommendations regarding professional staff development needs of

faculty and other staff related to methods to decrease student harassment, intimidation, and bullying and understanding and identifying bullying behaviors. In addition, the committee shall make recommendations regarding the identification of methods to encourage the involvement of the community and students in addressing conduct involving bullying; methods to enhance relationships between students and school staff in order to strengthen communication; and fashioning of problem-solving teams that include counselors and/or school psychologists.

In accomplishing its objectives, the committee shall review traditional and accepted harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention programs utilized by other states, state agencies, or school districts. (See also policy BDFC.)

# **Student Reporting**

Students are encouraged to inform school personnel if they are a victim of or a witness to acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

# **Staff Reporting**

An important duty of the staff is to report acts or behavior that the employee witnesses that appear to constitute harassing, intimidating, or bullying. Employees, whether certified or non-certified, shall encourage students who tell them about acts that may constitute intimidation, harassment, or bullying to complete a report form. For young students, staff members given that information will need to provide direct assistance to the student. Staff members who witness such events are to complete reports and to submit them to the building principal. Staff members who hear of incidents that may, in the staff member's judgment, constitute harassment, intimidation, or bullying, are to report all relevant information to the building principal.

Parents/guardians will be informed in writing of the district's program to stop bullying. An administrative response to bullying may involve certain actions to be taken by parents. Parents will be informed of the program and the means for students to report bullying acts toward them or other students. They will also be told that to help prevent bullying at school they should encourage their children to:

- 1. Report bullying when it occurs;
- 2. Take advantage of opportunities to talk to their children about bullying;
- 3. Inform the school immediately if they think their child is being bullied or is bullying other students;
- 4. Watch for symptoms that their child may be a victim of bullying and report those symptoms; and
- 5. Cooperate fully with school personnel in identifying and resolving incidents.

#### **RIGHT TO SEARCH**

The superintendent, principal, teacher, security personnel, or authorized person of the McLoud Board of Education, upon reasonable suspicion, shall have the authority to detain and search, or authorize the search of any pupil or property in the possession of the pupil when said pupil is on any school premises, or while in transit under the authority of the school, or while attending any function sponsored or authorized by the school, for dangerous weapons, or controlled dangerous substances, as defined in the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, intoxicating beverages, as defined by Section 163.2 of Title 37 of the Oklahoma Statutes or for missing or stolen property if said property be reasonably suspected to have been taken from a pupil, a school employee or school activities. The search shall be conducted by a person of the same sex as the person being searched and shall be witnessed by at least one other authorized person, said person to be of the same sex if practicable.

The extent of any search conducted pursuant to this section shall be reasonably related to the objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction. No student's clothing, except cold weather outerwear, shall be removed prior to or during the conduct of any warrantless search.

The superintendent or principal, teacher, or security personnel searching or authorizing the search shall have authority to detain the pupil to be searched and to preserve any dangerous weapons, controlled dangerous substances, intoxicating beverages, or missing or stolen property that might be in the pupil's possession including the authority to authorize any other persons they deem necessary to restrain such pupil or to preserve any dangerous weapons, or controlled dangerous substances, intoxicating beverages, or missing or stolen property.

Any pupil found to be in possession of dangerous weapons, controlled dangerous substances, intoxicating beverages, or missing or stolen property may be suspended by the superintendent or principal for a period not to exceed the current school term and the succeeding term. Any such suspension may be appealed to the McLoud Board of Education by any pupil suspended under this section if such request is made in writing by Certified Mail Return Receipt requested within five (5) days of notification of such suspension, written or oral, to the student, parents or legal guardian.

Pupils shall not have any reasonable expectations of privacy towards school administrators or teachers in the contents of a school locker, desk, or other school property. School personnel shall have access to school lockers, desks, and other school property in order to properly supervise the welfare of pupils. School lockers, desks, and other areas of school facilities may be opened and examined by school officials at any time, and no reason shall be necessary for such a search.

# <u>FIGHTING/ASSAULT</u>

Students are not allowed to engage in a fight or assault on school grounds, school buses, or school activities. Additionally, students who act as "look-outs" for students who are engaged in fighting/assaultive behavior, and who can warn students of the approach of staff members may be disciplined the same as students engaged in the fight/assault. Further, students who record a fight/assault on school grounds, school buses, or on school activities are in violation of school policy and may receive disciplinary action including suspension. Posting video recordings of fights/assaults on social media may be violations of school policy and procedure if the post establishes a substantial disruption to the school environment. Such actions could subject the student(s) responsible for the post to disciplinary measures including the possibility of suspension. Students who are present during a fight or assault should immediately find an adult and ask for assistance. Failure to follow this expectation could also result in disciplinary action including suspension from school.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

McLoud Public Schools provides safe transportation to all students who are legally eligible to ride to and from school. Students living more than 1.5 miles away from all school sites are eligible for bus service. Please feel free to call the Transportation office (964–3642) for any questions concerning the transportation program.

- 1. Students may be required to walk a short distance to a consolidated bus stop (possibly up to 0.5 miles). The bus will not travel down private roads
- 2. Passengers should be prompt in reporting to the bus stop. Usually, a five-minute arrival before the scheduled stop is ample. Schedules should normally be consistent, within a minute or two, except, of course, for the first week or so of school, until routes are "firmed up", and in case of a substitute driver or unforeseen traffic delays, or during severe weather conditions.
- 3. "Honk service" or "door to door" is not feasible. Of course, there may be days, especially during the bitter cold of winter when passengers seek shelter until bus arrival. In that event, passengers should be alert and prepared to board the bus without delay at the regular stop when the bus arrives.
- 4. Students wanting to ride on a bus other than their assigned bus will only be granted in emergency situations. Those students who wish to ride a bus other than their assigned bus (i.e. going home with a friend, going to a babysitter, etc.) should provide their own transportation. This means that parents are responsible for providing this type of transportation.

- 5. Students cannot get off the bus at any stop but their assigned bus stop without permission from the parent and the Transportation Office (964-3642). Students in grades 7-12 are not permitted to get off the bus at the elementary school without permission from the Transportation Office (964-3642).
- 6. Students must board their bus at the school site. Students cannot walk from the Secondary campus to the Elementary campus to board their bus.
- 7. Parents and students are responsible for the cost of repairs for damaged bus property caused by vandalism by the student.
- 8. When weather conditions in the school indicate a possibility of the existence of dangerous road conditions, every effort will be made to notify the news media by 6 am. Further, every effort will be made to return the pupil home at the regularly scheduled time.
- 9. The school district cannot be held responsible for items left on the bus.

#### TRANSPORTATION POLICY FOR DISCIPLINING PUPILS

Riding a school bus is a privilege, and the privilege may be revoked for not abiding by the bus rider rules. The driver of the school bus has the same authority over students as the teacher in the classroom.

Student misconduct on a school bus can endanger the lives of the pupils, drivers, and the general public. The driver shall report such incidents to the Director of Transportation by using a conduct report. The Director of Transportation will give each Building Principal a copy of each report and will contact the student(s) involved and parents. Types of passenger misconduct which may result in the student's loss of riding privileges include:

- a. Deliberate defiance-refusal to cooperate with the driver.
- b. Obscene and unacceptable language, gestures, remarks, or literature.
- c. Unusually loud talking or other undue noise.
- d. Throwing/shooting items of any kind.
- e. Scuffling/teasing/tormenting other students on the bus or at the bus stop.
- f. Fighting on the bus or at the bus stop.
- g. Deliberate delay of loading and unloading.
- h. Refusal to stay seated/turned around in the seat/standing/or moving around in the bus.
- i. Use of tobacco or tobacco products/matches/drugs/alcohol on the bus.
- j. Extending any part of the body or objects out of the window.
- k. Tampering with bus equipment.
- l. Vandalism and destruction of property.
- m. Restricted materials or items on the bus.
- n. Other violations endangering the safe operation of the bus.

Consequences of misconduct of student bus riders may include:

Transportation discipline procedures

1. For the first infraction, the student will receive a verbal warning and may also receive a safety notice from the bus driver. The safety notice will be sent home with the student. The bus driver may request that the safety notice be signed by a parent or guardian and returned on the next school day.

Any infractions that occur after verbal warnings have been issued, the student will receive a transportation discipline referral.

The following protocol will be followed:

- 1. First discipline referral will result in a student conference with the principal.
- 2. Second discipline referral will result in a 1 school day bus suspension.
- 3. Third discipline referral will result in a 4 school day bus suspension.
- 4. Fourth discipline referral will result in an 8 school day school bus suspension.
- 5. Fifth discipline referral will result in a 16 school day bus suspension.
- 6. Any student receiving 6 or more discipline referrals will be removed from the bus for the remainder of the semester.
  - 7. SEVERE CLAUSE: An immediate suspension from the bus will occur if the incident is serious, and jeopardizes the safety of the passengers.

NOTE: All transportation discipline referrals are tallied on a school year basis.

8. Appeal Procedure: All appeals should be initiated through the McLoud Transportation Director (964-3314 ext. 5514).

A parent/guardian desiring to appeal the issuance of a misconduct notice or subsequent punishment may do so by contacting the Transportation Director. (405-964-3314 ext. 5514) The Transportation Office shall notify the Building Principal of such a request. The appeal shall be heard within five school days of the request unless an extension is requested in writing by the parent. The request for an appeal hearing shall temporarily restrain the implementation of a suspension unless the Director of Transportation or the Building Principal determines that in the interests of bus safety and/or good order the suspension is necessary or the hearing cannot be conducted in a timely manner.

# **BUS RIDER RULES**

PRIOR TO LOADING, students should:

- 1. Be on time at the designated school bus stop. Keep the bus on schedule.
- 2. Stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus.
- 3. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to enter.

- 4. Be careful in approaching bus stops.
- 5. Respect people and their property while waiting on the bus.
- 6. Receive proper school official authorization to be discharged at places other than the regular bus stop.
- 7. Students shall cross at least 10 feet in front of the bus, never behind.

#### WHILE ON THE BUS, students should:

- 1. Keep all parts of the body inside the bus.
- 2. Refrain from eating and drinking on the bus.
- 3. Refrain from the use of any form of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
- 4. Assist in keeping the bus safe and clean at all times.
- 5. Remember that loud talking and laughing or unnecessary confusion diverts the driver's attention and may result in serious accident. THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN.
- 6. Treat bus equipment as you would valuable furniture in your own home. Damage to seats, etc. must be paid for by the offender.
- 7. Never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment.
- 8. Maintain possession of books, lunches, or other articles and KEEP THE AISLE CLEAR.
- 9. Help look after the safety and comfort of smaller children.
- 10. Not throw objects in or out of the bus.
- 11. Remain in their seats while the bus is in motion.
- 12. Refrain from horseplay and fighting on the school bus.
- 13. Be courteous to fellow pupils, the bus driver, and any driver's assistants.
- 14. Remain quiet when approaching a railroad crossing stop.
- 15. Remain on the bus during road emergencies except when it may be hazardous to their safety.
- 16. Follow the directions of the driver in case of an accident or breakdown.

# **AFTER LEAVING THE BUS, students should:**

- 1. Go at least ten (10) feet in front of the bus, never behind, stop, check traffic, and wait for the bus driver's signal, then cross the road.
- 2. Go home immediately, staying clear of traffic.
- 3. Help look after the safety and comfort of smaller children.

  The above rules and regulations apply to any extra-curricular trips.

# SECTION 304.050, RSMO SCHOOL BUSES:

The driver of a vehicle upon a highway upon meeting or overtaking from either direction any school bus which has stopped on the highway for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school children and whose driver has in the manner prescribed by law given the signal to stop, shall not proceed until the school bus resumes motion, or until signaled by its driver to proceed.

# <u>Publication of Policy</u>

Annual written notice of this policy will be provided to parents, guardians, staff, volunteers, and students with age-appropriate language for students. Notice of the policy will be posted at various locations within each school site, McLoud Public School 2023-2024 Guide to Success

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including but not limited to, cafeterias, school bulletin boards, and administrative offices. The policy will be posted on the school district's website at <a href="https://www.mcloudschools.us">www.mcloudschools.us</a> and at each school site that has an Internet website. The policy will be included in all student and staff handbooks.

#### **VISITORS**

Upon entering the building, all visitors must report to the office and acquire a visitor's badge, school board members, local fire/safety, etc). This holds true for all campus buildings, playgrounds, etc. Parents/guardians will remain in the office when checking students in and out of school.

The administration and faculty encourage visits from parents to discuss the schoolwork of their children. Such visits promote a better understanding of the efforts of the school. However, visitors who desire private conferences with the student or teacher should make their requests through the office. STUDENTS NOT ENROLLED IN MCLOUD SCHOOLS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO VISIT CLASSES.

#### REMOVAL OF NON-STUDENTS FROM INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING

The chief administrative officer or anyone designated by him to maintain order at an institution of learning shall have the authority and power to direct any person to leave the institution of learning who is not a student, officer, or employee thereof, and who:

- 1. Interferes with the peaceful conduct of activities at an institution of learning; or
- 2. Commits an act which interferes with the peaceful conduct of activities at an institution of learning; or
- 3. Enters the institution of learning for the purpose of committing an act which may interfere with the peaceful conduct of activities at an institution of learning.
- 4. Student privacy rights (FERPA) restricts parent access to classrooms while students are receiving instruction. Please communicate classroom concerns to the site administrator for directions on intervention.

# **HALL TRAFFIC AND BEHAVIOR**

When the first bell, 8:00 a.m., rings in the morning, students should go immediately to their classrooms. The second bell, 8:05 a.m., is the tardy bell and students not in the classroom will be considered tardy. Loitering in the halls is not permissible.

In the hall at class change time, students are to keep to the right. Keep to the right in single file with their teacher. Inappropriate behavior such as running, jumping, and shouting will not be allowed. They should cut through traffic lanes only when arriving at their destination.

All students who are permitted to leave their classroom during class time must have their teacher's permission. This should be kept at an absolute minimum.

A hall pass is required before leaving the classroom. Students may be required to maintain a school provided ID in their possession.

While at school and at school functions, students are expected to address all faculty members by their names, preceded by Mr., Mrs., Miss, or Coach.

PLEASE NOTE: Camera surveillance on campus.

# **RESPECT FOR EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES**

Each student is expected to assume responsibility for the care of all school property. Students who damage property are responsible for paying for the damage. Damage of a malicious nature will be considered a very serious matter and must be repaired or replaced at the expense of the student at fault. Disciplinary action may follow such conduct.

# **OBLIGATIONS**

Students that have obligations, financial and otherwise, will not receive grade reports until obligations are met.

# MPS/CURRICULUM

#### **DIPLOMA PROGRAMS (High School)**

In an effort to encourage all students to plan their class loads so that they can achieve the best education possible, the administration and faculty of McLoud High School have established three (3) diploma programs. Participation in any program is voluntary. Completing the requirements in the program will earn the graduate a CORE CURRICULUM, COLLEGE PREP/WORK READY, diploma or an HONORS diploma. For the 2023-2024 school year graduates must fulfill one of the listed diploma tracks.

# **CORE CURRICULUM DIPLOMA (High School)**

The Core Curriculum Diploma is for those students whose parents opt them out of the College Prep/Work Ready Curriculum. Under McLoud High School and State of Oklahoma guidelines, all graduating seniors will be required to earn twenty-three (23) units. This diploma will be issued to students who have earned at least the following:

Language Arts <u>4 units (1 per academic year)</u>

English I English II English III English IV

Mathematics <u>3 units</u>

Algebra 1 (state requirement)

**Geometry** 

**Intermediate Algebra** 

Algebra 2 Statistics

Science <u>3 units</u>

**Physical Science (state requirement)** 

**Biology (state requirement)** 

Botany Chemistry Zoology Anatomy Ecology

Social Studies 4 units (1 per academic year)

World History-1 unit (Fr)

Oklahoma History-1/2 unit (So)

**US History of American Republic 1860-1920-1/2 unit (So)** 

**United States History 1877-present** 

1 unit (Jr)

US Government-1/2 unit (Sr) Economics-1/2 unit (Sr)

World/Non-English Language/

Computer Science 1 unit (beginning with graduating class 2019)

Spanish 1

**Fundamentals of Technology** 

Desktop Publishing Digital Media Production

The Arts 1 units (beginning with graduating class 2019)

Art 1-4, Painting, Drama 1-4 Instrumental Music 1-4, Music Appreciation,

**Drama-Music Theater 1-4** 

Electives <u>7 units</u>

The remaining units are selected based on student need and interest.

TOTAL <u>23 units</u>

# **COLLEGE PREP/WORK READY DIPLOMA (High School)**

Under McLoud High School and State of Oklahoma guidelines, all graduating seniors will be required to earn twenty-three (23) units. This course of study is designed to prepare students for post-secondary and/or a career in the workplace. This diploma will be issued to students who have earned at least the following:

Language Arts 4 units (1 per academic year)

English I English II English III

**English IV or Concurrent** 

(Freshman Comp 1 and Freshman Comp 2)

Mathematics 3 units (3 are required in grades 9-12)

Algebra 1\* (state requirement)

Geometry Algebra 2

\*Math of Money with Algebra

(does not count for Oklahoma Promise)

Trigonometry Pre-Calculus Statistics College Algebra

Science 3 units

**Physical Science (state requirement)** 

**Biology\* (state requirement)** 

Botany Chemistry Zoology Anatomy Botany Ecology

Social Studies 4 units (1 per academic year)

**World History-1 unit (Fr)** 

Oklahoma History or Honors Oklahoma History-1/2 unit (So)

US History of the American Republic 1860-1920 or Honors US History of the American

**Republic 186-1920 (So)** 

US History 1877-present or Honors US History 1877-present -1 unit (Jr)

**US Government or Honors US** 

**Government-1/2 unit (Sr)** 

**Economics or Honors Economics-1/2 unit (Sr)** 

The Arts 1 unit

Art 1-4. Painting. Drama 1-4. Instrumental Music 1-4. Music Appreciation.

**Drama- Music Theater 1-4** 

World/Non-English Language/

**Computer Technology 2 units of same subject** 

Spanish 1 Spanish 2

**Fundamentals of Technology** 

Desktop Publishing Digital Media Production

\*\* Students in this diploma program must complete one (1) additional unit in English, Mathematics, Lab Science, Social Studies or Foreign Language/Computer Technology.

**Electives 5 units** 

The remaining units are selected based on student need and interest.

TOTAL <u>23 units</u>

# **HONORS DIPLOMA (High School)**

When a student and his parents feel that a student is capable of meeting more than the standard graduating requirements – that he/she can excel and should therefore be challenged – he/she can voluntarily enter the HONORS PROGRAM.

After the student has finished the requirements for the HONORS program, he/she will receive recognition by a gold seal on his/her diploma. His/her transcript will also reflect that he/she has completed an advanced study course curriculum.

To receive a McLoud Honors Diploma, a student must take a college entrance program, maintain a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale, have no grades lower than a B, take a minimum of 2 AP, Honors classes, or concurrent classes, and complete twenty-three(23) units

This diploma will be issued to students who have earned at least the following:

Language Arts <u>4 units (1 per academic year)</u>

English I or Honors English I English II or Honors English II English III or AP English III

English IV or AP English IV or Concurrent (Freshman Comp 1 and Freshman

Comp 2)

Mathematics 4 units (1 per academic year)

**Algebra 1 (\* state requirement)** 

Algebra 2 Geometry Trigonometry Pre Calculus Statistics College Algebra

Laboratory Science 4 units

**Physical Science (state requirement)** 

**Biology (\* state requirement)** 

**Or Honors Biology** 

Chemistry Botany Anatomy Zoology Botany Ecology

**AP Physics (GCTC)** 

Social Studies 4 units (1 per academic year)

**World History-1 unit (Fr)** 

Oklahoma History or Honors Oklahoma

History-1/2 unit (So)

**US History of the American Republic 1860-1920 or Honors US History of the** 

American Republic 1860-1920 (So)

US History 1877-present or Honors US History 1877-present-1 unit (Jr)
US Government or Honors US Government-1/2 unit (Sr)

**Economics or Honors Economics-1/2 unit (Sr)** 

Arts <u>1 unit from the following:</u>

Art 1-4, Painting, Drama 1-4. Instrumental Music 1-4, Music Appreciation,

**Drama-Music Theater 1-4** 

World/Non-English Language/

**Computer Technology 2 units of the same subject** 

Spanish 1 Spanish 2

**Fundamentals of Technology** 

Desktop Publishing Digital Media Production

Electives <u>4 units</u>

The remaining units are selected based on student need and interest

TOTAL 23 units

#### **PROFICIENCY BASED PROMOTION**

Students may earn credit based on proficiency assessment. Proficiency will be demonstrated by an assessment or evaluation that is appropriate to the curriculum area. Students demonstrating proficiency in a set of competencies at the 90% level on a nationally normed test, shall be advanced to the next level in the appropriate curriculum area and receive a grading mark of "P". A mark of "P" will be neutral in computing grade point averages.

The decision to allow proficiency-based promotion will take into consideration such factors as social, emotional, physical, and mental growth. The school will confer with the student's parents/guardians in making such promotional/acceleration decisions. Students interested in proficiency promotion should give their counselor written notification three (3) weeks prior to each term's end. Tests will be given during the last week of each term.

# **TEACHER REQUEST**

Classroom Placement Guidelines

We approach class placement with great care. It is so critical to ensure that each child is well-matched with a skilled and caring teacher and that each class is balanced in terms of overall size, gender, diversity, special needs, and other factors. Families often request specific teachers for their children based on perceptions currently circulating among their acquaintances. As you can imagine, honoring all of these requests would be impossible, and would make it impossible to balance classes. We take our responsibility to ensure excellence in every classroom very seriously and we can assure you that every child will have a great teacher.

#### STUDENT/TEACHER REASSIGNMENT

Any time after a child has attended his/her assigned class for a minimum of ten (10) school days, a parent or legal guardian may request their child be assigned a new teacher. If this is the case, a request must be submitted in writing to the school principal citing the specific reasons for the request. Next, a meeting will take place with the classroom teacher, parent, and principal to discuss concerns and considerations for moving to another class. Factors affecting a request to move include, but are not limited to; academic performance, social considerations, number of students in other classrooms, etc.

# **WEEKLY FOLDERS (Elementary)**

Weekly folders will go home one day a week, i.e. <u>Thursday</u>. This folder contains important notes, graded papers, report cards, progress reports, field trip notes, etc., and will be used by all students. Please review the materials with your student, sign, and return the folder the next day to school if required by the teacher.

# **GRADING SCALE (7th-12th)**

90 - 100 A

80 - 89 B

70 - 79 C

60 - 69 D

0 - 59 F

# The grading scale for AP classes is as follows: (High School)

A 85% - 100% B 70% - 84% C 60% - 69% D 50% - 59% F 49% - or lower

# **GRADING SCALE (K-6th)**

# Pre-Kindergarten-3rd Grade

Evaluation Letter (Standards-Based Grading)

4-At or above grade level

3- Near grade level

2- Below grade level

1-Well below grade level

#### Grades 4 thru 6

#### Letter Grades used on Report Cards

A - 90 - 100

B - 80 - 89

C - 70 - 79

D-60-69

F - Below 60

#### <u>Grades K - 6 (Music and Physical Education, Art, Computer)</u> <u>Grades 2-3(Social Studies and Science)</u>

Letter Grades used on Report Cards

**O-Outstanding** 

S-Satisfactory

**U-Unsatisfactory** 

IN-Insufficent Work

#### <u>Grades 1 - 6 Chapter I, Special Education</u>

Same Scale as Regular Classroom - determined by both regular and special teachers (only 1 grade given).

#### Behavior/Social Skills Grades K-3rd

- 1-Respects others' rights, feelings, and property
- 2-Accepts responsibility for behavior
- 3- Uses Time wisely to produce quality work
- 4-Completes Classwork
- 5-Completes Homework
- 6-Follows Directions

Letter Grades used on Report Cards

**O-Outstanding** 

S-Satisfactory

# REMEDIATION

Remediation for state mandated tests is administered and documented through site counselors, reading specialists, and/or classroom teachers. Remediation is offered to all students in preparation for State and Federal mandated testing.

# STUDENT RECOGNITION

The Board of Education recognizes that the pursuit of excellence is very important to the McLoud Schools, its administration, parents, and students.

Achievement resulting from excellent performance, academic or extracurricular activity deserves to be recognized whether by individual or team. Student achievement also brings positive recognition to our school and community. The school further acknowledges its responsibility to assist our students in receiving public recognition, not only in award assemblies but also in the local press. A special effort should also be made to identify areas of excellence, which may not ordinarily be identified or recognized.

HONOR ROLL: The Superintendent's Honor Roll comprised of students who achieve all A's, and the Principal's Honor Roll, comprised of students who achieve all A's and B's with no grade below B, will be recognized each nine weeks and at the end of each semester for grades 4–6.

Principal's PRIDE: The Principal's PRIDE student recognition is held by each school principal. Students are acknowledged for outstanding citizenship at the highest level.

INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION: The faculty and administration encourage the student body to compete in as many scholastic events throughout the year as possible. Through competition, McLoud students can receive recognition and awards for their efforts.

TRANSCRIPTS: A copy of a student's transcript will be given upon request at the Principal's office as per FERPA guidelines.

# **HIGH SCHOOL GRADE CLASSIFICATIONS**

Grade classification is determined by the number of credits a student has at the beginning of the school year and will not change until the next school year. This means that a student will not change "classification" after a grading period no matter how many credits he/she has. The following minimum criteria will be used in determining a students class at the beginning of the school year:

Senior - 16 units (10 of which must be core classes) Junior - 10 units (6 of which must be core classes) Sophomore - 4 units (2 of which must be core classes)

# <u>TESTING (High School)</u>

11th grade students will take the ACT as well as a science test and a US History test during that school year.

# **CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT (High School)**

Seniors who meet the state requirements have the opportunity to earn college credit through concurrent enrollment. Students may enroll in college classes through Rose State College and may take classes only at Rose State College or the RSC ITV class on the McLoud campus. If a student chooses to take

Freshman Composition to replace Senior English, they must take both semesters-Freshman Composition 1 and Freshman Composition 2 to complete the OSDE English requirement for graduation. All students who meet the requirements and plan to take concurrent classes must be enrolled through the college and present confirmation to the High School office prior to McLoud's enrollment date in the fall of each school year. Attendance at concurrent classes will be determined by the college. All absences from concurrent class times must be approved and resolved between the college professor and the student. McLoud High School will not be involved in these absences with the exception of activity absences as defined in the McLoud High School handbook. Grades received from any concurrent college course shall be placed on the McLoud High School transcript and included in the student's overall grade point average as per Oklahoma State Department of Education, Oklahoma School Law amendment 70 O.S § 2001, Section 628.13. The State of Oklahoma offers a tuition waiver of six (6) credit hours per semester for seniors participating in concurrent enrollment at a state college or university. All costs for books and fees are the responsibility of the student/parent.

#### **GRADUATION EXERCISES (High School)**

In keeping with traditional commencement exercises, students will be expected to comply with the following graduation expectations. Graduation exercises will be held at the end of each year for high school seniors. All credit recovery / alternative education courses must be completed by the end of the school day on the day prior to graduation. STUDENTS WHO NEED MORE THAN ONE UNIT FOR GRADUATION WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRADUATION EXERCISES. (Regulation J – Page 79 of the Administrator's Handbook for Elementary, Middle, Junior High, and High Schools – State of Oklahoma Department of Education).

All male students will wear dress pants, a shirt with a collar, tie and dress shoes/boots. All girls will wear dresses, or dress pants and dress shirts, and dress shoes. If a student chooses not to wear appropriate dress, he/she will still receive a diploma, but will not be eligible to participate in the ceremony. Any senior who chooses to participate in graduation exercises must notify the senior sponsor by April 1 and he/she will be required to participate in graduation.

In order to protect the social and physical, as well as the intellectual maturity of the pupil, it is advisable that students have four (4) years experience in a four-year high school. In exceptional cases (pregnancy, sickness, or economic reasons) pupils may be allowed to graduate in less than the time specified above, provided that adequate guidance procedures have been followed and that the student meets all local and state graduation requirements. This must be approved in all cases by the administration.

#### **ACADEMIC RANKING (High School)**

ADDED WEIGHT

Pre-Advanced Placement, Advanced Placement, Honors, and Concurrent Enrollment Courses shall be weighted on a 5.0 grade scale.

VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN

Any student with a 4.0 average or higher based on seven (7) semesters (5.0 scale) will be considered Valedictorian of the Senior Class. The Valedictorian must meet all Honors Program requirements. In the event that no one has a 4.0, the highest GPA will be named Valedictorian. The Salutatorian will be the student with the second highest GPA (Must be on the Honor schedule) The above ranking system will be used only to determine valedictorian and salutatorian for graduation ceremony purposes. For college application purposes, all students with a raw GPA of 4.0 (no Pre-AP, AP, Honors, or Concurrent classes bonus) will be considered valedictorians and can use such designation for scholarship and application purposes.

#### **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

A chapter of the National Honor Society is organized at McLoud High School for students in grades 11–12. Students may not apply for membership in the National Honor Society. Membership is granted only to those students selected by the faculty advisory committee.

According to the National Honor Society Constitution, only those students who have been in the school for at least one term may be considered for membership. The constitution also stipulates that members who transfer to another school or from another school are accepted automatically as members in good standing. Transfer members must meet the chapter's standards within one term of their transfer in order to retain membership.

There are four areas of consideration for membership. Scholarship is the first basis for selection followed by leadership, service, and character. The scholarship requirement set by the McLoud Chapter of the National Honor Society is an overall grade point of 3.5 based on a 4.0 scale. Leadership exists in offices held in school and community organizations as well as roles of leadership in both areas. Service is determined by contributions made, as well as the attitude toward service. Character is determined by principles of morality and ethics, as well as cooperation, courtesy, respect for others, and demonstration of behavior that exemplifies other desirable qualities of character.

The specific guidelines for membership, the Constitution of the National Honor Society, and the McLoud Chapter bylaws are available in the high school office.

#### CHANGES AND DROPS IN CLASS SCHEDULE (Secondary Only)

For a student to receive full benefit of a course offering, he/she needs to complete the entire course as scheduled. All schedule changes must meet the approval of the site administration.

Enrollment should be given careful consideration by each student and the student's parents. Choice of subject will be considered as final, barring unforeseen circumstances. Schedules are assigned classes by a computer generated program. Schedule change requests that will not be honored include teacher preference, period preference, to have a class with a friend, to request a new elective (unless one of the following situations is met-your schedule is missing a class one hour, your schedule has more than one class an hour, you are missing a core class (math, science, English, history),or you are enrolled in a class you have already had. Second semester changes will only be honored for graduation requirements. Athletics will be changed by coaches/administration as sports change throughout the school year.

#### **ELIGIBILITY (Secondary only)**

Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association Academic scholarship eligibility standards are required of all students participating in extracurricular activity programs. There are two considerations:

#### Term Grades

- a. A student must have received a passing grade in any three subjects counted for graduation that he/she was enrolled in during the last term he/she attended fifteen or more days. (This requirement would be five school credits for traditional).
- b. If a student does not meet the minimum scholastic standard he/she will not be eligible to participate during the first six weeks of the next term they attend.
- c. A student who does not meet the above minimum scholastic standard may regain his/her eligibility by achieving passing grades in all subjects he/she is enrolled in at the end of the six-week period.
- d. Pupils enrolled for the first time must comply with the same requirements of scholarship. The passing grades required for the preceding term should be obtained from the records of the school last attended.

# 2. Student Eligibility during a Term

- e. Scholastic eligibility for students will be checked at the end of the third week of a term and each succeeding week thereafter.
- f. A student must be passing in all subjects he/she is enrolled in during a term. If a student is not passing all subjects enrolled in at the end of a week, they will be placed on probation for the next one-week period. If a student is still failing one or more classes at the end of their probationary one-week period, they will be

- ineligible to participate during the next one-week period. The ineligibility period will begin on Monday and end on Sunday.
- g. A student who has lost eligibility under this provision must be passing all subjects in order to gain eligibility.
- h. "Passing grade" means work of such character that credit would be entered on the records were the term to close at that time.

#### <u>ACADEMIC LETTER JACKET QUALIFICATION (High School)</u>

In order for a student to be eligible to apply for an academic letter jacket, the following requirements must be met:

- 1. Determine eligibility.
  - a. Top 10% of current year seniors(based on regular cumulative GPA) based on Academic Ranking after 6 semesters.
  - b. Must have attended McLoud High School at least the previous year.
  - c. Must have fulfilled or be enrolled in the Honor Tier program.
  - d. Must have completed all classwork without accusation of plagiarism or cheating by an instructor.
- 2. Obtain an application form and the deadline date from the high school principal
- 3. Obtain a copy of transcript from the high school office to be submitted with the application.
- 4. Compose a letter to accompany the application that explains the reasons for applying for this award. This letter should detail participation in organizations, school, and community services, extra-curricular activities, honor classes, and any other honors received.
- 5. Submit the signed and completed application form, personal letter, and transcript copy to the high school principal prior to the deadline date.

#### **TEXTBOOKS**

District owned textbooks will be available to all students for each class. The student is responsible for the care of his books. They must be turned in at the close of the course. If damaged or lost, the student must pay for the books before his grades will be recorded on his permanent record. If books are found later, a refund of the charge will be made to the student. Book payment amount will be determined by the replacement cost of the book.

Workbooks in various classes may be purchased by the individual student. Upon completion of the course, the student may keep the workbook.

# MPS/SAFETY MANAGEMENT AND PROCEDURES

#### THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN AN EMERGENCY

In a school emergency, the first instinct as a parent is to pick up the telephone and start calling the school or rush to the school and get your child/children. The truth is, this only complicates matters from a safety and security standpoint.

Parents too close to an incident often hinder the rescue attempts of police and fire officials on the scene. The best action parents can take in an emergency is to stay close to their phones, check district social media, and monitor local radio and TV reports for regular updates and instructions.

#### **SEVERE WEATHER - SCHOOL CLOSING**

In case of severe weather, snow, or low temperatures, the official announcement for school closing may be heard over the radio or television stations prior to 6 a.m. Students should tune in to the appropriate stations and should not call the school. School closings will be broadcast on Oklahoma City television Channels 4, 5, and 9 and in Oklahoma City radio stations WKY, KYIS, KEBC, and Shawnee radio station KGFF.

School closings as well as other pertinent information can be obtained through the McLoud School's website <a href="https://www.mcloudschools.us">www.mcloudschools.us</a> or the "McLoud Proud" school app.

# <u> Fire Drill/ Disaster Drill/LockDown Drill</u>

Upon notification from the school office or administration, students in the buildings will be led outside by their teachers. Students should remain in line according to classes so that roll call may be checked outside. The teachers will take their students to a designated place of safety and will follow prescribed safety precautions. Students are to remain quiet and orderly and follow instructions from proper authority. The "all clear" signal will be given by a school administrator. The lockdown drill will be notified by a general announcement. Cell phone text messages may be used during drills between administrators and teachers.

# **CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND/OR TELEPHONE**

Any change of address or telephone number must be reported to the registrar's office. This is important in case of emergencies. This is the responsibility of the student(s) guardian or parent.

#### TRESPASSING

ORDERS TO LEAVE SCHOOL PROPERTY The superintendent or principal of any secondary, middle, or elementary school shall have the authority to order any person out of the school buildings and off the school property when it appears that the presence of such person is a threat to the peaceful conduct of school business and school classes. Any person who refuses to leave the school buildings or grounds after being ordered to do so by the superintendent or principal shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

#### **SAFE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Due to the growing concern for safety and the ever-constant threat of violence in our children's schools, it is the intent of the Legislature that local schools and families must work together to combat this rising problem. Therefore, no later than October 1, 1996, and every year thereafter, each public school site shall establish a Safe School Committee to be composed of at least seven (7) members. The Safe School Committee shall be composed of an equal number of teachers, parents of the children affected, and students. The Safe School Committee shall study and make recommendations to the principal regarding unsafe conditions, possible strategies for students to avoid harm at school, student victimization, crime prevention, school violence, and other issues which prohibit the maintenance of a safe school.

