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WELCOME

Welcome to New Berlin Elementary School! We at NBE are pleased to have you as part of our learning community. We are committed to doing our very best to provide a safe and supportive environment in which your child can learn and grow. In order to accomplish this goal, we rely on close cooperation and collaboration with the parents and families of our students. The NBE Student Handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that students and parents may have during the course of a school year. Because the handbook also contains information about student rights and responsibilities, each student is responsible for knowing its contents. Please take the time to become familiar with the following information and keep the handbook available for your use. It can be a valuable reference during the school year, and a means to avoid confusion and misunderstanding when questions arise. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, contact your Principal. This handbook supersedes all prior handbooks and other written or oral statements regarding any item in this handbook.

Brian R. Bishop – Principal
Shelley Haas - Assistant Principal

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION AND GENERAL NOTICES

MISSION STATEMENT OF CUSD #16

The mission of CUSD #16, in partnership with parents and community, is to provide quality educational opportunities, resources, and encouragement necessary for our students to...

- achieve their personal best academically and socially
- become responsible and productive citizens
- learn from and adapt to an ever-changing society

GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION (1.30)

This handbook contains all required notices and information and was developed with the guidance of the IPA Model Student Handbook. This handbook is a summary of the school's rules and expectations, and is not a comprehensive statement of school procedures. The Board's comprehensive policy manual is available for public inspection through the District's website www.pretzelpride.com or at the Board office, located at: 600 N. Cedar, New Berlin, IL.

The School Board governs the school district, and is elected by the community. Current CUSD #16 School Board members are:

Bill Alexander, President
Chris Gordon, Vice President
Dr. Adam Jones, Secretary
Dottie Crews, Member
Bridget Williams, Member
Stephanie Neuman, Member
Bill Marr, Member

The School Board has hired the following administrative staff to operate New Berlin Elementary:

Jillinda Larson, Superintendent
Brian R. Bishop, Principal
Shelley Haas,, Assistant Principal

NEW BERLIN ELEMENTARY STAFF

Pre-K – Holly Ruppel
Pre-K aide – Denise Tarr
Pre-K – Sarah Bentley
Pre-K aide – Jonelle Hinnen
Early Childhood Special Education - Carrie Coon
Pre-K Parent Coordinator - Nikki Rout

Transitional Kindergarten - Wendy Kanllakan
Kindergarten – Elizabeth Birch, Jennifer McQuality, Alyce Molnar

Title 1 Aides – Jamie Lehman, Rose Yarko-Lazzeri
First Grade – Jennifer Brown, Renee Cooper, Whitney Peecher
Second Grade – Rebeca Acosta, Taylor Maus, Stacey Maxson
Third Grade – Kara Cox, Jackie Minton, Nicki Robbins, Emily Sworobowicz
Fourth Grade – Kimberly Hepperly, Brandon Hott, Audrey Lanzotti
Fifth Grade – Abby Bridges, Meagan Budke, Delaney Workman, **TBD**
Special Education Structured Classroom – Nealy Hicks
Reading Intervention Specialist & Literacy Coach – Ann Beattie, **TBD, TBD**
Art – Andrea Rupnik
Physical Education – David Maciejewski, Roger Seitzinger
General Music (K-5) – Katie Barrett
Band (5th) – Abigail Magrath
Librarian – Shannon Smith
Library Aide – Kara Pecoraro

Secretary – Jodi Danenberger
Secretary – Angie Marr
Clerks – Jamie Hulett, Kristen Steger
School Nurse– Jami Huesing
Social Worker – Olga Lopez
Psychologist – Keenan Gil-McQuillan
Special Education Administrator – Kelly Fraase
Speech Pathologist – Lisa Balder
Resource – Krista Holloway, Julie Wortman
Individual Aides – Shelly Bandelow, Kim Jones, Dani Menser, Nick Morrison, Nikki Rout, Whitney Sutura, **TBD**
Technology Coordinator – Kevin Cummins; Tech Staff – Mike Squires
Director of Maintenance – Rich Clark
Custodial Staff – Dean Bailey, Vince King, Brian Nickelson, Rick Peecher
Director of Food Services – Jay Ayers
Kitchen Staff – Heather Pidcock

DAILY SCHEDULE

The building will be open to students at 8:00 a.m. Students *should not* arrive at school before 8:00 a.m. Students must be in their assigned classroom at 8:30 a.m. or he/she will be marked tardy.

The students' school day ends at 2:21p.m. The teachers' day is 8:00 a.m. to 3:31 p.m.

NBE STAFF ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL BEFORE 8:00 A.M. OR WHO REMAIN IN THE BUILDING AFTER 2:21 P.M.

Parents are welcome to join their child for lunch from time to time. We ask that parents only bring food for their own child. When visiting, parents are asked to observe the same expectations as students. When students leave the cafeteria at the end of lunch, parents

should not accompany students to other locations in the building unless previously arranged with and approved by the Teacher and Principal.

SCHOOL OPERATIONS DURING A PANDEMIC OR OTHER HEALTH EMERGENCY

A pandemic is a global outbreak of disease. Pandemics happen when a new virus emerges to infect individuals and, because there is little to no pre-existing immunity against the new virus, it spreads sustainably. Your child's school and district play an essential role, along with the local health department and emergency management agencies, in protecting the public's health and safety during a pandemic or other health emergency.

During a pandemic or other health emergency, you will be notified in a timely manner of all changes to the school environment and schedule that impact your child. Please be assured that even if school is not physically in session, it is the goal of the school and district to provide your child with the best educational opportunities possible.

Additionally, please note the following:

1. All decisions regarding changes to the school environment and schedule, including a possible interruption of in-person learning, will be made by the superintendent in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Governor, Illinois Department of Public Health, local health department, emergency management agencies, and/or Regional Office of Education.
2. Available learning opportunities may include remote and/or blended learning. Blended learning may require your child to attend school on a modified schedule.
3. Students will be expected to participate in blended and remote instruction as required by the school and district. Parents are responsible for assuring the participation of their child. Students who do not participate in blended or remote learning will be considered truant.
4. All school disciplinary rules remain in effect during the interruption of in-person learning. Students are subject to discipline for disrupting the remote learning environment to the same extent that discipline would be imposed for disruption of the traditional classroom.
5. Students and parents will be required to observe all public health and safety measures implemented by the school and district in conjunction with state and local requirements.
6. During a pandemic or other health emergency, the school and district will ensure that educational opportunities are available to all students.
7. School personnel will work closely with students with disabilities and other vulnerable student populations to minimize the impact of any educational disruption.
8. Students who have a compromised immune system, live with an individual with a compromised immune system, or have a medical condition that may impact their

ability to attend school during a pandemic or other public health emergency should contact school officials.

9. During a pandemic or other health emergency, teachers and school staff will receive additional training on health and safety measures.
10. In accordance with school district or state mandates, the school may need to conduct a daily health assessment of your child. Parents and students will be notified of the exact assessment procedures if this becomes necessary.
11. Parents should not send their child to school if their child exhibits any symptoms consistent with the pandemic or other health emergency.
12. Please do not hesitate to contact school or district officials if you have any concerns regarding your child's education, health or safety.

Cross Reference: PRESS 4:180, *Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery*

CLOSED CAMPUS

CUSD #16 schools operate a closed campus. Students will not be allowed to leave campus after arriving at school for any reason other than to keep medical appointments or for family emergencies. Students leaving campus for any reason must be given permission by the principal. Students are not allowed to go home for lunch.

COMMUNICATION

Communication between school and home may be initiated by school personnel or parents/guardians. School staff will strive to respond promptly to parent communication, typically within 24 hours or less. The formats for communication might involve:

- Phone calls
- Handwritten notes
- Email
- Student planners
- Newsletters

In addition, school personnel will use the following forums to share news and information:

- NBE Facebook page
- District and NBE web pages, including the Virtual Backpack

Parents should routinely check their child's book bag and planner for these communications, in addition to accessing the electronic information available.

NOTES FROM HOME

Students must have a note signed by a parent or guardian for the following situations.

- Explanation of an absence unless phone contact is made.
- Request for a student to leave the school grounds for any reason during school hours.

- A request for an extended release from outdoor recess or PE must be accompanied by a doctor's note.

If your child is going home any other way than usual, a note or phone call is needed. If we are not notified of a change by the parent, we must send the child home on his/her normal route. **If children plan to go home with another child, then the parents of all children involved must notify the school.**

Telephone

The use of the telephone by students is discouraged except in cases of emergency. If there are changes in after school arrangements, please inform the school before noon. Confusion over after school activities, such as scheduled sports events, social arrangements, and/or school materials left at home are not considered emergencies.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS (1.4 & 1.7)

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building and proceed immediately to the main office. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school.

Visitors must sign in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location they are visiting. Approved visitors must take a tag identifying themselves as a guest and place the tag to their outer clothing in a clearly visible location. Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. All visitors must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school.

Any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespass and/or disruptive behavior.

No person on school property or at a school event shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.

9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectable, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and district policies.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other district policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or district employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the district or a school function.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 8:30, Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

All school volunteers must complete the "Volunteer Information Form" and be approved by the school principal prior to assisting at the school. Forms are available in the school office. Some teachers utilize parent volunteers in the classroom. The individual teachers make this decision. Teachers who desire parent volunteers will notify parents. For school-wide volunteer opportunities, please contact the building principal.

Volunteers are required to check in and out at the main office and receive a visitor badge before going to their destination.

Cross-Reference:

PRESS 6:250, *Community Resource Persons and Volunteers*

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT (1.5)

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities are available to all students without regard to race, color, nationality, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, age, religious beliefs, physical or mental disability, status as homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex or sexual orientation, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact the superintendent.

Cross-Reference:

PRESS 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*

PRESS 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*

ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY (1.6)

In order to assure student health and safety, animals are not allowed on school property, except in the case of a service animal accompanying a student or other individual with a documented disability. This rule may be temporarily waived by the building principals in the case of an educational opportunity for students, provided that (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

INVITATIONS AND GIFTS (1.8)

Party invitations or gifts for classmates should not be brought to school to be distributed unless **ALL** of the students in class are included. Similarly, cards and gifts from one student to another must not be brought to school. Items such as these are of a personal nature and should be mailed home using the list in the school directory, prepared and published by the Pretzel PTO. The school cannot provide names, addresses, or phone numbers of children attending CUSD #16 schools.

WEATHER and EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS (1.9)

In cases of bad weather and other local emergencies, please listen to any local radio or television station to be advised of school closings or early dismissals. An all-call through School Messenger will also be made. School closings for any reason will be announced by as early as possible. For your child's safety, make certain your child knows ahead of time where to go in case of an early dismissal. If there are special arrangements, the office and the classroom teacher should be made aware of the change in the child's routine.

If we dismiss early for an emergency, all after-school functions are automatically cancelled.

Cross-Reference:

PRESS 4:170, *Safety*

Children will go outside for all recesses when the combined temperature and wind chill is 20 degrees or above unless it is raining, hailing, lightning, or snowing. If the conditions are favorable for immediate thunderstorms or tornadoes, the students may also be kept indoors. If the wind chill drops below 20 degrees or the heat index rises above 95 degrees, recess will be held indoors.

Parents may want to apply sunscreen in the morning before school on warm, sunny days. Throughout the winter months please remember to send coats, gloves, and hats to school with

your children every day. It is in the students' best interest to have these items at school at all times so that they may be used to keep them warm and dry.

VIDEO AND AUDIO MONITORING SYSTEMS (1.100)

A video and/or audio monitoring system may be in use on school buses and a video monitoring system may be used in public areas of the school building. These systems have been put in place to protect students, staff, visitors and school property. If a discipline problem is captured on audiotape or videotape, these recordings may be used as the basis for imposing student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the tape may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

Cross-Reference:

PRESS 4:110, *Transportation*

ACCOMMODATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (1.110)

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the superintendent or building principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 8:70, *Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities*

STUDENTS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES (1.120)

State law requires our school district to annually inform parents of students with life-threatening allergies or life-threatening chronic illnesses of the applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other applicable federal statutes, state statutes, federal regulations and state rules.

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the building Principal and School Nurse at 488-6054.

Federal law protects students from discrimination due to a disability that substantially limits a major life activity. If your student has a qualifying disability, an individualized Section 504 Plan will be developed and implemented to provide the needed support so that your student can access his or her education as effectively as students without disabilities.

Not all students with life-threatening allergies and life-threatening chronic illnesses may be eligible under Section 504. Our school district also may be able to appropriately meet a student's needs through other means.

Cross Reference:

TREATS

We love to help students celebrate their birthdays! Due to an increasing number of students with food allergies, we are “food free” for birthday celebrations. The teachers each have special ways to help students celebrate a birthday at school. If you would like to help your child celebrate at school, some options are:

- Selecting and purchasing a “Birthday Book” for the library in your child’s honor
- Sending pencils, bookmarks, or other small item for your child to hand out to classmates

Special deliveries (i.e. balloons, flowers, etc.) will not be delivered to the classroom and will be held in the office until after school. These items do not transport well on the bus, so parents should make other arrangements for end of the day transportation.

CARE OF STUDENTS WITH DIABETES (1.130)

If your child has diabetes and requires assistance with managing this condition while at school and school functions, a Diabetes Care Plan must be submitted to the building principal. Parents/guardians are responsible for and must:

- a. Inform the school in a timely manner of any change which needs to be made to the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school for their child.
- b. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.
- c. Sign the Diabetes Care Plan.
- d. Grant consent for and authorize designated School District representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the Diabetes Care Plan.

For further information, please contact the building principal.

SUICIDE AND DEPRESSION AWARENESS AND PREVENTION (1.140)

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school’s ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important goals of the school district.

The school district maintains student and parent resources on suicide and depression awareness and prevention. Much of this information, including a copy of the school district’s policy, is posted on the school district website. Information can also be obtained from the school office.

Cross-Reference:

PRESS 7:290, *Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention*

CHAPTER 2 – RESIDENCY, ATTENDANCE, GRADING & PROMOTION

ENROLLMENT

Students who are five years old on or before September 1, 2017 are eligible to attend Kindergarten during the 2017-18 school year. Students new to the district will be placed by the former public school's permanent records or by staff testing. Parents/guardians of students enrolling in the district for the first time will be required to provide a certified copy of the child's birth certificate. A copy will be made for the student's file, and the original will be returned to the parent/guardian. Additionally, proof of residence (see following section) and proof of required health information (see Chapter 6) must be provided. As per Illinois School Code, students enrolled in kindergarten may attend half-day only. Classroom assignment and placement in morning or afternoon will be determined by the administration.

RESIDENCY

Student Enrollment & County Residency – to be enrolled in Community Unit School District #16, students must reside full time in this school district with their natural parent(s) or legal guardian(s). Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) must be full-time CUSD #16 residents. A resident is defined as an individual who is a full-time occupant of a dwelling located in CUSD #16 and who, on any given school day, is likely to be at their stated address when not at work or school. A person who owns property in the school district, but does not reside in the school district, is not considered a resident.

Proof of Residence – Proof of residence is required when a student initially enrolls in a school and whenever a change of residence occurs, and should be provided to the office of the appropriate attendance center. If the school office has questions about the validity of a student's residence, then residency must be verified by the District Office *before* a student will be enrolled at the appropriate attendance center.

1. A lease or rental agreement consisting of written evidence that the agreement is valid and current, and a current utility bill (gas, electric, water, home/telephone, or cable). Records must include the name and street address of the parent/guardian, OR
2. A current residential property tax statement or deed, and a current utility bill (gas, electric, water, home telephone, or cable). Records must include the name and street address of the parent/guardian, OR
3. A third-person affidavit of residence completed with the school system.

The affidavit shall be completed and signed by the parent/guardian, as well as the legal owner or lesser of the property where the student and parent/guardian reside. The affidavit will be in effect until the parent/guardian provides the required proof of residence, but no longer than the end of the current school year.

Verification of Residency – A school system representative may visit the address given by any parent/guardian to verify residency. The property address given must be the actual location where the student and parent/guardian live full-time.

Consequences for Violating the Policy – Students who are illegally enrolled shall be withdrawn from school. The parent/guardian shall be charged tuition for the period of time that a student is illegally enrolled in Community Unit School District #16, together with all court and legal expenses incurred by the Board of Education in collecting school tuition. Charges shall be filed for providing false information on a legal document.

Students in Transitional Living Arrangements

Students that lack permanent or adequate housing have educational rights to help remove barriers to their educational success. The McKinney –Vento Assistance Act provides these students ability to enroll in school, receive transportation and other available services. If you are in need of referrals or assistance please contact your student’s school office.

ATTENDANCE (2.10)

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between six (by September 1st) and seventeen years of age shall assure that the child attends school in the district in which he or she resides, during the entire time school is in session (unless the child has already graduated from high school). Illinois law also requires that whoever has custody or control of a child who is enrolled in the school, regardless of the child’s age, shall assure that the child attends school during the entire time school is in session.

Cross-reference:

PRESS 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*

HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student’s home or hospital. For information on home or hospital instruction, contact the building Principal.

Cross Reference: PRESS 6:150, *Home and Hospital Instruction*

STUDENT ABSENCES (2.20)

Absences should be kept to a minimum. Success in school is dependent upon regular attendance. Students with excessive absences miss class instruction and discussion, which are necessary for achieving that success.

There are two types of absences: excused and unexcused. Excused absences include: illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond

the control of the student, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional or physical health or safety, attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS, or other reasons as approved by the principal. All other absences are considered unexcused. Pre-arranged excused absences must be approved by the principal.

Additionally, a student will be excused for up to 5 days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. The Board of Education, in its discretion, may excuse a student for additional days relative to such leave or deployment. A student and the student's parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student's teachers prior to any excused absences and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student prior to his or her return to school.

All other absences are considered unexcused. Pre-arranged excused absences must be approved by the building principal.

The school may require documentation explaining the reason for the student's absence.

In the event of any absence, the student's parent or guardian is required to call the school at 488-6054 x402 before 8:00 a.m. to explain the reason for the absence. If a call has not been made to the school by 10:00 a.m. on the day of a student's absence, a school official will call the home to inquire why the student is not at school. If the parent or guardian cannot be contacted, the student will be required to submit a signed note from the parent or guardian explaining the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence. Upon request of the parent or guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

-----Cross-reference:

PRESS 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*

A PRE-ARRANGED absence is one approved by the school administration in advance of the absence. Some examples of pre-arranged absences might be Take Your Child to Work Day or a previously scheduled appointment.

A pre-arranged absence form needs to be signed by the student's classroom teacher, signed by the parent(s), and approved by the principal. These forms may be picked up in the office. Assignments will not be given in advance. Students will be granted time upon their return to school equal to the number of days missed to complete make-up work. ***PARENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO TAKE VACATIONS DURING THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED SCHOOL VACATION TIME!*** Excused absences for vacations will be limited to 5 days per year. It is not possible to re-create lessons and activities missed. The missed assignment(s) must be submitted by the deadline. One day for each day absent plus one additional day is allowed to complete homework after the absence. For example, a student who is absent for 3 days of school has 4 school days to complete makeup work. If the above stated conditions are met, all work completed within the time allotment will be graded and recorded. Failure to meet these conditions will result in the absence being treated as an unexcused absence.

RELEASE TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION & OBSERVANCE (2.30)

A student will be released from school, as an excused absence, to observe a religious holiday or for religious instruction. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the building principal at least 5 calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s).

Students excused for religious reasons will be given an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 7:80, *Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observation*

MAKE-UP WORK (2.40)

If a student's absence is excused or if a student is suspended from school, he/she will be permitted to make up all missed work, including homework and tests, for equivalent academic credit.

Students who are unexcused from school will not be allowed to make up missed work.

TRUANCY (2.50)

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district.

Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action, including:

- Referral to the truancy officer
- Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act
- Referral to the State's Attorney
- Appropriate school discipline

A student who misses 15 consecutive days of school without valid cause and who cannot be located or, after exhausting all available support services, cannot be compelled to return to school is subject to expulsion from school.

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

Cross-references:

PRESS 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*

EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

When a student has reached a total number of absences equal to 5% of the school year, a courtesy letter will be sent home to advise the parent or guardian that the student has reached the threshold for

being chronically truant. Students with more than 10 days of absence per year will be reported to the Sangamon County Truancy Office unless the student has a valid excuse for each absence. All doctor's notes must be submitted within 48 hours of the student's return to school or will be deemed invalid. Doctor's notes must include the time the student was seen in the doctor's office, that the student is unable to attend school that day, and in cases of prolonged illness, must note all days that the student is unable to attend school. The principal, school nurse, and attendance secretary will review the attendance monthly to determine the validity of the excused absences when a student's total is over 10. The team will determine if a student's excuse(s) is/are valid and determine whether make up work will be allowed.

ABSENCES AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

STUDENTS WHO ARE ABSENT DURING THE LAST HALF OF A SCHOOL DAY MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY SCHOOL ACTIVITY SCHEDULED FOR THAT DAY. Exceptions may be made, by the principal, in cases of a doctor's appointment or other obligation like a funeral. Students absent on Friday may participate in a Saturday activity, but the Friday absence will be reviewed on Monday.

TARDINESS

Students are expected to be in the classroom ready to work when the 8:30 bell rings. Tardiness disrupts the learning process for the student, teacher and fellow students. When tardiness occurs beyond 10 occurrences, students will be subject to after-school detentions, referral to the Truant Officer and/or other appropriate consequences.

APPOINTMENTS

Parents are encouraged to make all student medical and dental appointments so that students arrive at school before 9:36am, or leave after 2:15 p.m., to ensure that students are present at school for an entire school day. Parents must pick students up **in the office** for appointments.

GRADING & PROMOTION (2.60)

Reports - The elementary will have 3 formal grading terms covering approximately 12 weeks of instruction. Report cards are issued to students at the end of the first week following the close of each grading period. Report cards are to be taken home, reviewed, signed by a parent, and returned to school within one week. Mid-term progress reports are also sent to parents to report their progress to date. Upon receipt of the report, parents are encouraged to contact the school if any questions arise concerning the notice. The main purpose of the report is to notify parents about student progress so that parents, students, and teachers might work more closely to implement corrective measures that will improve that progress.

Grading System- A Standards Based Grading and Reporting System will be used for all subjects at the Elementary. Student progress will be reported using the following performance levels:

4 - Exceeds Expectations

Student is consistently performing above academic expectations

3 – Meets Expectations

Student is consistently performing/attaining all academic expectations

2 – Approaching Expectations

Student is progressing but not consistently performing/attaining academic expectations

1 – Significantly Below Expectations

Student is not progressing and/or is not attaining academic expectations

The decision to promote a student to the next grade level is based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on standardized tests and other testing. A student who receives a majority of 1s for any subject will be a candidate for retention. All data will be considered, and the school will make the final determination based on the child's academic needs. A student will not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 6:280, *Grading & Promotion*

HOMEWORK & MAKE-UP WORK (2.70)

Homework is used as a way for students to practice what they have learned in the classroom. The time requirements and the frequency of homework will vary depending on a student's teacher, ability and grade level. If a student's absence is excused or if a student is suspended from school, he/she will be permitted to make up all missed work, including homework and tests, for equivalent academic credit. Students who are unexcused from school will not be allowed to make up missed work.

CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher conferences are set for Wednesday and Thursday, November 9 & 10, 2016. We will send more information later about choices for time preference. In the case of blended and/or separated families, we will schedule one conference asking that all involved meet to discuss their child's progress. Upon request, teachers may arrange a separate conference with the non-custodial parent if time in the conference schedule is available. A sign-up form for conferences will be available in the classroom during Kindergarten Preview on Thursday, August 17 and during Unpack Your Backpack for grades 1st – 5th on August 18, 2016.

EXEMPTION FROM PE REQUIREMENT (2.80)

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request.

A student in grades 7-8 may submit a written request to the building principal requesting to be excused from physical education courses because of the student's ongoing participation in an interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program. The building principal will evaluate requests on a case-by-case basis.

Students with an Individualized Education Program may also be excused from physical education courses for reasons stated in [Handbook Procedure 10.301](#).

Special activities in physical education will be provided for a student whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practices Act, prevents his or her participation in the physical education course.

State law prohibits the School District from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the School District.

Students who have been excused from physical education shall return to the course as soon as practical. The following considerations will be used to determine when a student shall return to a physical education course:²

1. The time of year when the student's participation ceases; and
2. The student's class schedule.

HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION (2.100)

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant or licensed advance practice registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction before (1) the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to 3 months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

For information on home instruction, contact the building principal.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 6:150, *Home and Hospital Instruction*

CHAPTER 3 – STUDENT FEES & FOOD SERVICE

STUDENT FEES, FINES, CHARGES & WAIVER OF STUDENT FEES (3.10)

The student registration fee is due when you register your child. The fee for students at New Berlin Elementary School is \$75 and can be sent to the District Office at 600 North Cedar.

Some students may be unable to pay these fees. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parent or guardian is unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver does not exempt a student from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and/or equipment.

Applications for fee waivers may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. As student is eligible for a fee waiver if at least one of the following prerequisites is met:

1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the free lunch or breakfast eligibility guidelines established by the federal government pursuant to the National School Lunch Act; or
2. The student or the student's family is currently receiving aid under Article IV of the Illinois Public Aid Code (Aid to Families of Dependent Children).

The Food Services Director will notify the parent/guardian promptly as to whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied. Questions regarding the fee waiver application process should be addressed to the building principal.

Cross-references:

PRESS 4:110, *Transportation*

PRESS 4:140, *Waiver of Student Fees*

PRESS 4:140-AP, *Fines, Fees, and Charges – Waiver of Student Fees*

PRESS 4:140-E1, *Application for Fee Waivers*

PRESS 4:140-E2, *Response to Application for Fee Waiver, Appeal, and Response to Appeal*

FOOD SERVICES (3.20)

School breakfast and lunch will be served daily. Breakfast is served from 8:00 - 8:20 a.m. Meals should be paid for in advanced either through Family Access or by check, made payable to CUSD #16. ***All family members may be included on a single check, even if they attend different schools. Student lunch account information is posted on Family Access.*** The cost of breakfast is \$1.50 (\$0.30 for reduced), the cost of lunch is \$2.10 (\$0.40 for reduced), and extra milk is \$0.50. All payments should be made to CUSD #16. All family members may be included on a single check, even if they attend different attendance centers. Each student will be given a lunch card which can be scanned by the computer. Classroom teachers will keep and distribute cards. Account statements are posted on family access. In addition, a courtesy call through School Reach will be made when an account reaches a negative balance of \$1.00. If a student's account balance exceeds -\$25.00, a letter will be sent home and student

will receive a cold cheese sandwich, fruit, vegetable and milk. The student's lunch account will be charged full price. If the balance reaches -\$50.00, the District Office will issue a certified letter advising of the account status. If the negative balance is not addressed by the parent or guardian within five business days the issue will be sent to Administrative Review for further determination. ***Please keep your student's lunch account up to date!***

It is preferred that students not bring soft drinks to school for lunch.

FEDERAL FREE AND REDUCED ELIGIBILITY

Free and Reduced Household Eligibility applications are available to those families who meet the Federal guidelines. **The forms must be completed every school year and are available in the school offices, after July 1st.** The forms are to be filled out completely before returning them to the school office. Those students who qualify for free/reduced breakfast/lunch program are required by Federal Law to get a full tray meal. Students that participate in the free/reduced programs who only take milk will be charged \$.50 for milk. If you have any questions regarding your child's lunch balances or any questions concerning Food Services, please contact Jay Ayers, Food Service Director at (217) 488-6054 ext. 518 or via email at jayers@pretzelpride.com. If the balance remains negative, the parents will receive a letter in the mail from the cafeteria. Please keep your student's lunch account up to date! Free lunch and reduced lunches are available by application to those families who meet the federal guidelines. **The forms must be completed annually and are available in the school office.** The forms are to be filled out completely before returning them to the school office. If you have any questions regarding your child's lunch balances or any questions concerning the cafeteria, please contact Jay Ayers in the New Berlin cafeteria at 488-6111 ext. 230.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 4:130, *Free and Reduced-Price Food Services*

CHAPTER 4 - TRANSPORTATION

PARENT TRANSPORTATION - “Walkers”

Students who arrive/depart by parent transportation are called “walkers.” Students should not arrive at school prior to 8:00 a.m. There will be no supervision prior to that time, and students will not be able to enter the building. Please use the driveway for the West Entrance (the main entrance with the awning) and drop off students on the sidewalk side of the vehicle. Students may enter the main doors or the doors by the gymnasium, also referred to as “the bus doors” to enter the building. After 8:20 a.m., students should enter through the main entrance and the office.

Any student being picked up by parents or walking home will be released from the main entrance immediately after school. Students will not be released to leave the building without adult supervision. If your child normally rides the bus but will be a “walker” on occasion, please call the school office to notify us of the temporary change.

BUS TRANSPORTATION (4.10)

All New Berlin Elementary students are eligible for transportation to and from school by bus. Please refer to Board Policy for additional information as needed.

Bus assignments will be sent via the mail approximately one week prior to the first day of student attendance. Students are not permitted to ride a bus other than the bus to which they are assigned. Changes to existing transportation by bus will be accepted by completing a new Transportation Information Sheet for your student. Please note that changes become effective the next school day. **Students will only be allowed to ride the bus assigned to him/her on the transportation form.**

While students are on the bus, they are under the supervision of the bus driver. In most cases, bus discipline problems can be handled by the bus driver. In the case of a written disciplinary referral, student bus problems will be investigated and handled by the building principal.

Students are expected to follow all school rules while on the bus. Students may be suspended from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for violating school rules or for engaging in other gross disobedience or misconduct. The school board may suspend the student from riding the school bus for a period in excess of 10 days for safety reasons. The district’s regular suspension procedures shall be used to suspend a student’s privilege to ride a school bus.

A student who is suspended from riding the school bus and who does not have alternative transportation to school shall be allowed the opportunity to make up all missed work for equivalent academic credit. It is the responsibility of the student’s parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternative transportation to school.

In the interest of the student's safety and in compliance with State law, students are also expected to observe the following:

1. Dress properly for the weather. Make sure all drawstrings, ties, straps, etc. on all clothing, backpacks and other items, are shortened or removed to lessen the likelihood of them getting caught in bus doors, railings or aisles.
2. Arrive on time at the bus stop, and stay away from the street while waiting for the bus.
3. Stay away from the bus until it stops completely and the driver signals you to board. Enter in single file without pushing. Always use the handrail.
4. Take a seat right away and remain seated facing forward. Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
5. Talk quietly on the bus. No shouting or creating loud noises that may distract the driver. Tablets, iPods®, iPads®, smartphones, and other electronic devices must be silenced on the bus unless a student uses headphones.
6. Help keep the bus neat and clean. Keep belongings out of the aisle and away from emergency exits. Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus.
7. Always listen to the driver's instructions. Be courteous to the driver and other students. Sit with your hands to yourself and avoid making noises that would distract the driver or bother other passengers. Remain seated, keeping your hands, arms, and head inside the bus at all times.
8. Wait until the bus pulls to a complete stop before standing up. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
9. Stay out of the danger zone next to the bus where the driver may have difficulty seeing you. Take five giant steps away from the bus and out of the danger zone, until you can see the driver and the driver sees you. Never crawl under a bus.
10. If you must cross the street after you get off the bus, wait for the driver's signal and then cross in front of the bus. Cross the street only after checking both ways for traffic.
11. Never run back to the bus, even if you dropped or forgot something.

Video and audio cameras may be active on busses to record student conduct and may be used for the purposes of investigation into misconduct or accidents on the bus.

For questions regarding school transportation issues, contact: **John Finke, Transportation Director**

BUS CONDUCT (4.15)

Students are expected to follow all schools when riding the school bus. A student may be suspended from riding the bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to, the following:

1. Violating any school rule or school district policy.
2. Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.

3. Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
4. Repeated use of profanity.
5. Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor.
6. Such other behavior as the building principal deems to threaten the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.

If a student is suspended from riding the bus for gross disobedience or misconduct on a bus, the School Board may suspend the student from riding the school bus for a period in excess of 10 days for safety reasons.

A student suspended from riding the bus who does not have alternate transportation to school shall have the opportunity to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit. It shall be the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternate transportation.

Cross-references: PRESS 4:110, *Transportation*; PRESS 7:220, *Bus Conduct*

PARKING (4.20)

The school has two main locations available for school visitor parking, located to the west of the school. Those dropping off and picking up children may do so in the horseshoe drive directly in front of the main entrance. ***If the driver needs to exit their vehicle, please use one of the spots reserved for 5-minute drop-off/pick-up.***

Vehicles MAY NOT be parked or located in the bus lanes between 7 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on school days. Vehicles MAY NOT be parked or located in fire lanes at ANY TIME. Bus lanes and fire lanes are clearly marked. Vehicles located in these locations may be ticketed and/or towed by the police.

CHAPTER 5 - HEALTH & SAFETY

WELLNESS POLICY

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District #16 is committed to providing a learning environment that supports and promotes wellness, good nutrition, and an active lifestyle. Furthermore, the Board recognizes the positive relationship between good nutrition, physical activity, and the capacity of students to develop and learn. The entire school environment shall be aligned with healthy school goals to positively influence students' beliefs and habits and promote health and wellness, good nutrition, and regular physical activity.

CHILD ABUSE

State law requires that all suspected child abuse be reported to the proper governmental agency. School employees are Mandated Reporters.

NURSE'S OFFICE

1. All students should obtain permission from the regular classroom teacher for a visit to the nurse's office.
2. Special class teachers, like music, PE, library, etc., will not send students to the nurse except in the case of injury or emergency.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

It is necessary that there be current emergency information on file for each child. This information is of great value to the child in the event he or she becomes ill or is injured at school. This information is included on the CUSD #16 registration form. **This information must include emergency phone numbers.**

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

Illness or injury at school may require that a student returns home. If this is the case, parents will be contacted by a school employee to explain the circumstances. The parents should then make timely arrangements for getting the student home. In case the parents cannot be reached, the school will only contact the person or persons listed on the student's registration form. Parents are to give this information to the school when they register. It is imperative that the student's emergency contact information be kept updated. If you know of any reason for a change, please notify the office.

If your child has a fever, please keep them home until they have been fever free for 24 hours without fever reducers. If they have been vomiting or have diarrhea, they should also remain at home until they have been retaining food for over 12 hours. Please stress to your child the importance of good hand washing to prevent the spread of germs.

ACCIDENTS

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, or at any event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the adult in charge. Accident reports are available in the office. The school will make every effort to inform the parents of any accident or illness occurring at school that may need care or observation at home; and, for safety reasons, no student will be sent home unless a responsible adult is contacted and arrangements made.

IMMUNIZATION, HEALTH, EYE AND DENTAL EXAMINATIONS (5.10)

REQUIRED HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

All students are required to present appropriate proof of a complete health examination and up-to-date immunizations prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school for the first time, regardless of the student's grade.

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Students between the age of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by the first day of school will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. New students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization, the student must present an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

EYE EXAMINATION

All students entering kindergarten or an Illinois the school for the first time must present proof by October 15 of the current school year of an eye examination performed within one year. Failure to present proof by October 15, allows the school to hold the student's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

DENTAL EXAMINATION

All students entering kindergarten, second and sixth grades must present proof by May 15 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof

of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

EXEMPTIONS

A student will be exempt from the above requirements on:

1. Medical grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a signed statement explaining the objection;
2. Religious grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a completed Certificate of Religious Exemption;
3. Eye examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
4. Dental examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 7:100, *Health, Eye and, Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students*

VISION AND HEARING SCREENING

CUSD#16 students will be screened annually in the required grades as stated in Section 675.110 of the Title 77 Illinois Administrative Code. Screening is not a substitute for a complete examination by a doctor. Students are not required to undergo screening (vision or hearing) if a physician signs a report indicating that a complete examination, eye and vision/ear and audiological evaluation, has been administered within the previous 12 months. Parents or legal guardians of a student may object to screening for their children on religious grounds. If a religious objection is made, a written and signed statement from the parent or legal guardian detailing such objection must be presented to the local school authority.

STUDENT MEDICATION (5.2)

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child by completing a "School Medication Authorization Form."

No school or district employee is allowed to administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector (e.g., EpiPen®) and/or an asthma inhaler or medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

Students who are diabetic may possess and self-administer diabetic testing supplies and insulin if authorized by the student's diabetes care plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students with epilepsy may possess and self-administer supplies, equipment and medication, if authorized by the student's seizure action plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students may self-administer (but not possess on their person) other medications required under a qualified plan, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

The school district shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication, including asthma medication or epinephrine injectors, or medication required under a qualifying plan. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine injector, asthma medication, and/or a medication required under a qualifying plan.

Administration of Medical Cannabis

In accordance with the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program, qualifying students are allowed to utilize medical cannabis infused products while at school and school events. Please contact the building principal for additional information. Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver pursuant to this procedure is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

Undesignated Medications

The school may maintain the following undesignated prescription medications for emergency use: (1) Asthma medication; (2) Epinephrine injectors; (3) Opioid antagonists; and (4) Glucagon. No one, including without limitation, parents/guardians of students, should rely on the school or district for the availability of undesignated medication. This procedure does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these medication(s).

Emergency Aid to Students

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

Cross-References:

PRESS 7:270, *Administering Medicines to Students*

MEDICATION PROCEDURES

1. Medications are administered at school in accordance with the Recommended Practices and Procedures Manual from the Illinois State Board of Education. Administering medications at school is discouraged. However, some pupils with long-term chronic illness or disability may require medication during the day. Only in exceptional cases in which failure to take medication could jeopardize the child's health and/or education, should medication be administered at school. All prescription medications that are brought to school must be sent to the nurse's office upon arrival. This medication will be stored in a locked cabinet. It is recommended that medications be delivered to the school by the parent.
2. All medications given at school, prescription and over the counter medication and supplements (which include essential oils), must be prescribed by a licensed prescriber. The medication must be brought to school in the original most up-to-date container as dispensed by the pharmacy or in the original over the counter packaging. No medication in "baggies" will be accepted. The CUSD#16 "Authorization For Administration of Prescription Medication" form must be completed by both the parent and the physician. Any change in the dosage or administration must have written authorization from the prescriber.
3. The morning doses of medications should be given at home.
4. The school reserves the right to have the time of medication administration at school adjusted to meet the schedule and availability of the nurse.
5. Questions concerning medications will be referred to your physician.
6. Self-managed and emergency medications will be evaluated individually by the school nurse (i.e. asthma inhalers, epi-pens, and medication to manage diabetes). It is recommended that spare medications and supplies be kept in the nurse's office for emergency use.
7. All CUSD #16 Medication and Health Forms are available on the website, in either school office or in the nurse's office.
8. The school not only has the right, but also the responsibility to refuse to administer any medication at school if properly qualified individuals are not available.
9. The school will ascertain from the parent and/or the physician the necessity for administering medication during school hours and will retain the discretion to reject requests that do not meet the medication guidelines. Medication sent to school without proper documentation will NOT be given.
10. Noon medication is not routinely given at school on early dismissals @ 11:45.

GUIDANCE & COUNSELING (5.30)

The school provides a social worker and school psychologist who are available to counsel individuals or groups that have a particular need or simply want questions answered. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact any of these staff members with questions or concerns involving their children. Cross-reference:

SAFETY DRILL PROCEDURES (5.40)

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school board. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement drill to address an active shooter incident, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. Drills will not be preceded by a warning to the students.

Teachers will review the different types of emergency procedures and assist students in implementing them properly. Remember to act quickly and quietly during the drill. Crisis Plans are on file at New Berlin Elementary School and posted in classrooms.

Cross-References:

PRESS 4:170, *Safety*

PRESS 4:170-API, *Comprehensive Safety and Crisis Program*

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (5.50)

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding communicable diseases.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has a communicable disease.
2. In certain cases, students with a communicable disease may be excluded from school or sent home from school following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to the parent and guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the communicable disease.
4. A student excluded because of a communicable disease will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings to the school a letter from the student's doctor stating that the student is no longer contagious or at risk of spreading the communicable disease.

Cross-references:

PRESS 7:280, *Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease*

PRESS 7:280-AP, *Managing Students with Communicable or Infectious Diseases*

HEAD LICE (5.60)

The presence of head lice does require your immediate attention and action.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has head lice.
2. Infested students will be sent home following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the infestation.
4. A student excluded because of head lice will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings the student to school to be checked by the school nurse or building principal

and the child is determined to be free of the head lice and eggs (nits). Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

Cross-References:

PRESS 7:250 AP1, *Measures to Control the Spread of Head Lice at School*

CHAPTER 6 – STUDENT CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

GENERAL BUILDING CONDUCT (6.10)

RESPONSIBILITY CENTERED DISCIPLINE

The goal of New Berlin Elementary is to create a learning environment that brings out the best in everyone - both academically and behaviorally. In order to accomplish this goal, New Berlin CUSD #16 has adopted the Responsibility-Centered Discipline Program to provide support to students as they develop and strengthen the skill of self-regulation (controlling their thoughts and emotions) by taking responsibility for their behavior. The RCD Program is designed to help educators learn the necessary skills and develop a plan to systematically create a culture of student self-responsibility. New Berlin Elementary School Staff have identified foundational values and skills that are critical in developing self-responsibility to prepare our students for life in the real world.

PRIDE Universal Values

Perseverance

Never give up!

Respect

Be kind to others and myself in all I think, do, and say.

Integrity

Do the right thing even when no one else is watching. Wrong is wrong even when others are doing it.

Discipline

Think about my words and actions. I am in control of myself and my behavior.

Empathy

Understand and respect the feelings of others.

THE RESPONSE-ABILITY PROCESS

Responsibility is the primary focus of the RCD Program. The term *Response-Ability* is used to describe the ability of the student to *respond* in a manner that can create lasting change and correct a problem he/she may have created. The *response* includes the student coming up with a reasonable solution to change their behavior so that they can make a positive contribution to the learning environment.

When educators begin to address a student's behavior, sometimes it becomes evident that the student is not capable of self-regulation at that moment, is not yet ready to receive corrective feedback regarding their behavior, or is unwilling to propose a reasonable solution to change the behavior. The RCD Process trains educators to recognize when students are not capable of self-

regulation or not ready to discuss an issue, and offers those students time to cool off and gain control over his/her emotions so that he/she can prepare to move forward with a solution. The objective of the RCD Program is to teach students to recognize when they are too emotionally charged to make the best decisions and to get them to a point where they can handle situations in a positive manner.

THREE LEVELS OF COMPLIANCE

The RCD Process incorporates three levels of compliance when responding to challenging moments with students:

- Level One: The student quickly recognizes that he/she has made a mistake, takes responsibility for the problem and works well with the teacher to resolve the issue. A Give 'Em 5 Coaching Conversation takes place and the issue is resolved.
- Level Two: The student begins to display signs of unwillingness to accept responsibility - including arguing, denying, ignoring the teacher, or interrupting the teacher. A Give 'Em 5 Coaching Conversation takes place and the student is given an RCD Thinking Sheet to complete. The student is able to gain self-control and finish the process with the teacher successfully.
- Level Three: The student refuses to accept responsibility and is unable or unwilling to give his/her best effort to work through the process with the teacher. The student does not demonstrate self-regulation of the behavior after presenting the solution to the teacher. The student is unable to maintain control through the Give 'Em 5 Coaching Conversation and is removed from the classroom setting and referred to the office.

All students will be given the opportunity to be redirected and coached by their teacher to remain in the classroom. Educators will use various strategies to support student self-regulation in order to avoid potential consequences.

At New Berlin Elementary, all adults are expected to respond to inappropriate student behavior. The adult who initially handles the behavior incident should contact a parent or guardian with details for the behavior incident. This contact may be made in the form of an e-mail, a phone call, a digital report from the Review 360 program, or through another classroom platform such as Class Dojo. Reported behavior typically falls under one of two categories: "Staff-Managed Incident" or "Office-Managed Incident." For a "Staff-Managed Incident" the adult who handled the behavior will follow through with all appropriate actions, including assigning a consequence as appropriate. For a n "Office-Managed Incident" the adult in charge will notify a parent/guardian of the details, and the Principal or Assistant Principal will follow up.

Consequences for misbehavior may include one or more the following. **The continuum is not inclusive, and the principal may assign any appropriate consequence as supported by Board policy.** If necessary, safe physical intervention will be used. Laws regarding due process for students will be followed.

Bullying – repeated targeting of the same individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Parent contact by principal · Loss of privileges · Reflective Essay-research and reflect · Apology as appropriate · Conflict Resolution as appropriate · Alternate in-school setting
Repeated Rude or Unkind Behavior to different targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Parent contact · Loss of privileges · Apology as appropriate · In-school detention
Making False Accusations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Parent contact · Loss of privileges · Apology as appropriate · In-school detention
Chronic Inappropriate language (heard or verified by an adult)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Teacher and student call to parent (for previous offenses – document date/time) · Loss of privileges · Follow-up contact to parent by principal · Apology as appropriate · In-school detention
Threatening/fighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Parent contact by principal · Alternate in-school setting · Loss of privileges
One-sided Physical Aggression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Parent contact by principal · Alternate in-school setting · Loss of privileges
Repeated Noncompliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Teacher and student call to parent (for previous offenses – document date/time) · Follow-up contact to parent by principal · Apology as appropriate · Loss of privileges · In-school detention
Stealing/Property Damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Teacher and student call parent (if classroom incident) · Principal and student call parent (if other school property) · Restitution or community service

Repeated Disruptive Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Teacher and student call to parent (for previous offenses - document date/time) · Follow-up contact to parent by principal · Alternate in-school setting · Loss of privileges · Letter of apology
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Any and all conduct that is prohibited by Board policy or the discipline code shall be addressed and appropriate consequences given.

PREVENTION OF AND RESPONSE TO BULLYING, INTIMIDATION, AND HARASSMENT

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important district and school goals. Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, immigration status, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in each of the following situations: 1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity. 2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities. 3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment. 4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non school-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school district or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school. Bullying includes cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of

property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the building principal or assistant principal, who each are district complaint managers, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. All school staff members are available for help with a bully or to make a report about bullying. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the district complaint manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing.

A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is prohibited. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the school's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions. Students and parents/guardians are also encouraged to read the following school district policies: 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited and 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment.

Cross-references: PRESS 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited; PRESS 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment; PRESS 7:190, Student Discipline; PRESS 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure

SCHOOL DRESS CODE/STUDENT APPEARANCE (6.20)

The attire and grooming of students is the responsibility of the students and their parents. Students are expected to wear clothing in a neat, clean, and well-fitting manner while on school property and/or in attendance at school sponsored activities. Students are to use discretion in their dress and are not permitted to wear apparel that causes a substantial disruption in the school environment.

- Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or picture alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images.
- Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols, including gang symbols.
- Hats, coats, bandannas, sweat bands, and sunglasses may not be worn in the building during the school day.
- Hair styles, dress, and accessories that pose a safety hazard are not permitted during physical education or recess.
- Clothing with holes, rips, tears, and clothing that is otherwise poorly fitting, showing skin and/or undergarments may not be worn at school.
- The length of shorts or skirts must be appropriate for the school environment. Tops with bare midriffs, halters, or spaghetti straps should not be worn.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. Athletic shoes are required for PE and recommended for recess. **Flip-flops are not to be worn.**

- If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the building principal will make the final decision.
- Students whose dress causes a substantial disruption of the orderly process of school functions or endangers the health or safety of the student, other students, staff or others may be subject to discipline.

Students should avoid wearing expensive coats or clothing to school. Coats will be kept in a designated area and are not allowed to be worn in class. **New Berlin Elementary School is not responsible for missing or damaged items.**

Cross Reference:

PRESS 7:160, *Student Appearance*

STUDENT DISCIPLINE (6.30)

Copies of all School District policies on student behavior are available online through the School District's website or in the school office. Additionally, see the appendix of this Handbook for the entire CUSD #16 Board of Education policy 7:190 on Student Behavior.

PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT

Students may be disciplined for gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens or other vaping related products.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:
 - Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law).
 - Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law.

- Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
- Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in a tablet or powdered form.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

1. Using, possessing, controlling or transferring a "weapon" or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.
2. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.
3. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or similar electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device or cellular telephone, commonly known as "sexting." Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the building principal, all cellular phones, smartphones and other electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student's lunch period; or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals..

4. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
5. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a staff member's request to stop, present school identification or submit to a search.
6. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
7. Engaging in bullying, hazing or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student or encouraging other students to engage in such behavior. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network or other comparable conduct.
8. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning) and sexual assault.
9. Engaging in teen dating violence.
10. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
11. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
12. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (calling 9-1-1); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
13. Being absent without a recognized excuse.
14. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society.
15. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
16. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and hazing.
17. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.
18. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
19. Operating an unarmed aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the building principal.

For purposes of these rules, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student’s parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

The grounds for disciplinary action also apply whenever the student’s conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property; or
5. During periods of remote learning.

Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out of school voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following measures:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension.

7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. (If transportation arrangements cannot be made in advance, an alternative disciplinary measure will be assigned to the student.)
8. Community service.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
11. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State law.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension or expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

Isolated Time Out, Time Out and Physical Restraint

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

Weapons Prohibition

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than 2 calendar years:

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than 2 calendar years:

(1) A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The expulsion period may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

(2) A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including "look alikes" of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

Gang & Gang Activity Prohibited

"Gang" is defined as any group, club or organization of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts. No student on or about school property or at any school activity or whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to a school activity, shall: (1) wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell any clothing, jewelry, paraphernalia or other items which reasonably could be regarded as gang symbols; commit any act or omission, or use either verbal or non-verbal gestures, or handshakes showing membership or affiliation in a gang; or (2) use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interest of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to, soliciting others for membership in any gangs; (3) request any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidate, harass or threaten any person; (4) commit any other illegal act or other violation of district policies, (5) or incite other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The building principal or designee shall meet with a student returning to school from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion or alternative school setting. The goal of this meeting shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusion and shall include an opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make-up missed work for equivalent academic credit.

Cross-references:

PRESS 7:190, Student Discipline

PRESS 7:190-AP2, Gang Activity Prohibited

FIELD TRIPS (6.60)

Field trips are a privilege for students. Students must abide by all school policies during transportation and during field-trip activities, and shall treat all field trip locations as though they are school grounds.

Failure to abide by school rules and/or location rules during a field trip may subject the student to discipline.

Parents will be given advance notice in writing of all field trips. Permission slips for all field trips for will be sent home with students to be signed as the trips are planned.

All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to receive appropriate permission from parent/guardian or teacher;
- Failure to complete appropriate coursework;
- Behavioral or safety concerns;
- Denial of permission from administration;
- Other reasons as determined by the school.

Chaperones for field trips will be designated by classroom teachers based on supervision needs and available space. Chaperones may be asked to pay any individual fees related to the field trip. Parents are not allowed to transport children to and/or from a field trip. School policy is that all students ride school transportation to and from the location(s) of the trip. An exception may be made for an emergency as deemed by the staff member in charge. Field trip chaperones are selected by the teacher and asked to supervise a small group of children for safety and behavior, under the direction of the classroom teacher. All volunteers are required by law to have a basic background check prior to volunteering directly with students. Teachers will explain rules and guidelines to chaperones prior to the field trip. Chaperones may not bring other children on the field trip.

-----Cross-references:

PRESS 6:240, *Field Trips*

PRESS 6:240-AP, *Field Trip Guidelines*

ACCESS TO STUDENT SOCIAL NETWORKING PASSWORDS & WEBSITES (6.70)

1. School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination.

Cross Reference: PRESS 7:140-E, Letter to Parents/Guardians Regarding the Right to Privacy in the School Setting

STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES (6.80)

The use of electronic devices and other technology at school is a privilege, not a right. Students are prohibited from using electronic devices, except as provided herein. An electronic device includes, but

is not limited to, the following: cell phone, smart phone, audio or video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), ipod®, ipad®, laptop computer, tablet computer or other similar electronic device. Pocket pagers and other paging devices are not allowed on school property at any time, except with the express permission of the building principal.

During instructional time electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight unless: (a) permission is granted by an administrator, teacher or school staff member; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Cell phones or other personal electronic devices may be used by the owner on the bus. Earbuds or headphones should be used. If the item creates a disturbance or becomes a behavior issue, the privilege may be revoked.

Electronic devices may never be used in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, violates student conduct rules or violates the rights of others. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: (1) using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms; (2) cheating; and (3) creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction or non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images (i.e., sexting).

If a cell phone or other electronic device is confiscated for improper use, a parent or guardian will need to make arrangements to come to school to pick up the item. The item will not be sent home with a sibling, friend, or other individual besides the parent or guardian. Improper use may include, but is not limited to, showing or sharing content that is sexually explicit, violent, or profane, or creating a disturbance with the electronic device.

The school and school district are not responsible for the loss, theft or damage to any electronic device brought to school.

CHAPTER 7 – INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY & PUBLICATIONS

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE (7.10)

All use of electronic network use must be consistent with the school's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These rules do not attempt to state all required or proscribed behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. **The failure of any user to follow these rules will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.**

ACCEPTABLE USE

Access to the electronic network must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research, and be consistent with the District's educational objectives, or (b) for legitimate business use.

PRIVILEGES

The use of the electronic network is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The system administrator or Building Principal will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. His or her decision is final.

UNACCEPTABLE USE

The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the network. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

- a. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
- b. Unauthorized downloading of software, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or de-virused;
- c. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
- d. Using the network for private financial or commercial gain;
- e. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
- f. Hacking or gaining unauthorized access to files, resources, or entities;
- g. Invading the privacy of individuals, that includes the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature including a photograph;
- h. Using another user's account or password;
- i. Posting material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
- j. Posting anonymous messages;
- k. Using the network for commercial or private advertising;
- l. Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material; and
- m. Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

NETWORK ETIQUETTE

The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
- d. Recognize that email is not private. People who operate the system have access to all email. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- e. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the network to be private property.

NO WARRANTIES

The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

INDEMNIFICATION

The user agrees to indemnify the School District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

SECURITY

Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify a security problem on the Internet, the user must notify the system administrator or Building Principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep your account and password confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log-on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the network.

VANDALISM

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

TELEPHONE CHARGES

The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

COPYRIGHT OR WEBSITE PUBLISHING RULES

Copyright law and District policy prohibit the re-publishing of text or graphics found on the web or on District websites or file servers without explicit written permission.

- a. For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.
- b. Students engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of “public domain” documents must be provided.
- c. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.

USE OF EMAIL

The District’s email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the School District. The School District provides email to aid students as an education tool.

- a. The District reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of any account on its system, without prior notice or permission from the account’s user. Unauthorized access by any student to an email account is strictly prohibited.
- b. Each person should use the same degree of care in drafting an email message as would be put into a written memorandum or document. Nothing should be transmitted in an email message that would be inappropriate in a letter or memorandum.
- c. Electronic messages transmitted via the School District’s Internet gateway carry with them an identification of the user’s Internet *domain*. This domain is a registered name and identifies the author as being with the School District. Great care should be taken, therefore, in the composition of such messages and how such messages might reflect on the name and reputation of the School District. Users will be held personally responsible for the content of any and all email messages transmitted to external recipients.
- d. Any message received from an unknown sender via the Internet should either be immediately deleted or forwarded to the system administrator. Downloading any file attached to any Internet-based message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message’s authenticity and the nature of the file so transmitted.

e. Use of the School District's email system constitutes consent to these regulations.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*

ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENTS ABOUT EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (7.40)

School districts throughout the State of Illinois contract with different educational technology vendors for beneficial K-12 purposes such as providing personalized learning and innovative educational technologies, and increasing efficiency in school operations.

Under Illinois' Student Online Personal Protection Act, or SOPPA (105 ILCS 85/), educational technology vendors and other entities that operate Internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications that are designed, marketed, and primarily used for K-12 school purposes are referred to in SOPPA as *operators*. SOPPA is intended to ensure that student data collected by operators is protected, and it requires those vendors, as well as school districts and the Ill. State Board of Education, to take a number of actions to protect online student data.

Depending upon the particular educational technology being used, our District may need to collect different types of student data, which is then shared with educational technology vendors through their online sites, services, and/or applications. Under SOPPA, educational technology vendors are prohibited from selling or renting a student's information or from engaging in targeted advertising using a student's information. Such vendors may only disclose student data for K-12 school purposes and other limited purposes permitted under the law.

In general terms, the types of student data that may be collected and shared include personally identifiable information (PII) about students or information that can be linked to PII about students, such as:

- Basic identifying information, including student or parent/guardian name and student or parent/guardian contact information, username/password, student ID number
- Demographic information
- Enrollment information
- Assessment data, grades, and transcripts
- Attendance and class schedule
- Academic/extracurricular activities
- Special indicators (e.g., disability information, English language learner, free/reduced meals or homeless/foster care status)
- Conduct/behavioral data
- Health information
- Food purchases
- Transportation information

- In-application performance data
- Student-generated work
- Online communications
- Application metadata and application use statistics
- Permanent and temporary school student record information

Operators may collect and use student data only for K-12 purposes, which are purposes that aid in the administration of school activities, such as:

- Instruction in the classroom or at home (including remote learning)
- Administrative activities
- Collaboration between students, school personnel, and/or parents/guardians
- Other activities that are for the use and benefit of the school district

Cross Reference:

PRESS 7:345-AP, E2, *Student Data Privacy; Notice to Parents About Educational Technology Vendors*

CHAPTER 8 – SEARCH & SEIZURE

SEARCH AND SEIZURE (8.10)

Search and Seizure [1](#)

In order to maintain order safety and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. “School authorities” includes school liaison police officers.

School Property and Equipment as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as, lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there.

The building principal may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

Students Searches

School authorities may search a student and/or the student’s personal effects in the student’s possession (such as, purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district’s student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student’s age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student’s account on a social networking website that violates the school’s disciplinary rules or school district policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination. School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to the student’s account or profile on a social networking website.

Seizure of Property

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district’s policies or rules, evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

Questioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity

Before a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the building principal or designee will: (a) Notify or attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian and document the time and manner in writing; (b) Make reasonable efforts to ensure the student's parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that a school employee (including, but not limited to, a social worker, psychologist, nurse, guidance counselor, or any other mental health professional) is present during the questioning; and (c) If practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure that a law enforcement officer trained in promoting safe interactions and communications with youth is present during the questioning.

Cross-reference:

PRESS 7:140, Search and Seizure

CHAPTER 9 -EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The vast majority of activities and events for NBE will take place within the instructional day, or be hosted as family events during evening hours. Any activities taking place on school grounds, or under the sponsorship of school personnel, are subject to the same rules and expectations in effect during the school day.

CHAPTER 10 – SPECIAL EDUCATION

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (10.10)

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services.

The School provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the school. The term “children with disabilities” means children between ages 3 and the day before their 22nd birthday for whom it is determined that special education services are needed. It is the intent of the school to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

A copy of the publication “Explanation of Procedural Safeguards Available to Parents of Students with Disabilities” may be obtained from the school district office.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 6:120, *Education of Children with Disabilities*

To meet these requirements, CUSD #16 in cooperation with the Sangamon Area Special Education District (SASED), provides special education programs and services to all eligible children. Programs and services are designed to meet the needs of students who have disabilities, which adversely affect their success in a preschool or regular classroom setting.

Once a student has progressed through all 3 Tiers of interventions with RtI, a referral may be made by parents, teachers, or other concerned individuals. After a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation, a committee of educational personnel determines the child’s eligibility for programs and services.

When a child is eligible for special education, an Individual Education Program (IEP) is written which sets goals and recommends services specific to the child’s unique needs. Parent/guardian consent is required prior to the evaluation and for special education placement. Parent participation is encouraged at every step.

Special education referral forms may be obtained from your building principal. Also available upon request are the complete “Explanation of Procedural safeguards to Parents of Children with Disabilities” and ISBE Regulations governing special education.

The following is a brief description of special education programs and services:

- Supportive Resource Services (SRS)-limited instruction for less than 50% of the school day
- Supportive Resource Classroom (SRC)-intensive instruction for more than 50% of the school day.
- Early Childhood Program (ECE)-for children ages 3-5 years
- Structured Classroom – Self-contained special education classroom for children needs best served in a smaller sized class/setting.
- Hearing Handicapped Program-Resource and consultative services

- Speech/Language Program

Additional services provided through Sangamon Area Special Education District include: Child Find Services, School Social Work Services, School Psychological Services, Psychiatric Diagnostic Services, Vocational Education Services, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Orientation and Mobility Training, and Audiologist Services.

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses in either of the following situations:

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-12, (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) the parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or 2. He or she (a) has an IEP, (b) is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and (c) the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Superintendent or designee.

A student requiring adapted physical education will receive that service in accordance with the student's Individualized Education Program.

Students with disabilities who do not qualify for an individualized education program, as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and implementing provisions of this Illinois law, may qualify for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if the student (i) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of a physical or mental impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment. For further information, please contact the building Principal.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 6:120, Education of Children with Disabilities

PRESS 6:120-API,E1 – Exhibit – Notice to Parents/Guardians Regarding Section 504 Rights

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (10.20)

Behavioral Interventions

Behavioral interventions shall be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. The School Board will establish and maintain a committee to develop, implement, and monitor procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for children with disabilities.

Discipline of Special Education Students

The District shall comply with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's *Special Education* rules when disciplining special education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 7:230, *Misconduct by Students with Disabilities*

ACCOMMODATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the superintendent or building principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

REQUEST TO ACCESS CLASSROOM (10.50)

The parent/guardian of a student receiving special education services, or being evaluated for eligibility, is afforded reasonable access to educational facilities, personnel, classrooms, and buildings. This same right of access is afforded to an independent educational evaluator or a qualified professional retained by or on behalf of a parent or child.

For further information, please contact the school principal.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 6:120, *Education of Children with Disabilities*

PRESS 6:120-AP2,E1 – *Exhibit – Request to Access Classroom(s) or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation/Observation Purposes*

CHAPTER 11 – STUDENT RECORDS & PRIVACY

STUDENT PRIVACY PROTECTIONS (11.10)

The District has adopted and uses several policies and procedures regarding student privacy, parental access to information and administration of certain physical examinations to students. Copies of these policies are available upon request.

SURVEYS BY THIRD PARTIES

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions. Parents who object to disclosure of information concerning their child to a third party may do so in writing to the building principal.

SURVEYS REQUESTING PERSONAL INFORMATION

School officials and staff members will not request, nor, disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the school or district) containing one or more of the following items:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family
- Behavior attitudes about sex
- Illegal, anti-social, self-recriminating, or demeaning behavior
- Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close relationships
- Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the students or the student's parent/guardian
- Income other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program or for receiving financial assistance under such program

The student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

A student's parent/guardian may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

-----Cross-References:

STUDENT RECORDS (11.20)

A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction or by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except for certain records kept in a staff member's sole possession; records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school; video and other electronic recordings (including electronic recordings made on school busses) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes, though such electronic recordings may become a student record if the content is used for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Illinois Student Records Act afford parents/guardians and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's school records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and copy the student's education records within 10 business days of the day the District receives a request for access.

The degree of access a student has to his or her records depends on the student's age. Students less than 18 years of age have the right to inspect and copy only their permanent record. Students 18 years of age or older have access and copy rights to both permanent and temporary records. A parent/guardian or student should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) he or she wishes to inspect. Within 10 business days, the building principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent/guardian or student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. In certain circumstances, the District may request an additional 5 business days in which to grant access. The District charges \$.35 per page for copying but no one will be denied their right to copies of their records for inability to pay this cost. These rights are denied to any person against whom an order of protection has been entered concerning the student.

2. The right to have one or more scores received on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript.¹

Parents/guardians or eligible students may have one or more scores on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript. The District will include scores on college entrance examinations upon the written request of the parent/guardian or eligible student stating the name of each college entrance examination that is the subject of the request and the dates of the scores that are to be included.

3. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper.

A parent/guardian or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that is believed to be inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper. Requests should be sent to the building principal and should clearly identify the record the parent/guardian or eligible student wants changed and the specific reason a change is being sought. If the District decides not to amend the record, the District will notify the parent/guardian or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information

regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent/guardian or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

4. The right to permit disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the FERPA or Illinois School Student Records Act authorizes disclosure without consent.

Disclosure without consent is permitted to school officials with legitimate educational or administrative interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board. A school official may also include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or educational technology vendor); or any parent/guardian or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility or contractual obligation with the district. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any person as specifically required by State or federal law. Before information is released to these individuals, the parents/guardians or eligible student will receive prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information, and an opportunity to inspect, copy, and challenge such records.

Academic grades and references to expulsions or out-of-school suspensions cannot be challenged at the time a student's records are being forwarded to another school to which the student is transferring.

Disclosure is also permitted without consent to: any person for research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified; any person named in a court order; appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons; and juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties who request information before adjudication of the student.

5. The right to a copy of any school student record proposed to be destroyed or deleted.

The permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. The temporary record is maintained for at least 5 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. Temporary records that may be of assistance to a student with a disability who graduates or permanently withdraws, may, after 5 years, be transferred to the parent/guardian or to the student, if the student has succeeded to the rights of the parent/guardian. Student temporary records are reviewed every 4 years or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first.

6. The right to prohibit the release of directory information.

Throughout the school year, the District may release directory information regarding students, limited to: • Name

- Address
 - Grade level
 - Birth date and place
 - Parent/guardian names, addresses, electronic mail addresses, and telephone numbers
 - Photographs, videos, or digital images used for informational or news-related purposes (whether by a media outlet or by the school) of a student participating in school or school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics that have appeared in school publications, such as yearbooks, newspapers, or sporting or fine arts programs
 - Academic awards, degrees, and honors
 - Information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics
 - Major field of study
 - Period of attendance in school
- Any parent/guardian or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all of the above information by delivering a written objection to the building principal within 30 days of the date of this notice.

7. The right to request that military recruiters or institutions of higher learning not be granted access to your student's information without your prior written consent.

Federal law requires a secondary school to grant military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon their request, access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers, unless the student's parent/guardian, or student who is 18 years of age or older, submits a written request that the information not be released without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian or eligible student. If you wish to exercise this option, notify the building principal.

8. The right contained in this statement: No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege or benefits or make as a condition of employment, credit, or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record which such individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under State law.

9. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: U.S. Department of Education
Student Privacy Policy Office
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington DC 20202-8520

Cross-References:

PRESS 7:340, Student Records

STUDENT BIOMETRIC INFORMATION (11.30)

Before collecting biometric information from students, the school must seek the permission of the student's parent/guardian or the student, if over the age of 18. Biometric information means information that is collected from students based on their unique characters, such as a fingerprint, voice recognition or retinal scan.

-----Cross-reference:

PRESS 7:340, Student Records

CHAPTER 12 - PARENTAL RIGHT NOTIFICATIONS

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Parents/guardians may request information about the qualifications of their student's teachers and paraprofessionals, including:

- Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status by through which State qualification and licensing criteria have been waived;
- Whether the teacher is teaching in a field of discipline of the teacher's certification; and
- Whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child student and, if so, their qualifications.

Cross-References:

PRESS 5:190, *Teacher Qualifications*

PRESS 5:190-E1, *Notice to Parents of Their Right to Request Their Child's Classroom Teachers' Qualifications*

TESTING TRANSPARENCY

The State and District requires students to take certain standardized tests. For additional information, see handbook procedure 12:20. A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, information regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by law or District policy, which shall include information on any applicable right you may have to opt your student out of such assessment.

ANNUAL REPORT CARD

Each year, the District is required to disseminate an annual report card that includes information on the District as a whole and each school served by the District, with aggregate and disaggregated information for each required subgroup of students including: student achievement on academic assessments (designated by category), graduation rates, district performance, teacher qualifications, and certain other information required by federal law. When available, this information will be placed on the District's website.

UNSAFE SCHOOL CHOICE OPTION

The unsafe school choice option provided in State law permits students to transfer to another school within the District in certain situations. This transfer option is unavailable in this District because the District has only one school or attendance center. A student, who would otherwise have qualified for the choice option, or the student's parent/guardian, may request special accommodations from building principal.

CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Each spring classroom teachers and the principal will begin compiling information for class lists for the following school year. Parent requests for teachers will not be accepted. Parents of multiples (twins, triplets, etc.) may request that the siblings are in the same class. However, as with all classroom assignments, the final decision will be made by administration. New class lists will be posted in August approximately one week prior to the first day of student attendance. The student enrollment form must be completed and returned and residency must be verified before a child will be placed on a class list.

Placement - Students new to the district will be placed by the former public school's permanent records or by staff testing.

STANDARDIZED TESTING (12.20)

Students and parents/guardians should be aware that students in grades K-5 will take standardized tests throughout the school year. Parents are encouraged to cooperate in preparing students for the standardized testing, because the quality of the education the school can provide is partially dependent upon the school's ability to continue to prove its success in the state's standardized tests. Parents can assist their students achieve their best performance by doing the following:

1. Encourage students to work hard and study throughout the year;
2. Ensure students get a good night's sleep the night before exams;
3. Ensure students eat well the morning of the exam, particularly ensuring they eat sufficient protein;
4. Remind and emphasize for students the importance of good performance on standardized testing;
5. Ensure students are on time and prepared for tests, with appropriate materials;
6. Teach students the importance of honesty and ethics during the performance of these and other tests;
7. Encourage students to relax on testing day.

Cross-Reference:

PRESS 6:340, *Student Testing and Assessment Programs*

TESTING

A variety of testing is done at New Berlin Elementary School. Chapter and Unit tests are administered regularly in each academic subject. Benchmark screenings will be administered to K-5th graders at least 3 times per year in the areas of reading/language arts and math. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will take the PARCC in the spring (see next section).

Illinois Assessment of Readiness (previously called PARCC) is the state required series of tests given to students in grades 3 - 5. The PARCC will consist of one testing window each spring. Tests are given in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics at all of these grade levels. All testing will be completed electronically via a computer. The results will show how well our schools and districts are doing in meeting the adopted Illinois Learning Standards, also known as the Common Core State Standards, for learning. Individual student results of the PARCC assessment will be reported to parents, and school results will appear on the district report card.

CURRICULUM & PROGRAMS

In addition to the core curriculum of Reading/Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies, NBE offers the following programs:

Art - Students in K-5 will have a 50 minute art class once a week. The focus is for them to learn and apply the elements and principles of art, the tools and processes used in creating art, and the history of art.

Band - Band instruction begins in 5th grade. Students may participate in at least one group lesson and a full band practice weekly. The bands may perform publicly.

English Language Learners (ELL) - When a student is identified on the Home Language Survey as having a primary language other than English spoken in the home, he/she will be screened for the appropriate ELL services.

Library - Students in K - 5 have 30 minutes weekly with the library aide. Students receive instruction to support literacy and have the opportunity to check out books to enjoy at home.

Music - Students in K - 5 have 30 minutes of general music, every other day.

PE - Students in 1st - 5th grade have 30 minutes of PE every day. Kindergarten students have 30 minutes of supervised gross-motor play time with the PE teacher, every day.

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request.

Students with an Individualized Education Program may also be excused from physical education courses for reasons stated in Handbook Procedure 10.30.1 Special activities in physical education will be provided for a student whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practices Act, prevents his or her participation in the physical education course. State law prohibits the School District from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the School District.

Cross Reference: PRESS 7:260, Exemption from Physical Education

Response to Intervention (RtI) - The process of providing interventions to students who are at risk for academic and social-emotional/behavioral problems is called RtI. The RtI process is a multi-step approach to providing services and interventions to students who struggle with learning and behavior in the school setting at increasing levels of intensity. All students are given a reading fluency and comprehension screening, and a math screening in the fall, winter and spring. In addition, students are screened for risk-factors related to social-emotional behaviors. All students who do not meet the set expectations on the screenings, who are below standards on the benchmark assessments, or who are referred by their classroom teacher are given further testing to determine if they are in need of interventions. If interventions are needed, students will receive these interventions during the regular school day, and parents will be informed of the interventions being provided. Interventions may be computer-based or in person with one of the Reading, Math or Behavior specialists. The progress made by students at each stage of intervention is closely monitored. The information gained from an RtI process is used by school personnel and parents to adapt instruction and to make decisions regarding the student's educational program.

Enrichment - Enrichment is provided daily through differentiated instruction in the classroom. Additionally, students are provided with varied and enriching lessons through Art and Music.

Social/Emotional Learning - All students will participate in a core curriculum to address the Illinois Learning Standards for Social & Emotional Learning. A research-based curriculum will be implemented with the leadership of the school's Behavior Interventionist. Lessons will be delivered in a collaborative manner with both the classroom teacher and the interventionist providing follow up and ongoing support for the learning.

Title I Schoolwide Program - A schoolwide program is a comprehensive reform strategy designed to upgrade the entire educational program in a Title I, Part A school. Its primary goal is to ensure that all students, particularly those who are low achieving, demonstrate proficient and advanced levels of achievement relative to the state's academic achievement standards. All children in the schoolwide building may participate in activities funded, consistent with the school's comprehensive schoolwide program plan, and the school does not need to demonstrate that those activities are supplemental to ones that would otherwise be provided by the school. NBE's Title 1 Schoolwide Plan is approved by the Board of Education and on file in the elementary office.

Per the Title 1 application, all students will be served in the areas of Reading and Language Arts, Math, and Social Emotional Learning standards. Students identified through a data-based screening process in these areas will be eligible for additional instruction and supports with the Reading, Math, and/or Behavior specialists through classroom push-in instruction, as well as pull-out, focused small group and/or individual instruction with the appropriate specialist(s).

The school will work to ensure that the required school level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118 of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact

consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA. Please refer to Board Policy 6:170 on Title 1 Programs for more information. The Title 1 teacher or the Principal can provide a copy on-request.

AWARDS

Students will be recognized for their accomplishments throughout the school year. At the end of the school year individual classes or grade levels may also recognize students for special events or year-long accomplishments. Those awards might include, but are not limited to:

- Spelling Bee-the top two spellers from each grade level (4-5) who attends the Sangamon County Spelling Bee
- Perfect Attendance
- Young Authors, Jump Rope for Heart, Book It, Published Authors
- Outstanding male and female in physical education
- 100% Homework Club

OTHER REWARDS/ACTIVITIES

Students have many opportunities throughout the school year to make a difference at NBE and be rewarded. At the end of Red Ribbon Week there are school wide activities promoting fitness and a healthy lifestyle. Students are given Pretzel Pride coupons to be used at the school store. Students will also be rewarded for good behavior throughout the year with other incentives such as quarterly PBIS Celebrations and classroom-based good-behavior celebrations.

HOMELESS CHILD'S RIGHT TO EDUCATION (12.30)

When a child loses permanent housing and becomes a homeless person as defined at law, or when a homeless child changes his or her temporary living arrangements, the parent or guardian of the homeless child has the option of either:

1. Continuing the child's education in the school of origin for as long as the child remains homeless or, if the child becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year during which the housing is acquired; or
2. Enrolling the child in any school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

Assistance and support for homeless families can be provided by the District Homeless Liaison, Olga Lopez. She can be reached at 488-6054 ext. 419 or at olopez@pretzelpride.com

-----Cross-References:

PRESS 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*

PRESS 6:140-AP, *Education of Homeless Children*

SEX EDUCATION INSTRUCTION (12.40)

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or course in comprehensive sex education if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The parent or guardian's decision will not

be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene or traditional courses in biology. Parents or guardians may examine the instructional materials to be used in any district sex education class or course.

-----Cross-References:

PRESS 6:60-AP, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*

PRESS 6:60-E, *Notice to Parents/Guardians of Students Enrolled in Family Life and Sex Education Classes*

Sexual Abuse Avoidance Education – We partner with the Sangamon County Child Advocacy Center to provide instruction in recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse. Written notice will be given to parents prior to the instruction, along with an optional Letter of No Consent.

ENGLISH LEARNERS (12.60)

The school offers opportunities for English Learners to develop high levels of academic attainment in English and to meet the same academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to attain.

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be: (1) given an opportunity to provide input to the program, and (2) provided notification regarding their child's placement in, and information about, the District's English Learners programs.

For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Learners program, contact the building principal.

Cross Reference:

6:160, *English Learners*

SCHOOL VISITATION RIGHTS (12.70)

The School Visitation Rights Act permits employed parents/guardians, who are unable to meet with educators because of a work conflict, the right to time off from work under certain conditions to attend necessary school functions such as parent-teacher conferences, academic meetings and behavioral meetings. Letters verifying participation in this program are available from the school office upon request.

Cross-Reference:

PRESS 8:95-E1, Letter Notifying Parents/Guardians of School Visitation Rights

PRESS 8:95-E2, Verification of School Visitation

PESTICIDE APPLICATION NOTICE (12.80)

The district maintains a registry of parents/guardians of students who have registered to receive written or telephone notification prior to the application of pesticides to school grounds. To be added to the list, please contact the district office.

Notification will be given before application of the pesticide. Prior notice is not required if there is imminent threat to health or property.

-----Cross-Reference:

PRESS 4:160-AP, *Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds*

ASBESTOS POLICY

This notice is to inform building occupants of the potential hazard and locations of asbestos containing materials. It has been determined by the Illinois Department of Public Health and the United States EPA that asbestos is a potential health hazard, and precautions should be taken to avoid disturbing any asbestos containing materials.

Materials containing asbestos have been found in New Berlin Jr/Sr High School. Any evidence of disturbance or change in condition will be documented in the management Plan as required by law.

Cleaning and maintenance personnel who recognize the danger of asbestos are taking special precautions during work to properly guard against disturbance of the asbestos containing materials. All asbestos containing materials are inspected and evaluated periodically and additional measures will be taken when needed to protect the health of building occupants.

Reliable Environmental Solutions, Inc.

4211 Westgate Dr.

Springfield, IL. 62711

CHILD ABUSE/MANDATED REPORTERS (12.90)

All school personnel, including teachers and administrators, are required by law to immediately report any and all suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Cross Reference:

PRESS 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*

SEXUAL OFFENDER NOTIFICATION LAW (12.110)

State law requires that all school districts provide parents/guardians with information about sex offenders and violent offenders against youth.

State law prohibits a convicted child sex offender from being present on school property when children under the age of 18 are present, except for in the following circumstances as they relate to the individual's child(ren):

To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of their child.

To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to their child's special education services.

To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning their child such as retention or promotion.

In all other cases, convicted child sex offenders are prohibited from being present on school property unless they obtain written permission from the superintendent or school board. Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property – including the three reasons above – he/she is responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property. It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times he/she is in the presence or vicinity of children. A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Cross-References:

PRESS 4:170-AP2, *Criminal Offender Notification Laws*

SEX OFFENDER AND VIOLENT OFFENDER COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION LAW (12.120)

State law requires that all school district provide parents/guardians with information about sex offenders and violent offenders against youth.

You may find the Illinois Sex Offender Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/>.

You may find the Illinois Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/>.

Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry, www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/

Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Sex Offenders, www.isp.state.il.us/sor/faq.cfm

Cross Reference:

PRESS 4:170-E6, Informing Parents About Offender Community Notification Laws

This handbook was compiled by the Principal of New Berlin Elementary School with the guidance of the IPA Model Student Handbook. Teachers and parents were invited to give input. The handbook is only a summary of board policies governing the district; School Board policies are available to the public at the district office. The last revision was completed July 11, 2019. It may be revised at any time during the school year.

APPENDIX – CUSD #16 Board of Education policy 7:190

Student Behavior

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that: (1) ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapons-free, and drug-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student's misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and (5) teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in *prohibited student conduct*, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
 - i. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including medical cannabis, marijuana, and hashish).
 - j. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - k. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - l. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited

- m. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- n. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
- o. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- p. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

1. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon" as that term is defined in the Weapons section of this policy, or violating the Weapons section of this policy.
2. Using or possessing an electronic paging device. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student's lunch period, or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
3. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
4. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
5. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.

6. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
10. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. This does not include the non-disruptive: (a) expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference, or (b) display of affection during non-instructional time.
11. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
12. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
13. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
14. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus, or at any school activity.
15. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and School Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
16. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
17. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
18. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
19. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
20. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
21. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; or (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board’s authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student’s parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following:

1. Notifying parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student’s parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure, giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7:220, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended shall also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.

12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years in accordance with Board policy 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled shall also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for the transfer under State law. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances), “look-alikes,” alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

Corporal punishment is prohibited. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

School staff members shall not use isolated time out and physical restraints other than as permitted in Section 10-20.33 of the School Code, State Board of Education rules, and procedures developed by the Superintendent. Neither isolated time out nor physical restraints shall be used to discipline or punish a student.

Weapons

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year but not more than 2 calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. § 921), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act (430 ILCS 65/), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/24-1).
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including “look alikes” of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent’s determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

This policy's prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, State Police, and any involved student's parent/guardian. "School grounds" includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other certificated [licensed] educational employees, and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, or Dean of Students is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons.

Student Handbook

The Superintendent, with input from the parent-teacher advisory committee, shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook, including the District disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the students' parents/guardians within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

Incorporated by Reference: 7:190-AP4, (Use of Isolated Time Out and Physical Restraint)

LEGAL REF.: Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. §7151 et seq.

Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §6081.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

410 ILCS 647/, Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act.

430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/10-20.14, 5/10-20.28, 5/10-20.36, 5/10-21.7, 5/10-21.10, 5/10-22.6, 5/10-27.1A, 5/10-27.1B, 5/24-24, 5/26-12, 5/27-23.7, 5/31-3, and 110/3.10.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.280.

CROSS REF.:

2:150 (Committees), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:170 (Vandalism), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7:240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: July 2019

NEW BERLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Student/Parent Handbook Acknowledgement and Pledge

Name of Student: _____

Student Acknowledgement and Pledge

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the Student/Parent Handbook and School Board policy on student behavior. I have read these materials and understand all the rules, responsibilities and expectations. In order to help keep my school safe, I pledge to adhere to all School and School District rules, policies and procedures.

I understand that the Student/Parent Handbook and School District policies may be amended during the year and that such changes are available on the School District website or in the school office.

I understand that my failure to return this acknowledgement and pledge will not relieve me from being responsible for knowing or complying with School and School District rules, policies and procedures.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the Student/Parent Handbook and School Board policy on student behavior. I have read these materials and understand all the rules, responsibilities and expectations.

I understand that the Student/Parent Handbook and School District policies may be amended during the year and that such changes are available on the School District website or in the school office.

I understand that my failure to return this acknowledgement will not relieve me or my child from being responsible for knowing or complying with School and School District rules, policies and procedures.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please return the signed Acknowledgement