



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC: Approval of Amendment to the 2015-2016 Student Code of Conduct

SUBMITTED BY: Annette Perez OF: Student Relations/Discipline Management

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: July 20, 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the UISD Board of Trustees approve the amendments to the 2015-2016 Student Code of Conduct.

RATIONALE:

Legal Counsel has provided additional changes to the 2015-2016 Student Code of Conduct- attached hereto.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION: 2014-2015 Budget

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE: Chapter 37-Texas Education Code

EFAA (LEGAL)



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

Outline of the most significant changes to the 2015-2016 Student Code of Conduct:

SECTION II -- UNIFORMS: Pre – K through 12th Grade

High school students are allowed to wear school spirit/club/organization polo shirt with designated school color any day of the week.

Bullying and Harassment Violations:

Added Facebook, Videos, and Pictures to the Cyber-bullying definition as examples of internet and technology communication used.

Sexual Harassment / Sexual Abuse:

Added Rita Garner (956) 473-6273 after her title as a point of contact.

LEVEL I -- Minor Offenses:

Misuse of Telecommunications/Electronic Devices:

Under number 5, the following was added as examples of communication devices: smart watches, e-readers, tablets, chrome books.

Confiscation of Cellular Phones, Two-Way Radios, Paging Devices, and/or Text Messaging Devices: A “paging device” is a telecommunications device that emits a signal-without regard to whether the signal is audible, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor. The use of cellular phones, two-way radios, paging devices and/or text messaging devices is prohibited on all UISD campuses and facilities during school hours (first bell to last bell- Read Bring Your Own Device Handbook and excerpt below for further information). Device must be turned off and cannot be visible. The school is not responsible if these items are lost or stolen. Examples of communication devices include but are not limited to cellular telephones, IPAD, personal computer, iPOD, smart watches, e-readers, tablets, chrome books, or any other communication device which has networking and/or communication capabilities. Students using or exhibiting cellular phones, two-way radios, communication device, paging devices and/or text messaging shall have the device confiscated by school officials.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD): With teacher/administrator approval and adherence to the Technology Use Guidelines and Bring Your Own Device Handbook procedures, students in 4th through 12th grade may bring to school their own personal electronic devices including but not limited to smartphones (such as iPhone or Android), tablets and eReaders (such as iPad or Kindle), laptops, and netbooks, etc. and use the mobile learning device in the classroom or Library/Media Center for educational purposes only “with teacher/librarian approval”. BYOD is only allowed to be used if the classroom, library, or media center does not provide adequate UISD devices for learning purposes. Students are required to use the UISD network access credentials to connect to the filtered Internet via the United ISD Wi-Fi to ensure access to the best educational online resources. Unless approved by his/her classroom teacher/administrator, a student turning on, using, activating, viewing or displaying a cell phone or other electronic/communication device will be subject to discipline and confiscation of the device in accordance with that policy. Refer to the Technology Use Guidelines and Bring Your Own Device Handbook found in this booklet as well as the United ISD website www.uisd.net and thereafter click on the Student Code of Conduct icon.



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

Usage:

	Elementary	Middle School	High School
Inside the classroom/library when designated for learning by teacher/librarian	No → PK-3 rd Yes → 4 th & 5 th	Yes	Yes
During lunch OR transition time from class periods	No	No	No
Inside the library (i.e. Media Center)	No → PK-3 rd No → 4 th & 5 th	Yes	Yes
Specific procedures determined by campus	Yes	Yes	Yes

LEVEL II--Serious Offenses:

Possession of Prohibited Items:

1. Possessing or using matches or a lighter. Possessing, selling, giving, delivering, accepting, or using tobacco or nicotine products or smoking, including electronic cigarettes and vapor cigarettes.

Course Credit During Disciplinary Process: Students shall receive full credit for assignments completed in a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program, including in-school suspension... Available methods to complete coursework include, but are not limited to: online coursework, correspondence courses, distance learning, or summer school.

GLOSSARY:

Disruptions of School Operations: Any disruption of school operations is not tolerated and may constitute a misdemeanor offense. As identified by law, disruptions include the following:

- Interference with the movement of people at an exit, entrance, or hallway of district building without authorization from an administrator.
- Interference with an authorized activity by seizing control of all or part of a building.
- Use of force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent participation in an authorized assembly.
- Use of force, violence, or threats to cause disruption during an assembly
- Interference with the movement of people at an exit or an entrance to district property.
- Use of force, violence, or threats in an attempt to prevent people from entering or leaving district property without authorization from an administrator.
- Disruption of classes or other school activities while on district property or on public property that is within 500 feet of district property. Class disruption includes making loud noises; trying to entice a student away from, or to prevent a student from attending, a required class or activity; and entering a classroom without authorization and disrupting the activity with loud or profane language or any misconduct.
- Interference with the transportation of students in vehicles owned or operated by the district.

SEXTING: Sending or posting electronic messages, videos, or pictures that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal.



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

Outline of the most significant changes to the 2015-2016 TECHNOLOGY USE GUIDELINES (“TUG”):

ADDED:

Correction of misspelled word:

What are the student responsibilities?

If student accesses any ~~inappropriate~~ inappropriate material they need to report it immediately to a teacher and/or campus administrator.



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

Outline of the most significant changes to the 2015-2016 Student Handbook:

Special Education: (Change)

- **Evaluation and report completed within:** ~~60-calendar~~ 45 school days from the date the district receives the written consent.
- **Name of Special Education Director:** ~~Martha Moke~~ Cynthia Ramirez

Parents of Students with Disabilities & Child Find: Parents of students with learning difficulties or who may need special education... A child or student between the ages of birth through 21 who shows signs of developmental delays, ongoing learning problems, behavioral or medical problems that interfere with learning or may be suspected of having a disability ~~can be helped~~ must be identified through Child Find.

Services Provided by School Districts: Children Ages 3-21 years

The following are criteria which may qualify a student for special education services in a school district.

- ~~Mentally Impaired~~ Intellectual Disability
- ~~Hearing Impaired~~ Auditory Impairment
- Speech or Language Impaired
- Visually Impaired
- Orthopedically Impairedment
- Emotionally Disturbance
- Specific Learning Disabilities
- ~~Individuals who are~~ Other health impairment
- ~~Brain~~ Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Autism
- Deaf—Blindness
- Deafness
- Multiple Disabilities

Student Records: Virtually all information pertaining to student performance, including grades, test results, and disciplinary records, is considered confidential educational records and may be released to:

- Various governmental agencies; including but not limited to juvenile service providers and Child Protective Services (CPS) caseworkers or other child welfare representatives, in certain cases or individuals or entities granted access in response to a subpoena or court order.
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency.
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; administer student aid programs; or improve instruction.
- In connection with financial aid for which a student has applied or which the student has received.

Please note: Parents or eligible students have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if they believe the District is not in compliance with the law regarding student records. The District's complete policy regarding student records is available on the District's Web site at <http://www.uisd.net>.

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5901



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

Attendance:

Compulsory Attendance: §25.085 State law requires that a student who is at least six years of age, or who is younger than six years of age and has previously been enrolled in first grade, and who has not yet reached the child's 18th 19th birthday shall attend school for the entire period the program of instruction is provided, as well as any applicable accelerated instruction program, extended year program, or tutorial session unless the student is otherwise excused from attendance or legally exempt.

Age 19 and Older: A student person who voluntarily attends or enrolls in school or voluntarily attends school after the persons his or her eighteenth nineteenth birthday is required to shall attend school each school day for the entire period the program of instruction is offered. until the end of the school year. In addition, if a student 18 19 or older has more than five unexcused absences in a semester, the District may revoke the student's enrollment for the remainder of the school year. The student's presence on school property thereafter would be unauthorized and may be considered trespassing.

Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten: Students enrolled in prekindergarten or kindergarten are required to attend school and are subject to the compulsory attendance requirements as long as they remain enrolled.

Exemptions to Compulsory Attendance:

A temporary absence resulting from a Documented health-care appointment for that if that student or a child of the student, if the student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment including absences for recognized services for students diagnoses with autism spectrum disorders. A note from the health care provider must be submitted upon the student's arrival or return to campus.

Students in Home Schooling: Change—Parents must: submit a letter fill out a District Home School Information form indicating their intent to home-school their child...

Failure to Comply with Compulsory Attendance: Attendance Officers will implement truancy prevention measures designed to address the student attendance issues prior to filing a complaint with the Justice of the Peace a truancy court. However, if the truancy prevention measures fail to meaningfully address the student's school attendance, a complaint will be filed with the Justice of the Peace a truancy court against the parent, the student or both.

A court of law truancy court may impose penalties against both the student and his or her parents if a school-aged student is deliberately not attending school...

- Is absent (without excuse) on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period.

Attendance for Credit: § 25.092 A student in any grade level from kindergarten through grade 12...The actual number of days a student must be in attendance in order to receive credit or a final grade will depend on whether the class is for a full semester or for a full year.

Release of Students from School: Because class time is important, medical appointments should be scheduled, if possible, at times when the student will not miss instructional time... Once a student arrives on campus for the school day, he or she will not be permitted to leave the campus 30 minutes prior to end of school day without administrative approval.

Awards and Honors: Middle School "A" Honor Roll: To be eligible for this distinction on a six week basis, a student must receive A's in ALL core courses each six weeks in ALL courses. To be eligible for the end of the year award, a student must have all A's during the 1st through 5th six weeks.

Cafeteria Services (Added...)

- **A la Carte Sales:** Since the Child Nutrition Program started with the Community Eligibility Provision this year (14-15) the first breakfast and lunch meals are free of charge for all students, but any additional serving of the main entree or side dish will be charged as a la carte items.



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

- **Community Eligibility Provision:** Any school district that administers the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program is eligible to participate in the Community Eligibility Program if forty (40) percent of the students of the district are categorically eligible. Under this program, school district must offer both breakfast and lunch at no charge for the first meal.
- The meal pattern requirement must comply with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the regulations from the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 which is based on recommendations from the Institute of Medicine.
- **Special/ Modified Menus:** Special diets prescribed by physician assistants or nurse practitioners will no longer be accepted. If the child is serviced through the Special Education Program, an ARD Committee must address the special modified menu.
- **USDA Smart Snacks in School:** School clubs or organizations must assess any food to be used for fundraising using the Alliance for Healthier Generation Smart Snacks Product Calculator (link can be found on UISD Child Nutrition web page). A report must then be submitted to the campus bookkeeper for review.
- **Celebrations (All Grade Levels):** Parents are able to provide store bought food only for school designated functions or for children in the student's classroom for his/her birthday with prior approval from campus administration. Parents need to be aware that children in the school may have severe allergies to certain food products. Therefore, it is imperative to discuss this with the child's teacher prior to bringing any food in this circumstance. Occasionally, the school or a class may host certain functions or celebrations tied to the curriculum that will involve food. The school or teacher will notify students and parents of any known food allergies when soliciting potential volunteers for bringing food products.

Deleted Areas:

- ~~Free And Reduced Meal Applications;~~
- ~~Computerized Application Screening;~~
- ~~Alternative Meals;~~
- ~~Meal Cost;~~

Class Rank / Top Ten Percent / Highest Ranking Student: For two school years following his or her graduation, Students who are ranked in the top ten percent of their graduating class are eligible for automatic admission into four-year public universities and colleges in Texas; (Except The University of Texas at Austin). Students are required to demonstrate that he or she either completed the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) or the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) or satisfies the ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT assessment or earns at least a 1,500 out of 2,400 on the SAT college entrance exam, and apply for admission to a state college or university within the first two school years after graduation from high school. For students who entered 9th grade in 2014-2015 and thereafter, they must graduate with the Distinguished Level of Achievement in order to be eligible for the top ten percent automatic admission.

For the 2013-2014 2016-2017 academic year, UT has determined that it will automatically admit all eligible applicants who rank within the top 7% 8% of their graduating classes.

Beginning with the students entering grade 8 in the 2008-09 school year, Class ranking shall be determined by averaging all course grades taken for high school credit, regardless of when the credit was earned, through the third quarter of the senior year. The grade for the third nine-week grade period shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose. The grade point average (GPA) shall be computed in accordance with policy EIC Local Policy and shall be carried out...

All students whose grade point averages comprise the top ten percent of the graduating class and qualify for automatic admission under Education Code 51.803 shall be recognized. Eligibility standards required for the local procedure for determining valedictorian and salutatorian (or other local honor positions) shall not apply to the procedure for determining the top ten percent. The GPA shall be reported on the student's transcript as required by TEA and made available in accordance with the application deadline when requested by the student. [See EIC (LEGAL)] For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class ranking as required by state law. The District's



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class ranking for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC (LEGAL)]

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students who have the highest and second highest ranking respectively. To be eligible for such recognition a student must: 1.) Have been continuously enrolled in the same District high school for the six semesters immediately preceding graduation; 2.) Have completed the Recommended Program, the Advanced/ Distinguished Achievement Program, or the foundation program with the Distinguished Level of Achievement; and 3.) Be graduating after four complete years of enrollment in high school.

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purpose of receiving the scholarship certificate from the state of Texas. In case of a tie, the District shall compute the weighted GPA to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken. [EIC LOCAL]

~~Beginning with the students who enter grade 8 in the 2008-09 school year~~ A student who transfers into a District high school shall receive similar credits counted toward the GPA according to the list of courses offered in the District as long as the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) have been met.

Off Campus Requirement: High school seniors must meet off campus required criteria to be enrolled in a minimum of 3 courses per semester or four ~~4~~ courses per semester to be eligible for UIL participation.

Grades

Promotion/Retention: In Grades 6-8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70 on a scale of 100... For English Language Learners (ELL), the language arts grade shall be determined by averaging the English language arts grade and the ESL grade only.

A student in grades 6– 8 shall be permitted to take summer school for remediation in no more than three of the following areas: language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Elementary grades: As a general practice, a student in pre-K or kindergarten shall not be retained. If retention is considered, it must be for academic purposes and shall require approval of the student's parent and the Curriculum and Instruction Grade Placement Committee.

GRADES 1–5

In grades 1–5, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on a final grade of 70 on a scale of 100 based on course-level, grade-level standards (essential knowledge and skills) in four of the following areas: language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. For English Language Learners (ELL), the language arts grade shall be determined by averaging the English/Spanish language arts grade and the ESL grade only. Reading shall be a separate and independent grade for all students.

~~In Grades 1– 5, in order for students to be promoted they must have the following: 70 or above in 3 of the following content areas: Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies. For ESL only students, the Language Arts grade is determined by averaging English/Spanish Language Arts and ESL. Reading is a separate, independent grade.~~

Weighted Grade Scale: ~~Beginning with students entering grade 8 in the 2008-2009 school year, and thereafter~~ For students in the graduating class of 2016 and 2017, the District shall categorize and weight courses as Advanced courses, Regular courses and Modified courses for the purposes of class rank, these students shall be ranked using a the weighted 4.0 scale below. (EIC Local Policy)...

Beginning with students graduating in the class of 2018 and thereafter, the District shall categorize and weight courses as Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 as per EIC Local Policy.

- TIER 1 courses are eligible AP and dual credit courses designated in the course catalog shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 1 courses.



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

- TIER 2 courses are eligible Pre-AP courses and other locally identified weighted courses designated in the course catalog shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 2 courses.
- TIER 3 courses all other eligible courses identified in the course catalog shall be designated as Tier 3 courses.

The District shall convert semester grades to grade points and shall calculate a weighted GPA in accordance with the following chart:

Grade	Tier 1 Courses	Tier 2 Courses	Tier 3 Courses
100	6.0	5.0	4.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4
93	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1
90	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6
75	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0
<70	0	0	0

Graduation Programs: All students entering grade 9 prior to 2014-2015 will be placed on a Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) for graduation with the exception of those students with an individualized education plan...

Four-year Plan *Recommended Program*

8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
	English I*	English II*	English III**	English IV**/ English 1302 Dual Credit for English IV when taken with English 1301
	Algebra I-A	Geometry*	Math Models or Algebra II	Algebra II* or Pre-Calculus or Advanced Quantitative Reasoning or College Algebra (Dual Credit for 4 th Math) or other approved 4 th math course
	Biology*	Integrated Physics & Chemistry or Chemistry	Chemistry or Physics	Physics or 4 th Yr. Science-Lab based course
	World Geography*	World History*	U.S. History** or U.S. History 1302 for Dual Credit	Govt.** & Economics**
	Algebra I-B	Spanish I or French I	Spanish II or French II	Achieve Texas Career Pathway Elective
	P.E./Athletics/Band/ Dance/Cheerleading/ ROTC	Athletics/Band/Dance/Cheer- leading/ROTC or Elective	Athletics/Band/Dance/ Cheerleading/ROTC or elective	Athletics/Band/ Dance/ Cheerleading/ROTC or Elective



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

New Graduation Requirements: On entering ninth grade, students must indicate in writing an endorsement that the student intends to earn...Each 8th grader is provided with a Four-Year Plan in which they select their endorsement and career pathways. **If the 1st endorsement choice is not available then the 2nd or 3rd choice endorsement listed on the Four year plan will be considered in order of preference and availability...**

Graduation Plans for Incoming Freshmen 2014-2015 and Thereafter

Foundation High School Plan 26 Credits (EIF) Local	Foundation High School Plan with Endorsements 30 Credits (EIF) Local	Distinguished Level of Achievement with Endorsements 30 Credits (EIF) Local
4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History or Special Topics SS , U.S. History, U.S. Government (.5 credit), Economics (.5 credit)	4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History or Special Topics SS , U.S. History, U.S. Government (.5 credit), Economics (.5 credit)	4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History or Special Topics SS , U.S. History, U.S. Government (.5 credit), Economics (.5 credit)

Foundation + Endorsement + Algebra II = Distinguished Level of Achievement

The Distinguished Level of Achievement is the default plan for students at United ISD in order to achieve the maximum post-secondary college and/or career readiness.

**Distinguished Level of Achievement* must be earned to be eligible for "Top 10%" of the class and qualify for automatic college admission.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)	Business & Industry	Public Service	Arts & Humanities	Multidisciplinary Studies
Engineering Oil & Gas Production Technology Applications	Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources Architecture & Construction Arts, Audio/Video Tech. & Communication Bus. Mgt. & Administration Finance Hospitality and Tourism Information Technology Transportation, Distribution & Logistics Oil and Gas Production	Education Health Science Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Junior ROTC	Art English LOTE Music Theatre Social Studies	This Endorsement allows the students to select courses from the curriculum of each endorsement area.

8th Grade Algebra I Pre AP Guidelines: All eighth grade students enrolled in Pre AP Algebra I must meet the following criteria: ~~6th grade with a Level III Advanced Performance STAAR Raw Score of ≥ 44 and a Scale Score of ≥ 1762 or 7th grade with a Level III Advanced Performance STAAR Math Raw Score of ≥ 46 , and a Scale Score of ≥ 1798 .~~

Emergency Medical Treatment: If a student should have a medical emergency at school or a school-related activity... Therefore, parents are **being** asked **each year** to complete a Student Medical History via online. ~~Treatment Card (blue card) which must be returned to the campus nurse.~~ **It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to keep emergency care information up-to-date (name of doctor, emergency phone numbers, allergies, etc.). In addition, we are encouraging all parents that have medical concerns for their children to visit with their campus nurse. It is very important to keep open communication with your school nurse to ensure your children receive the best medical/nursing care in the school setting.**

Physical Examinations / Health Screenings: The District may provide additional screenings as District and community resources permit. **Any student that needs to be kept out of physical education for more than 3 days will require a medical note**



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

from their physician. It is of upmost importance that school children participate in physical activity to ensure their optimal health and wellbeing.

Human Sexuality Instruction: As a part of the district's curriculum, students receive instruction related to human sexuality. The School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) is involved with the selection of course materials for such instruction. State law requires that any instruction related to human sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, or human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immune deficiency syndrome must:

- Present abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior in relationship to all sexual activity for unmarried persons of school age;
- Devote more attention to abstinence from sexual activity than to any other behavior;
- Emphasize that abstinence is the only method that is 100 percent effective in preventing pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and the emotional trauma associated with adolescent sexual activity;
- Direct adolescents to a standard of behavior in which abstinence from sexual activity before marriage is the most effective way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases; and
- If included in the content of the curriculum, teach contraception and condom use in terms of human use reality rates instead of theoretical laboratory rates.

In accordance with state law, below is a summary of the district's curriculum regarding human sexuality instruction:

The School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) made recommendation for the District to partner with two agencies to provide abstinence education curriculum to our middle and high school students **with parental approval**. If grant funding is received the middle school students will be provided with adolescent health education, reproductive health lessons, adolescent pregnancy prevention primarily through leadership, self esteem, and abstinence through "Draw the line/Respect the Line" curriculum. High school students, specifically 9th graders will be provided "abstinence-plus" sexuality education through *Big Decisions* curriculum. This is a 10-session curriculum which includes medically accurate lessons on goals, and dreams, healthy relationships, anatomy/reproduction, abstinence, refusal skills, contraception, and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). *Big Decisions* conforms to the Texas Education Code and has been approved and used in more than 26 Texas school districts.

As a parent, you are entitled to review the curriculum materials. In addition, you may remove your child from any part of the human sexuality instruction with no academic, disciplinary, or other penalties. You may also choose to become more involved with the development of curriculum used for this purpose by becoming a member of the district's SHAC. Please see the campus principal for additional information.

Sexual Harassment / Sexual Abuse: The District will ~~not~~ provide instruction in human sexuality to district students pending approval of state grant.

TESTING (STANDARDIZED): STAAR Alternate 2, for students receiving special education services, will be available for eligible students, as determined by the student's ARD committee. This particular **EOC state** assessment may have a different testing window than the general assessments.

STAAR A, an accommodated version of STAAR[®], is offered as an online assessment in the same grades and subjects as STAAR. The passing standards for STAAR A are the same as any STAAR test. STAAR A will provide embedded supports designed to help students with disabilities access the content being assessed. These embedded supports include visual aids, graphic organizers, clarifications of construct-irrelevant terms, and text-to-speech functionality.

STAAR L is a linguistically accommodated English version of the STAAR grades 3-8 and end-of-course (EOC) mathematics, science, and social studies assessments. TEA provides the STAAR L for English language learners (ELLs). ELL students must meet participation requirements for a substantial degree of linguistic accommodation in these subject areas. STAAR L is an online testing program.

~~STAAR Alternate 2, for students receiving special education services, will be available for eligible students, as determined by the student's ARD committee.~~

~~TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills): TAKS is a state-mandated assessment that has been transitioned to the STAAR program. However, TAKS may still be administered to any student who has not met his/her TAKS graduation requirement.~~



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Annette Perez, Director

Student Relations/Discipline Management Department

Outline of the most significant changes to the 2015-2016 Bus Rider's Handbook:

ADDED:

Correction of East Compound address: 405 E.G. Ranch Road Hwy 359; Laredo, Texas 78043

To The Parents: The school bus is a key to a better education. It means that your children can go to better schools, despite the distance... Should problems arise, feel free to discuss them with your child's principal or with the district's ~~transportation department~~ Transportation Department. Please call the UISD Transportation Department at (956)473-6330 (North Compound), ~~or~~ (956)473-5230 (South Compound), or 956-473-1955 (East Compound) to report unsafe drivers with the bus number, date, time, and location of the incident.

Buses and Other School Vehicles:

Vandalism on School buses such as broken window, torn seat, graffiti, etc. will constitute a \$75 charge to the identified student along with a suspension from transportation services until restitution has been collected by the Transportation Department.

Videotaping of Students: For safety purposes, video/audio equipment will be used to monitor student behavior on buses and in common areas on campus. Students will not be told when the equipment is being used. The principal may review the tapes routinely and document student misconduct. Discipline shall be imposed in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

A parent who wants to view a videotape of the incident leading to the discipline of his or her child may request access in writing. The Superintendent/designee shall consider the request and render a decision in accordance with Board Policy FL and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 USCA 1232g). School officials may then share video footage with a parent only if the video does not disclose personally identifiable information regarding another student.