

District #301 Student/Parent Middle School Handbook 2022-2023



PRAIRIE KNOLLS
MIDDLE SCHOOL



CENTRAL
MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Student/Parent Handbook Index
2022-2023**

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CENTRAL DISTRICT #301 MIDDLE SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

(Changes or new additions to the handbook are italicized.)

The District #301 Middle School Student/Parent Handbook is also available on the school website. www.central301.net

Disclaimer

School rules published in this handbook are subject to such changes as may be needed to ensure continued compliance with federal, state or local regulations and are subject to amendment as becomes necessary for the routine operation of the school. This handbook is a summary of board policies governing the district. Board policies are available to the public at the district office and online at the district website listed above. Please note that not all behavior can be written and inserted in a guidebook; however, we expect students to follow reasonable rules and not violate the rights of others.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

1. In accordance with Illinois compulsory attendance requirements, it is the policy of CCUSD 301 that students shall attend school on a regular basis. We believe that daily attendance, timeliness to class, and preparedness and participation in class will increase the student's probability for successful performance and fosters the development of self-discipline and responsibility. It is the intention of the instructor of each course to not only teach the subject matter, but also to encourage the positive attributes of regular attendance, punctuality, and participation.

~~2. Students are expected to attend every class, whether remote or in person. The following structures for instruction will be used:~~ ●

~~In-person,~~

~~● Full-time Remote (medical exemption only).~~

The school has an obligation to inform both students and parents/guardians of the student's progress and attendance in all classes. Parents/guardians are to follow proper procedures to inform the school when their child is absent and to provide a reason for the absences.

~~It is important to note that while students are Remote Learning, they should follow teacher procedures to login into the class for instruction. Students are expected to attend all Remote Learning sessions provided by the teacher, and if they are not in attendance, they will be marked absent.~~

STEPS TO FOLLOW WHEN ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

1. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to call the main office and give the reason for an absence. The parent/guardian is requested to call prior to 7:50 a.m. the day of the absence at (847) 464-6000 for Central Middle School and (847) 717-8100 for Prairie Knolls Middle School. In the event that school personnel do not hear from parent(s)/guardians(s) about tardiness or absence before 9:00 a.m., the school may call parents or other emergency contacts provided by a parent to determine the reason for the student's absence.
2. Parents who cannot call must write a note explaining the reason for the absence. The note should be written by the parent in its entirety and signed. The note can be scanned and emailed to the attendance secretary or turned in at the main office.

CMS and PKMS will recognize an excused absence as:

1. A student's personal illness,
2. A death in the immediate family,

3. A family emergency,
4. Observance of a religious holiday,
5. Medical appointment,
6. Vacations up to 5 school days
7. Other circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's safety or health,
8. Other situations beyond the control of the student such as court appearances
9. Other reasons approved by the Superintendent or designee

3. **Unexcused Absence:** Absences for any other reason may be considered unexcused. An unexcused absence is defined as an absence from school for a reason other than those listed above as an Excused Absence and/or an absence not authorized by the student's parent/guardian or the Superintendent or designee.

A physician's note may be required to excuse a student and/or for returning to school after **the third consecutive day of being reported ill**. If medical documentation is not provided, the absence may be marked "unexcused."

Students who have 9 or more absences due to being sick may be required to provide a doctor's note to excuse the absences.

Examples of unexcused absences include:

1. Working
2. Missing the bus
3. Car not starting
4. Cutting class (~~in-person or remote~~)
5. Vacations 6+ school days
6. Needed at home
7. Other avoidable absences

*Schoolwork missed because of unexcused absences must be made up in accordance with the MAKE-UP WORK DURING ABSENCES section.

4. **Truant Absences:** Truancy is defined as absence without valid cause for one or more periods of the student's school day. A truant absence is an unexcused absence. After the 9th school day (5% of regular attendance days) on which a student is absent without valid cause, he/she is deemed to be truant under Illinois law. Interventions to address truancy may include attendance letters, parent/guardian conferences, and/or involvement of the Kane County Truancy officers and/ or local law enforcement. No punitive action, including out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, or court action will be taken against a chronically truant student unless available support services and other school resources have been provided to the student, or offered to the student and refused. Any person who has custody or control of a child subject to compulsory attendance who knowingly or willfully permits the child to persist in truancy, if convicted, is guilty of a Class C Misdemeanor and may be subject to up to 30 days imprisonment and/or fine up to \$1,500.

5. **Vacation Absences:** The District strongly encourages families to plan vacations to coincide with the school calendar so as to avoid taking valuable educational time away from their students. Students may ask their teachers to provide advance assignments. However, it is up to the individual teacher to determine whether he/she can honor the request. School work missed because of family vacation must be made up in accordance with the "Makeup Work" Section below.

6. **Class Cut:** A class cut is defined as an absence from part of (15 minutes or more) or an entire class period/block, without permission from the student's parent/guardian or approval of school officials. A class cut is an unexcused absence and may result in disciplinary consequences.

7. **Tardiness:** Students are expected to be in class on time, so they may maximize their learning opportunities. Teachers and the Administration will monitor student's tardies. Students may be considered tardy if they arrive after the bell has rung. On the fifth tardy to school per semester, students may receive disciplinary consequences. The same may occur for excessive tardies to class based on team policies.

8. A student must be in school for three clock hours in order to participate in any co-curricular activity including, but not limited to, interscholastic sports, school dances, club meetings, etc.

9. When a student has a pattern of frequent absences because of illness/injury or has been out of school for a contagious condition, an administrator may request a doctor's excuse.

ANTICIPATED ABSENCE

An anticipated absence is defined as a situation in which a student and parent know in advance that the student will be absent on a school day. Schoolwork missed during this absence must be made up on the student's return.

A student must submit a written explanation (note, email, fax, etc.) to the school office from a parent/guardian.

MAKE-UP WORK DURING ABSENCES

Students who are absent from school (~~in-person or remote~~) will be allowed to make up work for equivalent academic credit. The time allowed to makeup work will generally be one school day for every one school day missed, starting with the first day the student returns to school (~~in-person or remote~~). In extenuating circumstances, a student may ask his/her teacher, school counselor, or the principal for additional time to make up work. It is the responsibility of the student (and his/her parent/guardian), not the teachers, to get the assignments, complete them, and turn them in, and to arrange a time with the teacher to make up any missed quizzes or tests. Incomplete work or failure to do the work may result in a lowering of grades.

The makeup rule applicable for students who are receiving Home or Hospital Instruction is set forth in the Student Services of this Handbook under the heading Home and Hospital Instruction.

LATE ARRIVALS TO SCHOOL

When a student arrives late to school, he/she must report to the office. The office will issue a tardy pass to admit him/her to class. ~~Work missed may be made up if the teacher permits it.~~ The date of the tardy will be recorded by the office. Students will be allowed only four (4) tardies each semester for any reason, such as appointments, car problems, oversleeping, etc. The only exceptions shall be unavoidable medical or dental appointments which cannot be scheduled during non-school hours. These must be accompanied by parent verification in a written note or in a phone call.

LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY

Students who need to leave school early for medical purposes (doctor or dental appointments) must bring a note to the Attendance Office before leaving school. The note must be written by the parent in its entirety. The note should include: (1) the requested dismissal time, (2) the reason the student needs to leave early, and (3) a parent signature.

If a student is ill during the day, the student must check out in the Nurse's Office before leaving the building. Students should not arrange for parents/guardians to pick them up, without first having been seen by the Nurse. When the Nurse is not in the health office, a student who is ill should report to the Main Office.

GENERAL INFORMATION

SCHOOL ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE

Students should not arrive at school until 7:45 a.m. Pupils should also leave the school grounds immediately after dismissal in the afternoon. Pupils who are transported by district buses will be given consideration because bus schedules cannot always fit these limitations.

TRAFFIC AT SCHOOL

Parents are urged to use extreme caution when driving in areas near the school. As you know, children often forget what they have been taught about pedestrian and bicycle safety, and it is the responsibility of the driver to anticipate the mistakes of children. Parents dropping off students should NOT enter the Bus Loading Zone when buses are loading or unloading.

PARENT PICK-UP / DROP-OFF

All student pick-ups and drop-offs between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. must be done at the front main entrance of the school.

UNLICENSED MOTORIZED VEHICLES

The use of unlicensed motorized vehicles on School District 301 property is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, go-carts and any and all off-road vehicles. Consequences for violations may include suspension out of school as well as charges filed with the local authorities.

VISITORS

While visitors are welcome at District #301 Middle Schools, any person, including parents, visiting the school building must use the front doors, report to the school office, sign in, and obtain an identifying badge. ~~Visitors will be restricted to authorized personnel only. Visitors to any building must always wear an appropriate and approved face covering and report directly to the main office for a wellness screening, including a temperature check. Visitors will remain in the main office or other designated area for the duration of the visit. Students or staff will be asked to meet the visitor to conduct business as needed. Visitors will not have general access to the building in order to maintain physical distancing.~~

All visitors entering the building must participate in the screening process in addition to typical sign-in procedures:

1. Has the visitor washed their hands or used alcohol-based hand sanitizer on entry?
 - a. YES—Proceed to step 2.
 - b. NO—Please ask them to do so and proceed to step 2.
2. Ask the visitor the following questions:
 - a. Do you have any signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing? Do you have fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, vomiting, or diarrhea? LAST UPDATED JULY 20, 2020 | Central CUSD 301 Reopening Plan | 2020-21 | 9 ~~This is a draft document and is subject to change as conditions and guidance from government agencies is updated.~~
 - b. Are you taking any medication for any signs and symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, or sore throat (e.g., Advil, Aspirin, Tylenol)? (This does not apply to medications taken for other purposes.)
 - c. In the last 14 days have you been in contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19?
 - d. In the last 14 days, have you tested positive for COVID-19?
 - e. Have you traveled from a destination that requires you to stay home for 14 days after travel? YES to any of the above—Restrict the visitor from entering the building. NO to all—Continue to step 3.
3. Check the visitor's temperature.
 - IF 100.4° F or higher—Restrict the visitor from entering the building.
 - IF UNDER 100.4° F—Continue to step 4.
4. Allow visitor entry to the building if necessary or have guest wait for staff or student to meet them at the office and remind the individual to:
 - a. Wash their hands or use hand sanitizer throughout their time in the building.
 - b. DO NOT shake hands, hug, or have other physical contact with individuals during the visit.

SCHOOL SAFETY

The safety of our students and staff is our first priority at the middle schools. During school hours all exterior doors are kept locked and access to the building will be limited. Students are not to open any door to permit entry for anyone with whom they are not familiar and are not to permit anyone from the outside to enter the building. Additionally, the propping or opening doors to anyone from the outside is prohibited. All visitors should be directed to the Main Office. Failure to abide by this policy, may result in disciplinary consequences.

EMERGENCY / CRISIS PLAN

In the case of an emergency please be advised that all school personnel have been in-serviced on the implementation of the Crisis Plan should the need arise. If an emergency were to take place please keep school telephone lines open for emergency calls (do not call the school). Keep civilian vehicles out of the area allowing emergency vehicle access to school grounds.

SAFETY DRILLS

Periodically during the school year, safety drills will be held as required by Illinois law. When the alarm is sounded, students and teachers should proceed immediately according to appropriate procedures. Procedures for safety drills and school emergency and crisis response plans are posted in all classrooms.

TORNADO WARNING OR OTHER EMERGENCIES

Parents should not send children to school in the event a tornado warning is in effect at the time school should begin. If a warning is issued during school hours, school personnel will initiate appropriate protective action. If a WARNING is in effect at school dismissal time, students will not be dismissed or loaded on buses until the all clear has been given.

EMERGENCY CLOSING OF SCHOOL

In the event that a decision is made to close school, dismiss early or start late because of weather conditions or for some other reason,

please tune your radio and/or television station to any of the following stations that serve our area:

AM TV FM

WGN – 720 WBBM - Channel 2 WONU - 89.7
WBBM – 780 WGN - Channel 9 WJKL - 94.3
WLBK – 1360 CLTV - Channel 19 WDKB - 95
WRMN – 1410 FOX - Channel 32

Should an emergency or severe weather cause school to be closed, the District #301 will also notify parents via the **School Reach** phone system. Please update your phone numbers whenever you have a change. Information will also be available on our school web site: www.central301.net

It is important that parents advise their children as to what procedures to follow in the event that parents are not home when there is an emergency closing of school.

STUDENT INSURANCE

If an optional student insurance program is offered, it will be the responsibility of the student's parents, not that of the school, to file claims with the designated insurance representative in the event of injury. When an optional student insurance program is offered, claim forms will be available in the school office.

LOST AND FOUND

~~If you have lost something in the school building, please check the lost and found collection. If you have lost something in the school building, ask the school office secretary who will check into the "lost and found" collection in the office.~~ If you find anything at school, on the bus, or at a school-sponsored event that appears to have been lost/left by someone, give it immediately to a secretary in the school office or a staff member so that it can be saved for its rightful owner. The District may periodically dispose of any items left in the lost and found.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

During the school year, District #301 Middle Schools publish a school newsletter to keep parents informed of school related activities and to encourage their involvement with the school. District #301 Middle Schools will E-blast the school newsletter to those who have provided e-mail addresses as well as post the school newsletter on the school website. Please visit the District #301 Middle Schools' web sites through the links provided at www.central301.net.

HALLWAY CONDUCT

- 1) Students are to walk (not run!) and keep to the right in the hallways when moving from place to place in the building.
- 2) Students are not to block hallway traffic by standing in groups.
- 3) There is to be no shouting, excessive noise, pushing or shoving in the hallways.
- 4) All students in the hallways during class time or before the morning bell are required to have a pass from a teacher, counselor, or administrator.

BICYCLES

If you ride a bike to school it must be walked on school property and parked in the bike racks provided. All bicycles should be kept locked when you are in the school building. The school is not responsible for damage or theft of parts while bicycles are parked in the racks. Bicycles may be ridden to and from school provided good safety rules are followed. They must be walked in parking lots and on sidewalks close to school. Bicycles should be parked in the racks and not thrown on the ground. Bicycles cannot be housed in the school. Bicycle racks are off limits during school hours.

SKATEBOARDS / IN-LINE SKATES / ETC.

These items are not allowed on school grounds. Students found with such items may be subject to disciplinary consequences.

BOOK BAGS / PURSES

~~Book bags, backpacks, etc. are not allowed in the Library Media Center or classrooms. Purses must be able to fit into an 8"x12"x5" box. If the purse does not fit under the desk or into the box, it must be kept in the student's locker during school hours. . One bookbag or backpack will be allowed in the classroom for transport and storage of supplies. All supplies must be carried back and forth between home and school each day and be able to fit in the bag and hang on the back of a chair/desk.~~

BUILDING SURVEILLANCE

Video surveillance occurs in various parts of the school. This surveillance is used for investigative and safety purposes. Access to video surveillance is granted to school personnel and law enforcement when necessary. At no time will video footage be released to the public.

CONSUMPTION OF FOOD AND DRINK

Water in re-sealable plastic/metal containers is permitted.

All other food and beverages follow the guidelines below.

- 1) Food and drink may be consumed only in the lunchroom.
- 2) Students are not permitted to eat or drink in the hallways, classrooms, etc. without the express permission of a teacher or administrator.
- 3) Open containers of food and beverages may not be kept in lockers or carried around in the school building. 4) Energy drinks at school are strongly discouraged. These drinks have been proven to be very unhealthy for adolescent students and may cause students to become distracted from their schoolwork.
- 5) Food brought in from the outside for the purpose of sharing is not permitted.

CANDY / GUM POLICY

Candy may be eaten in classrooms when permitted by a teacher as a reward. Gum will be allowed provided that the gum and wrappers are disposed properly in garbage cans. If gum and/or wrappers are disposed of improperly, the school may view this as an act of vandalism (See VANDALISM on page 6). However, teachers reserve the right to prohibit the chewing of gum in their individual classrooms.

CAFETERIA (Board Policy 4:130)

Central Middle School and Prairie Knolls Middle School offer a USDA Reimbursable Value Meal and extra à la carte food items for sale to all their students. Each student may go through the line and choose from a variety of hot and cold foods. Each food item is priced individually so the student pays only for what he/she selects. The cost of the menu items in the daily Value Meal are set at a meal price. The daily Value Meal is identified as the "Daily Special." ~~A student's eligibility for free and reduced-price food services shall be determined by the income eligibility guidelines, family-size income standards, set annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and distributed by the Illinois State Board of Education.~~

So the system can work efficiently for all students, we ask that the following rules be observed:

1. Only allowed to purchase food during their scheduled lunch time.
2. Do not bring any drinks and/or food items through the lunch line. Move through the lunch line making your selections quickly and then proceed to the cashier.
3. Pick up all lunch debris from the table and floor and empty lunch trays into trash bins and return the trays to the kitchen.
4. Put lunchroom materials appropriate for recycling in specified recycling containers.

Updated Payment Procedures: In order to provide the safest, contactless transition for payments, Central 301 Food Service Departments district-wide are cashless. All lunch payments must be updated through our online payment system, MySchoolBucks (Heartland Payment Systems).

- Cashiers will not accept cash or checks at the Point of Sale Cashier stations
- Setting up a free MySchoolBucks account is easy. Links can be found under the **For Parents tab>Lunch Information** on the district website. To set up an account you will need your students name and ID number. Funds can be added using your credit/debit card or electronic check.
 - Some features with MySchoolBucks are:
 - Easy way to add funds with auto replenish options available
 - View cafeteria purchases
 - Check your student's account balance
 - Receive low balance alerts depending on your preferences setup

MySchool Bucks **now** offers **OnePay**, an annual savings pass offering more convenience and savings with reduced program fees. OnePay is a discounted fee payment program for students' lunch accounts. OnePay allows parents/guardians to pay transaction fees upfront from their checking accounts (electronic check, not available for credit cards) with unlimited lunch account payments for 12 months. Parents/Guardians can make as many lunch account payments as they want, in any amount - there are no spending limits.

How will OnePay benefit families? When funds are put on students accounts monthly, you will pay 9 times per year = \$22.41 in program fees. OnePay offers the choice of 2 transaction fee payment packages:

- A single student - you will pay \$12.95/year or
- A daily plan for \$26.95/year

Both packages provide great value for large families and those who fund their accounts frequently.

How does OnePay work?

- To take advantage of OnePay, parents/guardians must use their checking account for payment of their transaction fees.

- ☐ Parents/Guardians select the OnePay option suitable for their family (Student or Family Plan) and pay the set amount. ☐ Once this is paid, parents/guardians will not have to pay another transaction fee on their lunch account for 12 months.

If you need assistance with your account, you can find helpful how-to-videos and answers to commonly asked questions by visiting myschoolbucks.com. You can contact MySchoolBucks directly by logging into your account to start a chat conversation or call them at (855)832-5226.

Milk Substitute

- If your student requires a substitute for milk, parent's/guardian's must have a USDA Physician's Statement form completed by the student's doctor indicating the type of substitute required - water, soy milk, etc. for milk related to an allergy or lactose intolerance. The Physician's Statement form can be obtained from the Food Service website in the Lunch Information section and must be returned to the school. ~~A doctor's note is required if students have to substitute bottled water for milk related to an allergy or lactose intolerance.~~

Negative Lunch Balance

- Central 301's Schools' Food Service Department is committed to serving lunches to all students. Due to varied circumstances, students may not have money to purchase a lunch. If there is no money in the student's account, they will still receive the Value Meal of the Day. Ala Carte snacks (chips, cookies, ice cream, fruit juice, water, etc.) cannot be charged. Students must have money in their lunch account to purchase ala carte snack items. The negative balance is communicated to the parents/guardians through emails sent from the Food Service Office. Once lunches have been served without money in the lunch account, it is the parent's responsibility to respond to the negative balance email by depositing money in the student's lunch account at www.myschoolbucks.com. If negative lunch balances are not paid off by the end of the school year, the negative balance is carried over to the next school year until the negative balance is paid.

Free/Reduced Meal Applications

- A student's eligibility for Free or Reduced priced meals shall be determined by Family Size / Income Guidelines set annually by the U.S. and Department of Agriculture and distributed by the Illinois State Board of Education. The Free/Reduced Application can be found at www.MyschoolApps.com. Parents/Guardians may access the Free/REduced Application link after July 1st of each new school year. The application link can be found on the Food Service website in the LUNCH Information section under MySchoolApps. Paper applications are not available. When you click the MySchoolApps link, read each page carefully. Answer all questions. You will not be able to complete the application if areas are skipped. The online application is a family application so all students and all people living in the household must be added to the application. You will need the student ID number for each student on the application. Your application must be complete before you click "submit". A notification letter will be sent to you listing the status of your application. Approved applications are not carried over to the next school year. You must complete a new application each school year.

Refund or Transfer Lunch Account Money

- For families requesting a refund from their child(ren) lunch account or transfer lunch money from one student to another, go to the Food Service Website > click on "Lunch Information" section. On the next page, locate Refund or Transfer Lunch Account Money - click on the link. Read the instructions carefully. Follow the instructions provided in each section.

~~Central 301 Schools' Food Service Department is committed to serving lunches to all students. Due to varied circumstances, students may not have money to purchase a lunch or milk. If there is no money in the student's account, they will still receive the "Value Meal of the Day". The negative balance is communicated with the parents through letters sent home with the student or weekly emails sent to parents from the Food Service Office. Once lunches have been served without money in the account, it is the parents' responsibility to respond to the negative balance letter or email by depositing money in the student's account. This can be done by depositing money into the student's www.myschoolbucks.com account or by sending cash or a check to the school's Food Service Department.~~

~~A student's eligibility for free or reduced priced meals shall be determined by the Family Size/Income Guidelines set annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and distributed by the Illinois State Board of Education. Parents may access the current Free/Reduced Family Application after July 1 of each new school year, on the Food Service website. Each family submitting an application will be notified in writing of their application status.~~

2022-2023 - 2021 - 2022 LUNCH PRICES

Student Paid Lunch Price - \$3.10

Reduced Lunch Price - \$0.40

Milk - \$0.40

Adult/Teacher Lunch Price - \$3.75

LUNCHROOM CONDUCT

At all times, students should exhibit good manners when making use of the lunchroom. During lunch time, students:

- 1) will take their place at the end of the lunch line.
- 2) are to talk quietly without shouting, whistling or making other loud noises.
- 3) may not disturb another's food nor take food from others without their permission.
- 4) will not throw food or anything else.
- 5) may be assigned seating for a specified period of time.
- 6) are to remain seated in the location they first choose when entering the room.

- 7) are to remain on their side of the lunchroom unless given permission to move to the other side of the room.
- 8) are to clean up after themselves and assist with keeping the lunchroom clean.
- 9) are at all times to follow directions given by lunchroom supervisors.

A student who fails to observe lunchroom rules may face the following consequences:

- 1) may serve silent lunch in a special setting.
- 2) may be reassigned seating in the lunchroom.
- 3) may be referred to an administrator for other disciplinary consequences.

FUNDRAISING

All fund raising by classes and school organizations, during the school day to the student body, must have prior approval of the Administration. *Fundraising for outside organizations will not be permitted during the school day (8:12 a.m. — 2:50 p.m.).*

School classes, organizations, or clubs must complete a form requesting the following information:

- Class, Organization, or Club hosting the fundraiser
- Date and Time For Selling
- Person in Charge
- Item(s) to be sold and dollar amount

1. All schools Grade K - 12 can sell, for fundraising, snacks that meet the nutritional standards, during the school day. (except they cannot be sold during lunch service times)
2. Grades K - 8 do not have exempt days to sell foods for fundraising that do not meet the nutritional standards, ex - donuts, candy, etc.

SCHOOL DANCES

Students must show school ID upon entrance to a school dance. Students who do not have an ID will not be permitted. Students will not be permitted to bring students outside of their school or grade to school dances. ID's can be purchased in the school office up until the morning of the school day or the school day prior to the dance.

MOVIES FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES

Movies shown for educational purposes and the permission for those movies will follow board policy.

LOCKER POLICY (BOARD POLICY 7:140)

Students are personally responsible for the contents of the locker to which they are assigned. Lockers are the property of CCUSD 301. For the safety and security of the entire school community, school authorities may inspect and search lockers, 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 lockers or in their personal effects left there. District officials may request the assistance of law enforcement officials for purpose of searching student lockers for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials. Students should not change lockers unless authorized to do so by the Administration. Restitution costs may be assessed for defacing or damaged lockers. Students will have an assigned PE locker and lock in the PE locker room. Valuables should not be stored in PE lockers. The District may dispose of any materials left in any school locker at the end of the school year.

MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCKER RULES

- 1) Locker assignments are made by the student services office.
- 2) Students may not change lockers unless permission has been given by building administration.
- 3) Students are prohibited from altering their lockers so that they fail to lock.
- 4) Students are responsible for good order and cleanliness in the lockers and desks assigned for their use.
- 5) Marking or using tape on desks or lockers is prohibited.
- 6) Fines may be assessed for locker and desk damage.
- 7) Lockers may not be decorated with profanity, obscenity and/or the display of words, pictures, or pictures of people immodestly dressed, symbols associated with alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sex, gang affiliation, weapons, or violence.
- 8) Students are not authorized to open any locker but their own.
- 9) No decals or other adhesive items may be placed on either the outside or inside of hall or gym lockers. Students who violate this policy will be charged the labor cost of having the glued items removed.
- 10) Student backpacks, duffel bags and similar items must stay in the locker during classes.

~~Due to current COVID-19 protocols, middle school lockers will not be utilized until schools are reopened for full-time, in-person learning. Once we assign lockers to students, District and building policies and rules will apply.~~

ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Board Policy 6:235)

The District's electronic networks, including the Internet, are part of the District's instructional program and serve to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Use of all electronic devices allowed as part of the District's Bring Your Own Device ("BYOD") program and the District issued Chromebook must be consistent with District policies and procedures.

Such electronic devices may be used during instructional time only for educational purposes as approved by the Administration or teacher. Personal devices may be used by students during non-instructional time, such as during passing periods, lunch (*as to be determined by building administration*), and before or after school. Students may not place or receive phone calls during school day hours (8:12 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.).

Use is a privilege, not a right. Students and staff members have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored, transmitted, accessed via the District's electronic networks. The District's rules for behavior and communications apply when using the electronic networks. Refer to the Chromebook Handbook issued by the district.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

PHILOSOPHY OF DISCIPLINE

It is the sincere desire of CCUSD 301 that each student practices self-discipline, so that discipline actions by teachers, administrators, and the Board of Education may be avoided. It is the desire of Prairie Knolls Middle School and Central Middle School (PKMS/CMS) to promote positive citizenship and a constructive school environment. General rules of conduct have been formulated to ensure that all students have the opportunity to realize their potential through education, and to promote mutual respect and responsibility among students and staff members. Adults at PKMS/CMS are expected to show care and respect towards young people. Students are expected to exhibit that same care and respect towards staff members and other students. In the event that a student violates the guidelines set forth in this Handbook, teachers, staff members, and administrators may take disciplinary measures as a means to address the student's behavior.

Disciplinary consequences and interventions will be made to ensure that all students receive a high quality education in a positive, non-threatening environment and assist with the development of productive members of society. Students, parents, administrators, faculty, and staff will cooperate in the creation of the discipline policy, its periodic review, and its fair and consistent enforcement.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR POLICY (BOARD POLICY 7:190)

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:
 - a. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including medical cannabis, marijuana, and hashish).
 - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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.
 - e. 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.
 - f. 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.
 - g. "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.
 - h. 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.

4. 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.
5. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.
6. 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.

CCUSD301 issues each student a Chromebook for educational purposes. All electronic devices (cell phones, radios, iPods, MP3 players, iPads, portable DVD players, gaming devices, and/or similar devices) may be used in a classroom setting with either administration or supervising teacher's discretion, if specified within the student's individual education program (IEP) or 504, or is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff or other individuals.

7. Using or possessing a laser pointer, cell phone flashlight, or presentations remotes unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Intentionally providing false information to a staff member or knowingly assisting another student provide false information. This includes assisting another student to hide/remove prohibited substances, devices, or weapons.
11. 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 (as described in Board policy 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
12. 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.
13. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7:185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited.
14. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
15. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
16. 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.
17. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and School Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
18. 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.
19. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
20. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
21. 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.
22. 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.
23. 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.

Additional Examples of Prohibited Misconduct and Gross Disobedience

Additional examples of prohibited misconduct and gross disobedience include but are not limited to: inappropriate drawings; insubordination; parking violations; profanity or obscenity; transportation violation; the inappropriate use of the district's network or district's devices.

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. Verbal Warning
2. Detentions
3. Notifying parent(s)/guardian(s).
4. Disciplinary conference.
5. Withholding of privileges / removal of privileges
6. Temporary removal from the classroom.
7. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
8. Alternative Learning Environment. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised. 9. 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 may be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
10. 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.
11. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
12. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7:220, Bus Conduct.
13. 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 may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
14. 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 also shall be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
15. Transfer to an alternative program upon written agreement with the student's parent(s) or following a Board of Education hearing.
16. 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.

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 alike" 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. In addition, provided the appropriate procedures are followed, the Superintendent, Building Principal, Assistant Principal, or Dean of Students may issue in-school suspensions; may issue out-of-school suspensions to students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct (including all school functions) for up to 10 consecutive school days; and may suspend students from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days. 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. Students and their parents/guardians must acknowledge receipt of the student handbook in some form upon receipt of the handbook.

MISCONDUCT BY STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (BOARD POLICY 7:230)

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 Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Illinois State Board of Education's Regulations when disciplining students with disabilities. No student with a disability shall be expelled if the

student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS

Detentions

A detention is a period of time to be made up before school, after school, or during lunch. A detention may be assigned by school staff or an administrator.

Alternative Learning Environment

Administrators may assign a student to an alternative learning environment location as a consequence for gross disobedience or misconduct. During this time, students are restricted from participating in their scheduled classroom activities and, instead, report to the alternative learning environment for an amount of time determined by the Administration. Students will be provided an opportunity to complete their academic work or given an alternative assignment for equivalent academic credit.

Saturday School

Saturday School will be held periodically throughout the school year to serve as a disciplinary consequence for a student's gross disobedience or misconduct. Saturday school half sessions run from 8:00 am to 10:00 am, and full sessions run from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Students who fail to attend, arrive late, or are removed from Saturday School due to gross disobedience or misconduct will be considered to have missed the session and may be subject to further disciplinary consequences.

School/Community Service Program

The school/community service program is an alternative disciplinary agreement between a student, his/her parent/guardian, and the administration. Administrators retain the discretion to determine whether the school/community service program will be offered as an alternative disciplinary consequence and, if so, the nature of the school/community service program. Students who participate in the school/community service program may be assigned a service for the school or community.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION (BOARD POLICY 7:200)

An out-of-school suspension is a temporary exclusion from school due to a student's gross disobedience or misconduct. School officials may impose out-of-school suspensions of one (1) to ten (10) school days. Longer suspensions may be imposed by the Board of Education. The District's suspension procedures are set forth in Board Policy 7:200.

When a student is suspended from school, he/she may not participate in or attend any District activity or event and is prohibited from being on District property.

A suspended student will have an opportunity to make up any missed work for equivalent academic credit. The work missed during the student's absence due to a suspension from school must generally be made up within a period of school days equal to the number of days missed due to being suspended.

Students who are suspended from school for five (5) or more school days will be informed of what, if any, appropriate and available support services will be provided to the student during his/her suspension from school. These services may include, but are not limited to: a mentor program, social work, tutoring, etc.

A re-engagement meeting between the student, family, and school staff and administrators may be held upon a student's return to school from any period of suspension. The purpose of the meeting is to assist the student in the transition back to school.

EXPULSION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOARD POLICY 7:210)

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, the Board of Education may expel students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct. Expulsion shall take place only after the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student have been provided a written request to appear at a hearing before the Board or with a hearing officer appointed by it. The District's expulsion procedures are set forth in Board Policy 7:210.

A student who has been expelled from school may not participate in or attend any District activity or event and is prohibited from being on District property during the period of the expulsion.

If a student is suspended or expelled for any reason from any public or private school in this or any other state, the student must complete the entire term of the suspension or expulsion before being admitted into District.

STUDENT SEARCH AND SEIZURE (BOARD POLICY 7:140)

In order to maintain order 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 Superintendent 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

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 reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the District's student conduct rules. The search itself must be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

When feasible, the search should be conducted as follows:

1. Outside the view of others, including students,
2. In the presence of a school administrator or adult witness, and
3. By a certificated employee or liaison police officer of the same sex as the student.

Immediately following a search, a written report shall be made by the school authority who conducted the search, and given to the Superintendent.

Seizure of Property

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

Notification Regarding Student Accounts or Profiles on Social Networking Websites

The Superintendent or designee shall notify students and their parents/guardians of each of the following in accordance with the Right to Privacy in the School Setting Act, 105 ILCS 75/:

1. 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.
2. 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.

BULLYING POLICY (BOARD POLICY 7:180)

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 goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, 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. This paragraph (item #4) applies only when a school administrator or teacher receives a report that bullying through this means has occurred; it does not require staff members to monitor any non-school-related activity, function, or program.

Definitions from Section 27-23.7 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7)

Bullying includes cyber-bullying 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.

Cyber-bullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. Cyber-bullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyber-bullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Restorative measures means a continuum of school-based alternatives to exclusionary discipline, such as suspensions and expulsions, that: (i) are adapted to the particular needs of the school and community, (ii) contribute to maintaining school safety, (iii) protect the integrity of a positive and productive learning climate, (iv) teach students the personal and interpersonal skills they will need to be successful in school and society, (v) serve to build and restore relationships among students, families, schools, and communities,

and (vi) reduce the likelihood of future disruption by balancing accountability with an understanding of students' behavioral health needs in order to keep students in school.

School personnel means persons employed by, on contract with, or who volunteer in a school district, including without limitation school and school district administrators, teachers, school guidance counselors, school social workers, school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, school resource officers, and security guards.

Bullying Prevention and Response Plan (To replace bullying intervention policy on pages 23 and 24 of middle school handbook.)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a bullying prevention and response plan that advances the District's goal of providing all students with a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassment. This plan must be consistent with the requirements listed below; each numbered requirement, 1-12, corresponds with the same number in the list of required policy components in 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(b) 1-12.

1. The District uses the definition of bullying as provided in this policy.
2. Bullying is contrary to State law and the policy of this District. However, nothing in the District's bullying prevention and response plan is intended to infringe upon any right to exercise free expression or the free exercise of religion or religiously based views protected under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or under Section 3 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution.
3. Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the District Complaint Manager or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. 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.

Complaint Manager:

Esther Mongan
Name
275 South St., P.O. Box 396, Burlington, IL 60109
Address
Esther.mongan@central301.net
Email
847-464-6005
Telephone

4. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of every student involved in an alleged incident of bullying and discuss, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.
5. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate and address reports of bullying, by, among other things:
 - a. Making all reasonable efforts to complete the investigation within 10 school days after the date the report of a bullying incident was received and taking into consideration additional relevant information received during the course of the investigation about the reported bullying incident.
 - b. Involving appropriate school support personnel and other staff persons with knowledge, experience, and training on bullying prevention, as deemed appropriate, in the investigation process.
 - c. Notifying the Building Principal or school administrator or designee of the reported incident of bullying as soon as possible after the report is received.
 - d. Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, providing parents/guardians of the students who are parties to the investigation information about the investigation and an opportunity to meet with the

Building Principal or school administrator or his or her designee to discuss the investigation, the findings of the investigation, and the actions taken to address the reported incident of bullying.

The Superintendent or designee shall investigate whether a reported incident of bullying is within the permissible scope of the District's jurisdiction and shall require that the District provide the victim with information regarding services that are available within the District and community, such as counseling, support services, and other programs.

6. The Superintendent or designee shall use interventions to address bullying, that may include, but are not limited to, school social work services, restorative measures, social-emotional skill building, counseling, school psychological services, and community-based services.
7. 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.
8. A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the District'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.
9. The District's bullying prevention and response plan must be based on the engagement of a range of school stakeholders, including students and parents/guardians.
10. The Superintendent or designee shall post this policy on the District's Internet website, if any, and include it in the student handbook, and, where applicable, post it where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are currently posted. The policy must also be distributed annually to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel, including new employees when hired.
11. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its evaluation and assessment of this policy's outcomes and effectiveness. This process shall include, without limitation:
 - a. The frequency of victimization;
 - b. Student, staff, and family observations of safety at a school;
 - c. Identification of areas of a school where bullying occurs;
 - d. The types of bullying utilized; and
 - e. Bystander intervention or participation.

The evaluation process may use relevant data and information that the District already collects for other purposes. The Superintendent or designee must post the information developed as a result of the policy evaluation on the District's website, or if a website is not available, the information must be provided to school administrators, Board members, school personnel, parents/guardians, and students.

12. The Superintendent or designee shall fully implement the Board policies, including without limitation, the following:
 - a. 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure. A student may use this policy to complain about bullying.
 - b. 6:60, Curriculum Content. Bullying prevention and character instruction is provided in all grades in accordance with State law.
 - c. 6:65, Student Social and Emotional Development. Student social and emotional development is incorporated into the District's educational program as required by State law.
 - d. 6:235, Access to Electronic Networks. This policy states that the use of the District's electronic networks is limited to:
 - (1) support of education and/or research, or
 - (2) a legitimate business use.
 - e. 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited. This policy prohibits any person from harassing, intimidating, or bullying a student based on an identified actual or perceived characteristic (the list of characteristics in 7:20 is the same as the list in this policy).
 - f. 7:185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited. This policy prohibits teen dating violence on school property, at school sponsored activities, and in vehicles used for school-provided transportation.
 - g. 7:190, Student Discipline. This policy prohibits, and provides consequences for, hazing, bullying, or other aggressive behaviors, or urging other students to engage in such conduct.
 - h. 7:310, Restrictions on Publications. This policy prohibits students from and provides consequences for:
 - (1) accessing and/or distributing at school any written, printed, or electronic material, including material from the Internet, that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, and
 - (2) creating and/or distributing written, printed, or electronic material, including photographic material and blogs, that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

Uniform Grievance Procedure (BOARD POLICY 2:260)

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any District Complaint Manager if he or she believes that the School Board, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights guaranteed by the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, or Board policy, or have a complaint regarding any one of the following:

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42U.S.C. §12101 [et seq.](#)
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681 [et seq.](#), excluding Title IX sexual harassment complaints governed by policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §791 [et seq.](#)
4. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d [et seq.](#)
5. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e [et seq.](#)
6. Sexual harassment prohibited by the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/70-5(a); Illinois Human Rights Act, 775 ILCS 5/; and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §2000e [et seq.](#) Title IX sexual harassment complaints are addressed under policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*.
7. Breastfeeding accommodations for students, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.60
8. Bullying, 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7
9. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children

10. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs
11. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180/
12. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112/
13. Provision of services to homeless students
14. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/
15. Misuse of genetic information by the Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act, 410 ILCS 513/; and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000ff et seq.
16. Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/

The Complaint Manager will first attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure. If a formal complaint is filed under this policy, the Complaint Manager will address the complaint promptly and equitably. A student and/or parent/guardian filing a complaint under this policy may forego any informal suggestions and/or attempts to resolve it and may proceed directly to this grievance procedure. The Complaint Manager will not require a student or parent/guardian complaining of any form of harassment to attempt to resolve allegations directly with the accused (or the accused's parents/guardians); this includes mediation.

Right to Pursue Other Remedies Not Impaired

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of a complaint filed under this policy shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies, e.g., criminal complaints, civil actions, etc. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies. If a person is pursuing another remedy subject to a complaint under this policy, the District will continue with a simultaneous investigation under this policy.

Deadlines

All deadlines under this policy may be extended by the Complaint Manager as he or she deems appropriate. As used in this policy, *school business days* means days on which the District's main office is open.

Filing a Complaint

A person (hereinafter Complainant) who wishes to avail him or herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with any District Complaint Manager. The Complainant shall not be required to file a complaint with a particular Complaint Manager and may request a Complaint Manager of the same gender. The Complaint Manager may request the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint or require a meeting with a student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Complaint Manager shall assist the Complainant as needed.

For any complaint alleging bullying and/or cyberbullying of students, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to Board policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, in addition to any response required by this policy. For any complaint alleging sexual harassment or other violation of Board policy 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*, the Complaint Manager shall process and review the complaint according to that policy, in addition to any response required by this policy.

Investigation Process

The Complaint Manager will investigate the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. The Complaint Manager shall ensure both parties have an equal opportunity to present evidence during an investigation. If the Complainant is a student under 18 years of age, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the Complainant.

The identity of any student witnesses will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law, this policy, or any collective bargaining agreement, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the parent/guardian of the student witness, or by the student if the student is 18 years of age or older.

The Complaint Manager will inform, at regular intervals, the person(s) filing a complaint under this policy about the status of the investigation. Within 30 school business days of the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written report of his or her findings with the Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time.

The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

If a complaint contains allegations involving the Superintendent, the written report shall be filed directly with the Board, which will make a decision in accordance with paragraph four of the following section of this policy.

Decision and Appeal

Within five school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's report, the Superintendent shall mail his or her written decision to the Complainant and the accused by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery as well as to the Complaint Manager. All decisions shall be based upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.

Within 10 school business days after receiving the Superintendent's decision, the Complainant or the accused may appeal the decision to the Board by making a written request to the Complaint Manager. The Complaint Manager shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the Board.

Within 30 school business days after an appeal of the Superintendent's decision, the Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Superintendent's decision or direct the Superintendent to gather additional information. Within five school business days of the Board's decision, the Superintendent shall inform the Complainant and the accused of the Board's action.

For complaints containing allegations involving the Superintendent or Board member(s), within 30 school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's or outside investigator's report, the Board shall mail its written decision to the Complainant and the accused by registered mail, return receipt requested, and/or personal delivery as well as to the Complaint Manager.

This policy shall not be construed to create an independent right to a hearing before the Superintendent or Board. The failure to strictly follow the timelines in this grievance procedure shall not prejudice any party.

Appointing a Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator to manage the District's efforts to provide equal opportunity employment and educational opportunities and prohibit the harassment of employees, students, and others. The Nondiscrimination Coordinator also serves as the District's Title IX Coordinator.

The Superintendent shall appoint at least one Complaint Manager to administer this policy. If possible, the Superintendent will appoint two Complaint Managers, one of each gender. The District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator may be appointed as one of the Complaint Managers.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the Nondiscrimination Coordinator and the Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Dr. Esther Mongan

Name

275 South St., P.O. Box 396 Burlington, IL 60109

Address

esther.mongan@central301.net

Email

847-464-6005

Telephone

Complaint Managers:

Michael Potsic

Name

275 South St., P.O. Box 396 Burlington, IL 60109

Address

mike.potsic@central301.net

Email

847-464-6005

Telephone

Esther Mongan

Name

275 South St., P.O. Box 396 Burlington, IL 60109

Address

esther.mongan@central301.net

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847-464-6005

Telephone

Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure

Sexual harassment affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from sexual harassment is an important District goal. The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its education programs or activities, and it complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 106) concerning everyone in the District's education programs and activities, including applicants for employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and third parties.

Title IX Sexual Harassment Prohibited

Sexual harassment as defined in Title IX (Title IX Sexual Harassment) is prohibited. Any person, including a District employee or agent, or student, engages in Title IX Sexual Harassment whenever that person engages in conduct on the basis of an individual's sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A District employee conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's educational program or activity; or
3. *Sexual assault* as defined in 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v), *dating violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(10), *domestic violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(8), or *stalking* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(30).

Examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to, touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities, rape, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

Definitions from 34 C.F.R. §106.30

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

Education program or activity includes locations, events, or circumstances where the District has substantial control over both the *Respondent* and the context in which alleged sexual harassment occurs.

Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint means a document filed by a *Complainant* or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a *Respondent* and requesting that the District investigate the allegation.

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

Supportive measures mean non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the *Complainant* or the *Respondent* before or after the filing of a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* or where no *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* has been filed.

Title IX Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that the District prevents and responds to allegations of Title IX Sexual Harassment as follows:

1. Ensures that the District's comprehensive health education program in Board policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, incorporates (a) age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention programs in grades pre-K through 12, and (b) age-appropriate education about the warning signs, recognition, dangers, and prevention of teen dating violence in grades 7-12. This includes incorporating student social and emotional development into the District's educational program as required by State law and in alignment with Board policy 6:65, *Student Social and Emotional Development*.
2. Incorporates education and training for school staff as recommended by the Superintendent, Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, or a Complaint Manager.
3. Notifies applicants for employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and collective bargaining units of this policy and contact information for the Title IX Coordinator by, at a minimum, prominently displaying them on the District's website, if any, and in each handbook made available to such persons.

Making a Report

A person who wishes to make a report under this Title IX Sexual Harassment grievance procedure may make a report to the Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the person is comfortable speaking. A person who wishes to make a report may choose to report to a person of the same gender.

School employees shall respond to incidents of sexual harassment by promptly making or forwarding the report to the Title IX Coordinator. An employee who fails to promptly make or forward a report may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the name, office address, email address, and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator.

Title IX Coordinator:

Esther Mongan

Name

275 South Street, Burlington, IL 60109

Address

esther.mongan@central301.net

Email

847.464.6005

Telephone

Processing and Reviewing a Report or Complaint

Upon receipt of a report, the Title IX Coordinator and/or designee will promptly contact the *Complainant* to: (1) discuss the availability of supportive measures, (2) consider the *Complainant's* wishes with respect to *supportive measures*, (3) inform the *Complainant* of the availability of *supportive measures* with or without the filing of a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint*, and (4) explain to the *Complainant* the process for filing a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint*.

Further, the Title IX Coordinator will analyze the report to identify and determine whether there is another or an additional appropriate method(s) for processing and reviewing it. For any report received, the Title IX Coordinator shall review Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*; and 7:190, *Student Behavior*, to determine if the allegations in the report require further action.

Reports of alleged sexual harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational program or activity that is productive, respectful, and free of sexual harassment.

Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process

When a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* is filed, the Title IX Coordinator will investigate it or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation.

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures to ensure that all *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints* are processed and reviewed according to a Title IX grievance process that fully complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45. The District's grievance process shall, at a minimum:

1. Treat *Complainants* and *Respondents* equitably by providing remedies to a *Complainant* where the *Respondent* is determined to be responsible for sexual harassment, and by following a grievance process that complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45 before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions against a *Respondent*.
2. Require an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence – including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence – and provide that credibility determinations may not be based on a person’s status as a *Complainant*, *Respondent*, or witness.
3. Require that any individual designated by the District as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any person designated by the District to facilitate an informal resolution process:
 - a. Not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual *Complainant* or *Respondent*.
 - b. Receive training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District’s *education program or activity*, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process (including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable), and how to serve impartially.
4. Require that any individual designated by the District as an investigator receiving training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.
5. Require that any individual designated by the District as a decision-maker receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the *Complainant’s* sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.
6. Include a presumption that the *Respondent* is not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.
7. Include reasonably prompt timeframes for conclusion of the grievance process.
8. Describe the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies the District may implement following any determination of responsibility.
9. Base all decisions upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard.
10. Include the procedures and permissible bases for the *Complainant* and *Respondent* to appeal.
11. Describe the range of *supportive measures* available to *Complainants* and *Respondents*.
12. Not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge. Any third party who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, at the conclusion of the grievance process, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with student behavior policies. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding sexual harassment will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

This policy does not increase or diminish the ability of the District or the parties to exercise any other rights under existing law.

Retaliation Prohibited

The District prohibits any form of retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, has made a report or complaint, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in a proceeding under this policy. Any person should report claims of retaliation using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Any person who retaliates against others for reporting or complaining of violations of this policy or for participating in any manner under this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, with regard to employees, or suspension and expulsion, with regard to students.

Administrative Procedure - Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process (BOARD POLICY 2:265-AP2)

This procedure implements the District's investigation and response process to a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint after a decision to pursue one has been made using 2:265-AP1, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Response*. See 34 C.F.R. Part 106. Use this procedure to comply with 34 C.F.R. §106.45, *Grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment*. Use exhibit 2:265-E, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Glossary of Terms*, in conjunction with this procedure.

This procedure contains a **Table of Contents** and lettered **Sections**.

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- A. Overview of 34 C.F.R. §106.45 Grievance Process
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- C. Consolidation of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints
- D. Dismissal of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint
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- F. Investigation of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint
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- H. Appeals
- I. Recordkeeping

Sections

A. Overview of 34 C.F.R. §106.45 Grievance Process

The District treats Complainants and Respondents engaging in the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process (Grievance Process) equitably and adheres to the following guidelines:

1. Presumption of Non-Responsibility. The Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the Grievance Process. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(iv).
2. Grievance Process Required Before Imposing Sanctions. The District complies with this Grievance Process before imposing any disciplinary sanctions or other actions against a Respondent. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(i).
3. Supportive Measures. The District may provide counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures to Complainants and/or Respondents. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(ix). See 2:265-E, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Glossary of Terms*, for the definition of *supportive measures*.
4. Evidence Considered. All relevant evidence – including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence – is objectively evaluated. Credibility determinations are not based on a person's status as a Complainant, Respondent, or witness. The District does not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, e.g., attorney-client privilege, doctor-patient privilege, or spousal privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(ii) and (x).
5. Standard of Proof. All determinations are based upon the *preponderance of evidence* standard. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(vii).
6. Right to Appeal. Each party may appeal any determination as described in **Section H. Appeals**, below. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(viii); 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(8)(i).
7. Timeline. This Grievance Process is concluded within 90 school business days after receipt of a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint. As used in this Grievance Process, *school business days* means days on which the District's main office is open. For good cause, this Grievance Process may be temporarily delayed or extended for a limited time only if the Complainant and the Respondent are provided written notice of the delay/extension and the reasons for it. Good cause may include: the absence of a party, a party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(v).
8. Disciplinary Sanctions and Remedies. Following a determination of responsibility, the District may implement recommended disciplinary sanctions, up to and including: discharge, for a Respondent-employee; expulsion, for a Respondent-student; and termination of any existing contracts and/or prohibition from District property and activities, for a third-party Respondent. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(vi).

Where a determination of responsibility for sexual harassment is made against a Respondent, remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activities are provided to a Complainant. Remedies may include the same individualized services described in Supportive Measures, above. Unlike Supportive Measures, however, remedies may be disciplinary or punitive, and they may burden the Respondent. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(i). The District may implement remedies up to and including the recommended disciplinary sanctions described above. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(vi).

9. Training Requirements. The District ensures certain training requirements are met. At a minimum, any individual designated by the District as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker (including the Initial Decision-Maker and Appellate Decision-Maker), or any person designated by the District to facilitate an informal resolution process will:
 - a. Not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent; and
 - b. Receive training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and Grievance Process (including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable), and how to serve impartially (including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias).

Any individual designated by the District as an investigator receives training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.

Any individual designated by the District as a decision-maker receives training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including training about when questions and evidence about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant to the allegations. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(iii).

B. Notice of Allegations

Upon signing a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint or receiving a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint filed by a Complainant, the Title IX Coordinator:

1. Provides written notice to all known parties of the following information:
 - a. This procedure 2:265-AP2, *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process*, including any available informal resolution process.

- b. The allegations of sexual harassment potentially constituting Title IX sexual harassment, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known, the conduct allegedly constituting Title IX sexual harassment, and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known.
 - c. That the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the Grievance Process.
 - d. That all parties may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney.
 - e. That all parties may inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint (including evidence the District does not intend to rely on in determining responsibility, and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence) so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence before the investigation concludes.
 - f. That the District's behavior policies prohibit knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the Grievance Process.
2. Provides a second written notice to all known parties if, during the investigation, the District decides to investigate allegations not included in the first written notice.
 3. Decides whether to personally conduct the investigation or appoint a qualified investigator. If the Title IX Coordinator appoints a qualified investigator, provides written notice of the appointment to the Investigator.

When the Complainant's Identity Is Unknown

If the Complainant's identity is unknown, e.g., where a third party reports that a Complainant was victimized by sexual harassment but does not reveal the Complainant's identity, or a Complainant reports anonymously, the Grievance Process may proceed if the Title IX Coordinator determines it is necessary to sign a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint, even though the written notice provided in **Section B.1**, above, will not include the Complainant's identity. 85 Fed. Reg. 30133. If the Complainant's identity is later discovered, the Title IX Coordinator provides another written notice to the parties. Id. at f/n 594.

When the Respondent's Identity is Unknown

If the Respondent's identity is unknown, e.g. where a Complainant does not know the Respondent's identity, the Grievance Process shall proceed because an investigation might reveal the Respondent's identity, even though the written notice provided in **Section B.1**, above, will not include the Respondent's identity. If the Respondent's identity is later discovered, the Title IX Coordinator provides another written notice to the parties. 85 Fed. Reg. 30138.

C. Consolidation of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints

When the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances, the Title IX Coordinator may consolidate Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints alleging sexual harassment against more than one Respondent, or by more than one Complainant against one or more Respondents, or by one party against the other party. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(4).

D. Dismissal of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint

After an investigation, if the Title IX Coordinator determines that the conduct alleged would not constitute Title IX sexual harassment even if proved, did not occur in the District's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the Title IX Coordinator dismisses the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of Title IX sexual harassment only. Such a dismissal does not preclude action under another applicable District policy or procedure.

At any time during the investigation, the Title IX Coordinator may dismiss the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint, or any allegations contained in it, if any of the following occur:

1. The Complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that he or she wants to withdraw the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint or any allegations contained in it;
2. The Respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the District; or
3. Specific circumstances prevent the District from gathering enough evidence to reach a determination as to the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint or allegations in it.

Upon dismissal, the Title IX Coordinator promptly sends simultaneous written notice to the parties of the dismissal, reason(s) for the dismissal, and the right to appeal the dismissal. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(3).

E. Informal Resolution of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint

At any time prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the District may facilitate informal resolution of a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint, such as mediation, that does not involve a full investigation and adjudication, provided that the District (34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(9)):

1. Provides the parties written notice disclosing:
 - a. The allegations;
 - b. Informal resolution process requirements, including the circumstances where parties are precluded from resuming a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the Grievance Process for the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint; and
 - c. Any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared;

2. Obtains the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process; and
3. Does not offer or facilitate an informal resolution process to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

F. Investigation of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint

The Investigator or Title IX Coordinator follows these steps when investigating the allegations in a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint.

Actor	Action
Investigator or Title IX Coordinator	<p>During an investigation and throughout the Grievance Process (34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensures that the burden of proof and burden of gathering evidence rest on the District and not the parties involved. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)(i). 2. Provides an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)(ii). 3. Refrains from restricting the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)(iii). 4. Provides the parties the same opportunities to have others present during any grievance proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice (who may, but is not required to, be an attorney). 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)(iv). 5. Provides, to a party whose participation is invited or expected, written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of all investigative interviews or other meetings, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)(v). 6. Provides the parties an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained during the investigation that is directly related to the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint's allegations (including evidence the District does not intend to rely on in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence). 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)(vi). 7. Prior to the completion of the investigative report, sends to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy and provides each party with 10 school business days to submit a written response. <u>Id.</u> 8. Upon receipt of a party's written response to the evidence, reviews the response and sends a copy to the other party in an electronic format or a hard copy. <p>Prepares an investigative report summarizing all relevant evidence. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(5)(vii).</p> <p>Sends to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the investigative report in an electronic format or hard copy, for their review and written response. <u>Id.</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Note: This step must occur at least 10 school business days before the Initial Decision-Maker's determination regarding responsibility. <u>Id.</u></p> <p>At the conclusion of the investigation, sends to the Initial Decision-Maker in an electronic format or hard copy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint; 2. All evidence gathered during the investigation that is directly related to the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint's allegations (including evidence the District does not intend to rely on in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence); and 3. The investigative report.

G. Determination Regarding Responsibility; Remedies

Initial Decision-Maker	<p>The Superintendent or designee acts as the Initial Decision-Maker for all Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints, unless it involves allegations against the Superintendent or designee or against a Board Member. In such cases, an outside consultant, e.g., an attorney or retired school administrator, acts as the Initial Decision-Maker.</p> <p>Reviews Investigative Report and Corresponding Materials; Opportunity for Parties to Submit Questions</p>
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	<p>Reviews all materials received from the Investigator.</p> <p>Provides the parties with written notice of the opportunity to submit, through the Initial Decision-Maker, written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(6)(ii). In the written notice, informs the parties that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Questions and evidence about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless they: are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant; or concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent. <u>Id.</u> 2. Any questions must be submitted to the Initial Decision-Maker within five (5) school business days. <p>Reviews any questions received from each party for submission to any party or witness.</p> <p>Determines which questions to forward to any party or witness for answers. If any proposed questions are excluded as not relevant, provides the proposing party with a written explanation of the decision to exclude a question as not relevant. <u>Id.</u></p> <p>Forwards relevant questions to any party or witness with instructions to submit answers to the Initial Decision-Maker within five (5) school business days.</p> <p>Upon receipt of answers to questions, provides each party with copies of them. <u>Id.</u></p> <p>Provides the parties with written notice of the opportunity to submit, through the Initial Decision-Maker, additional, limited follow-up written, questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness. <u>Id.</u> Informs the parties that any questions must be submitted to the Initial Decision-Maker within five (5) school business days.</p> <p>Upon receipt of answers to the additional questions, provides each party with copies of them. <u>Id.</u></p> <p>Determination and Written Notice of Determination</p> <p>Basing all decisions on the <i>preponderance of evidence</i> standard, simultaneously issues to the parties a written determination regarding responsibility that (34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(7)(ii)):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifies the allegations potentially constituting Title IX sexual harassment; 2. Describes the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, and methods used to gather other evidence; 3. Contains findings of fact supporting the determination; 4. Contains conclusions regarding the application of the District's policies and procedures to the facts; 5. Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility, any recommended disciplinary sanctions for the District to impose on the Respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity will be provided by the District to the Complainant; and 6. Outlines the District's procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant and Respondent to appeal.
Title IX Coordinator	Implements any remedies for the Complainant as ordered by the Initial Decision-Maker. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(7)(iv).

H. Appeals

The determination regarding responsibility becomes final either on the date that the Appellate Decision-Maker provides the parties with the written decision of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed, or if an appeal is not filed, the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(7)(iii).

Actor	Action
Complainant or Respondent	Within 10 school business days after receiving the either the Initial Decision-Maker's written determination regarding responsibility or the notice of dismissal of Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint, makes a written

Actor	Action
	<p>request to the Title IX Coordinator appealing the determination/dismissal based on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome. 2. New evidence now available that could affect the outcome but that was not reasonably available at the time of the determination. 3. The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, or Initial Decision-Maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(8)(i). <p>Note: The District may offer appeals on additional bases, so long as they are offered equally to both parties. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(8)(ii). Consult the board attorney before offering additional appeal bases, as they may overlap with or impact related proceedings that occur separately from this Grievance Process, e.g., a student expulsion hearing or teacher dismissal hearing to impose recommended disciplinary sanctions as a result of this Grievance Process.</p>
Title IX Coordinator	<p>Upon receiving an appeal from one party:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notifies the other party in writing that an appeal has been filed. 2. Provides both parties five (5) school business days to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome. 3. Promptly forwards all materials relative to the appeal to the Appellate Decision-Maker. <p>Note: The District must ensure that the Appellate Decision-Maker is not the same person as the Initial Decision-Maker, the Investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(8)(iii)(B). The Board may, but is not required to, hear and decide the appeal; it is a suggestion that aligns with the appeal provisions in policy 2:260, <i>Uniform Grievance Procedure</i>, and with Ill. State Board of Education sex equity regulations requiring districts to “provide for final appeal of grievance decisions made at the system level to the system’s governing board.” 23 Ill.Admin.Code §200.40(c)(1). If the Board acts as the Appellate Decision-Maker, the Board must receive the training in Section A.9, above.</p> <p>Note: Some school attorneys recommend that the appeal not go to the Board, so that the Board’s objectivity is not called into question if it needs to conduct a hearing related to recommended disciplinary sanctions resulting from the Grievance Process. Districts should discuss their options with their board attorney.</p>
Appellate Decision-Maker	<p>Within 30 school business days, affirms, reverses, or amends the written determination regarding responsibility or the notice of dismissal.</p> <p>Within five (5) school business days after its decision, simultaneously issues a written decision to both parties that describes the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(8)(iii)(E), (F).</p>

I. Recordkeeping

Actor	Action
Title IX Coordinator	<p>Creates and maintains, for a period of at least seven (7) years, records of (34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(10)(i)):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sexual harassment investigation, including any determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the Respondent, and any remedies provided to the Complainant designed to restore/preserve equal access to the District’s education program or activity; 2. Any appeal and its result; 3. Any informal resolution and its result; and 4. All materials used to train the Title IX Coordinator, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution. <p>See 5:150, <i>Personnel Records</i>, and 5:150-AP, <i>Personnel Records</i>, addressing the identification, storage, and access to personnel records.</p>

See 7:340, <i>Student Records</i> , along with 7:340-AP1, <i>School Student Records</i> , and 7:340-AP2, <i>Storage and Destruction of School Student Records</i> , addressing the District's legal obligations regarding the identification, confidentiality, safeguarding, access, and disposal of school student records.
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Exhibit – Title IX Sexual Harassment Glossary of Terms

Use this exhibit to educate employees and students about Title IX terms, and with the required Title IX response and grievance process in Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*, implemented by administrative procedures 2:265-AP1, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Response*, and 2:265-AP2, *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process*.

Glossary of Terms

Actual Knowledge – Notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to any District employee or to the District's Title IX Coordinator. Assumption of knowledge based solely on the District's status as an employer or other presumption under law does not constitute actual knowledge. This standard is not met when the only official of the District with actual knowledge is the Respondent. *Notice* as used here includes, but is not limited to, a report or complaint of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, by telephone, or by email using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report. 34 C.F.R. §§ 106.30, 106.8(a).

Appellate Decision-Maker – An individual or group, e.g., a Board-appointed appeal examiner or the Board, which reviews an appeal of the Initial Decision-Maker's determination regarding responsibility or a dismissal of a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint (defined below). The Appellate Decision-Maker cannot be the same person as the Initial Decision-Maker, the Investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(8)(iii)(B). The Appellate Decision-Maker must be free from conflicts of interest or bias against complainants and respondents generally or against an individual Complainant or Respondent, and must be trained to serve impartially. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(iii).

Complainant – An individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment. 34 C.F.R. §106.30.

Consent – Knowing, voluntary, and clear permission by word or action, to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. Consent may not be inferred from silence, passivity, or a lack of verbal or physical resistance. A person's manner of dress does not constitute consent. Past consent to sexual activities, or a current or previous dating relationship, does not imply ongoing or future consent. Consent to some sexual contact (such as kissing or fondling) cannot be presumed to be consent for other sexual activity (such as intercourse). Consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not constitute consent to engage in sexual activity with another person. Consent may be withdrawn at any time. A person cannot consent to sexual activity if that person is unable to understand the nature of the activity or give knowing consent due to circumstances, including without limitation the following: (1) the person is incapacitated due to the use or influence of alcohol or drugs; (2) the person is asleep or unconscious; (3) the person is under age; or (4) the person is incapacitated due to a mental disability. The existence of consent is based on the totality of the circumstances, including the context in which the alleged incident occurred. Coercion, force, or the threat of either invalidates consent.

Note: 34 C.F.R. §106.30, added at 85 Fed. Reg. 30574, states that Title IX recipients are not required to adopt a particular definition of consent with respect to sexual assault; however, in its 2020 Title IX rulemaking, the U.S. Dept. of Education (DOE) stated that "recipients must clearly define consent and must apply that definition consistently." 85 Fed. Reg. 30125. **Consult the Board Attorney if the District would like to customize this definition.**

Education Program or Activity – Includes locations, events, or circumstances in the United States over which the District exercised substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurred. 34 C.F.R. §106.44(a).

Note: Title IX jurisdiction is geographically limited to discrimination against a person in the United States. 34 C.F.R. §106.8(d). The District's Title IX obligations extend to off-campus sexual harassment incidents "if the off-campus incident occurs as part of the [district]'s 'operations' pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1687 and 34 CFR 106.2(h)" or if the District "exercised substantial control over the respondent and the context of alleged sexual harassment that occurred off campus pursuant to § 106.44(a)." 85 Fed. Reg. 30196. No single factor is determinative of whether the District exercised *substantial control* or whether an incident occurred as part of the District's *operations*. *Id.* at 30197. *Operations* may include computer and internet networks, digital platforms, and computer hardware or software owned or operated by, or used in, the District's operations. *Id.* at 30202. **Consult the Board Attorney for further guidance.**

Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint – A document filed by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a Respondent and requesting that the District investigate the allegation. At the time of filing a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint, a Complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the District's education program or activity with which the Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint is filed.

Note: Whether a Complainant is *attempting to participate* is a fact-specific inquiry. For example, a Complainant who has graduated may still be attempting to participate in an education program where he or she intends to remain involved in alumni programs or activities. 85 Fed. Reg. 30138. **Consult the Board Attorney for further guidance.**

Initial Decision-Maker – An individual designated by the Title IX Coordinator to reach an initial determination regarding responsibility in a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint (defined above) by applying the standard of proof set forth in 2:265-AP2, *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process*. See 85 Fed. Reg. 30054. The Title IX Coordinator cannot be the Initial Decision-Maker. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(7)(i). The Initial Decision-Maker must be free from conflicts of interest or bias against complainants and respondents generally or against an individual Complainant or Respondent, and must be trained to serve impartially. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(iii).

Investigator – The Title IX Coordinator or an individual designated by the Title IX Coordinator to investigate a *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint* (defined above) according to 2:265-AP2, *Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Grievance Process*. The

Investigator must be free from conflicts of interest or bias against complainants and respondents generally or against an individual Complainant or Respondent, and must be trained to serve impartially. 34 C.F.R. §106.45(b)(1)(iii).

Respondent – An individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of the conduct that could constitute sexual harassment. 34 C.F.R. §106.30.

Supportive Measures – Non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to a Complainant or Respondent before or after the filing of a Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint or where no Formal Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint has been filed. Such measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the District's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures. The District will maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to a Complainant or Respondent, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the District to provide the supportive measures. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures. 34 C.F.R. §106.30.

Sexual Harassment Governed by Laws Other Than Title IX – The District must also address sexual harassment that does not meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment, including but not limited to sexual harassment in violation of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/), Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/), and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §2000e *et seq.*).

For each report or complaint received, the Title IX Coordinator reviews the following Board policies to determine if they require additional action by the District in addition to or at the exclusion of policy 2:265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*:

- 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. This policy provides a method for any student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member to file a complaint if he or she believes that the School Board, its employees, or its agents have violated his or her rights under the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, Board policy, or various enumerated bases.
- 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*. This policy prohibits employees from engaging in sexual harassment.
- 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*. This policy requires employees who suspect or receive knowledge that a student may be an abused or neglected child to immediately report their suspicion to the Ill. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS). If an employee reports an alleged incident of sexual abuse to DCFS and DCFS accepts the report for investigation, it further requires the District to coordinate with the local Children's Advocacy Center.
- 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*. This policy sets forth high standards for employee ethics and conduct, and incorporates by reference the Code of Ethics for Illinois Educators.
- 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*. This policy prohibits all sexual harassment of students.
- 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*. This policy prohibits students from engaging in bullying, intimidation, and harassment at school, school-related events and electronically. Prohibited conduct includes stalking, sexual harassment, sexual violence, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.
- 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*. This policy prohibits students 13-19 years of age from using or threatening to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship, and from using or threatening to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.
- 7:190, *Student Behavior*. This policy sets forth student conduct rules, prohibited student conduct, and behavioral interventions and disciplinary measures designed to address the causes of misbehavior and teach students positive behavioral skills.

Title IX Sexual Harassment – Conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following (34 C.F.R. §106.30):

- A District employee conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or
- Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
- *Sexual assault* as defined in 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v), *dating violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(10), *domestic violence* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(8), or *stalking* as defined in 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(30).
 - *Sexual assault* means an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system (UCR Program) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and includes rape, fondling, incest, and statutory rape. 20 U.S.C. §1092(f)(6)(A)(v); 34 C.F.R. Part 668, Appendix A to Subpart D. For more information regarding the FBI UCR Program, see www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/.
 - *Dating violence* means violence committed by a person: (1) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, and (2) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(10).
 - *Domestic violence* includes any felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(8).
 - *Stalking* means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to: (1) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others, or (2) suffer substantial emotional distress. 34 U.S.C. §12291(a)(30).

STUDENT EXPRESSION

School officials retain the right to regulate and exercise editorial control over the style and content of student speech in school-

sponsored expressive activities so long as their actions are reasonably related to legitimate educational concerns. To the extent that student expression through publications, theatrical productions, speeches and other expressive activities is inconsistent with the basic educational mission of the school, it may be forbidden or restricted.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIAL

No printed material, which is obscene, vulgar, libelous, threatening, inflammatory, inciting, damaging or disruptive to a good educational climate, will be permitted to be displayed or distributed, by or to, students.

POSTING OF PRINTED MATERIALS

The school reserves the right to control the posting of materials and messages within the school building. Students may not display posters, pictures, and other materials in the hallways and elsewhere in the building without the prior approval of building administration. A judgment will be made on whether the subject and/or message is appropriate for posting and directions will be given on how to post materials in such a way that damage is not caused to wall surfaces.

POTENTIALLY DISRUPTIVE ITEMS

Because of their potential for disturbing the orderly environment of the school, certain items are not to be brought to school. Some examples of such items could be, but are not limited to:

- Electronic games
- Toys
- Playing cards
- Laser lights

In some cases, the student may seek approval from an administrator for special situations (i.e. field trips, projects, presentations, etc.) However, any student found with such items without permission will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

STUDENT DRESS (Board Policy 7:160)

1. Students are expected to be appropriately dressed for school and wear clothing that will not disrupt the educational process, constitute a health or safety hazard or violate civil law.
 - a. Coats, gloves, hats, caps, bandannas, handkerchiefs, and other head coverings, as well as dark glasses, should not be worn during school hours and should be left in the student's locker or backpack.
 - b. Clothing imprinted with profanity, obscenity, and/or the display of words, pictures, or symbols associated with alcohol, drugs, tobacco, sex, weapons, or violence are prohibited.
 - c. Shoes must be worn at all times.
 - d. The entire middle of the body must be covered; sides as well as front and back, and underwear must not be visible at any time. Any combination of tank tops with any width of strap may be worn but must still cover the sides, front, and back of the body as well as undergarments in accordance with the principles of good taste. Shorts, skorts, or skirts that do not extend past the student's middle knuckle of the middle finger, when their arms are extended down at their sides, should not be worn.
 - e. Chains are not to be brought to school. This includes chains on wallets, choker chains, etc.
 - f. Pants/jeans/dresses/skirts cannot have holes, rips, or see through material above the fingertips when standing.

Any student not in accordance with the above-mentioned dress expectations during school hours (8:12 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.) may be subject to disciplinary consequences, including changing into appropriate clothes or making immediate arrangements for appropriate clothing before returning to class. If appropriate clothing is not available, the high school will lend the student a uniform from the physical education department.

2. Students may carry a bag or purse as long as it does not disrupt the learning environment or pose a safety threat.
3. PE uniforms may NOT be altered in any way (for example, cut-off sleeves or shortening of shorts).
4. Students are allowed to wear costumes on days approved by administration. Students that need to wear a costume for an activity in class, are expected to remove the costume when the class is over.

Guidance for Face Coverings

~~In accordance with guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Illinois State Board of Education, all individuals, including students, staff, and visitors, must wear a face covering when present in school. Any individual not wearing a face covering will not be permitted to enter any Central 301 facility. All persons on a bus must wear a face covering, in addition to, present a pre-certification form as part of a lanyard they will be wearing.~~

~~In accordance with the guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), face coverings must completely cover the nose, mouth, and:~~

- ~~• Be snug but comfortable against the sides of the face~~
- ~~• Need to be secured with ties or ear loops~~
- ~~• Must allow breathing without restriction~~
- ~~• Be able to be washed and machine dried without damage or change to the shape (Medical grade surgical masks that are disposable daily is the exception)~~

Any mask that incorporates a valve or is designated to facilitate easy exhaling is not a sufficient face covering as they allow droplets to be released from the mask and are NOT permitted.

Masks may NOT include:

- Masks with openings, holes, vents, visible gaps in the design such as Bandanas, Plastic PPE face shield with no mask underneath
- Bandanas, or coverings that do not fit securely around the mouth, or are open around the mouth.
- Lace masks, bead masks, knit masks made of yarn

*All face coverings must meet school dress code guidelines in terms of logos, images, and language.

Face coverings should be discarded and replaced when:

- They no longer cover the nose and mouth securely
- Have stretched out or have damaged ties or straps
- Can no longer stay on the face, or over the nose
- Have tears or damage in the fabric

Face coverings are not required outside if social distancing is maintained. This means individuals are remaining 6 feet apart from each other and are not congregating. Individuals may temporarily remove their face covering while eating and drinking when they are spaced at least 6 feet apart.

Key Points About Face Coverings

- Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth while wearing face coverings to prevent potential contamination.
- Wash your hands thoroughly or use hand sanitizer before putting on a face covering or face shield.
- Remove your face covering or face shield carefully and wash your hand thoroughly after removing or use hand sanitizer
- Wash the face covering after each use daily.
- Do not reuse disposable masks
- Label the mask/face covering with your child's name using a permanent marker.
- Consider purchasing multiple masks to utilize over the course of the week.
- Consider sending an extra mask in a plastic bag to school with your child as a backup.
- Wearing a face covering does not replace the need to continue frequent hand washing, avoiding touching the face, and practicing social distancing, which are our best tools to help prevent the spread of illness.

Bandanas and Neck Gaiters

Bandanas and Neck Gaiters do not provide the same coverage as a cloth mask. Since cloth masks provide more protection than bandanas and Neck Gaiters they will not be acceptable as face coverings.

Face Shields

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has determined that face shields cannot be used as substitutes for face masks. There may be a small minority of individuals who have a medical accommodation related to face masks. If face shields can be tolerated, face shields might be utilized in these situations. Face shields have limitations and there is a need for heightened need for strict adherence to social distancing.

Exceptions for Face Covering

Persons with a medical condition that prevents them from safely wearing a face covering may seek a reasonable accommodation. Exceptions will not be considered for persons who have a personal objection, or preference. Exceptions must come in the form of a medical exception and must include a written letter signed by a medical doctor, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, outlining that wearing a face covering poses a medical risk to the individual's physical well-being and is medically contraindicated.

Face covering exceptions pose a risk to other individuals and will only be granted when accommodations can be made to protect the safety of others. All exception requests will be considered on a case-by-case and individual basis if a person's medical needs can be safely accommodated. All exceptions, if granted, will require strict compliance with an individualized safety plan and may exclude the individual from certain activities that may pose an increased risk to others. Safety plans are determined based on feedback from the medical professional in collaboration with the school nurse and/or building administrator.

Exception Considerations include:

- The ability to protect the safety of others
- Whether the person's medical condition is conducive to in-person attendance, or if student needs would be best met remotely.
- The person's behavior and capacities, including to control secretions, cover mouth/nose when sneezing and coughing.
- The person's ability to maintain a six-foot physical distance from others at all times.
- The person's ability to tolerate wearing a face covering (May consider the option of an alternative face covering such as a face shield)
- The person's ability to wash hands with/without assistance and ability/safety of use of hand sanitizer.
- Exclusion of the person when any symptom of illness is present, regardless of cause which includes allergies.
- Wearing a face covering or face shield does not replace the need to continue frequent hand washing, avoiding touching the face, and practicing social distancing.

Any student who refuses to wear a mask will be:

Removed from the classroom with parent contact, and parent will be notified they will be sent home next time they are sent to the office.

~~Removed from the classroom with parent contact and they will be sent home.~~

Removed from the classroom and placed in remote learning for the remainder of the semester after the 3rd offense.

HEALTH SERVICES

A nurse is available to students throughout the school day. A student who needs to see the nurse during the day should first obtain a pass from his/her teacher unless an emergency situation exists. **If a student is not feeling well, he/she must check out in the Nurse's Office and authorization must be given before leaving the building or the absence will be considered unexcused.** When the nurse is not in the health office, a student who is ill should report to the Main Office. No student will be excused from school unless a parent/guardian or designated person has been notified and appropriate transportation arranged, including if the student has his/her own. Students shall not use their personal cell phones unless given permission by the nurse.

HEALTH, EYE, AND DENTAL EXAMINATIONS: & IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS (Board Policy 7:100)

It is the responsibility of the student's parent/guardian to ensure that the required examination and immunization forms are provided to the school at the required intervals and within the required time frames. The below table provides a summary of the required intervals and further information regarding the timeframes is shown underneath the table.

For new students enrolling in the District, prior to the first day of student attendance, the student's parent/guardian must submit a CCUSD 301 New Student Health Questionnaire to the school.

STATE OF ILLINOIS AND DISTRICT 301 HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for:	ECSE	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NEW to IL
Health Exam	X	X				X				X					X
Dental Exam		X		X		X				X					K,2,6,9
Eye Exam		X													X
Immunization Requirements	X	X				X				X				X	X

Health Examination & Immunizations

- The health examination form, including immunizations, must be submitted to the school by October 15 of the current school year, unless an exemption is submitted for review.
 - An IHSA / IESA sports physical does not fulfill this requirement. The ISBE health examination form is required. o Parent(s)/guardian(s) must complete and sign the Health History section on page 2 of the ISBE health exam form.
- Exams must have been conducted within one year prior to entering the required grades and within one year prior to entering an Illinois school for the first time.

- If such proof is not provided by October 15, the student will be excluded from school until the required health forms are presented to the District.
- New students who transferred from an IL school and have submitted an ISBE form 33-78 shall have 30 days to provide required documentation.
- A student transferring from out-of-state must submit a physical and immunization record before the first day of attendance. Out of state reports may be considered for compliance review only when all elements of an Illinois physical are included.

Eye Examinations

- Proof of the required eye examinations must be provided to the school by October 15 of the current school year. • Exams must have been conducted within one year prior to entering the required grades and within one year prior to entering an Illinois school for the first time.
- Exams must be conducted by a licensed optometrist or a physician licensed to perform eye examinations (such as an ophthalmologist). Screenings conducted in school do not fulfill the requirement.

Dental Examinations

- Proof of the required dental examinations must be provided to the school by May 15 of the current school year. • Exams must be conducted for the required grades within 18 months prior to May 15 of the school year.

Exemptions

- An exemption must be submitted prior to October 15 of the current school year with the required health examination/immunization form.
- Medical Exemptions:
 - If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a health examination and/or any required immunizations, a written verification must be submitted by the examining physician, advanced registered practice nurse, or physician assistant.
- Religious Exemption:
 - A student's parent(s)/guardians(s) must present the IDPH's Certificate of Religious Exemption form to the Director of Student Support Services. When a Certificate of Religious Exemption form is presented, the Director of Student Support Services or designee shall immediately inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of exclusion procedures pursuant to Board policy 7:280, (*Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease*) and state rules if there is an outbreak of one or more diseases from which the student is not protected.

Dental & Eye Examination Waivers

A waiver is available for the required dental and/or eye examinations for students who show undue burden or lack of access to a dentist and/or an optometrist or physician who performs eye exams. The dental examination waiver is due by May 15 of the current school year, and the eye examination waiver is due by October 15 of the current school year. The waiver forms are available on the District's website here: [District 301 Website](#)

Homeless Child (Board Policy 6:140)

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent(s)/guardian(s) is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment. School Board policy 6:140.

Privacy Practices (Board Policy 7:15)

Pursuant to Illinois and federal law, school personnel cannot contact a student's physician, advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, nurse, or pharmacist about a student or a student's records, including health records or health-related information, unless the student's parent/guardian gives written consent. If desired, a consent form permitting communication between a student's health care professionals and the school may be obtained in the Main Office and / or Student Services Department.

Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease (Board Policy 7:280)

A student with or carrying a communicable and/or chronic infectious disease has all rights, privileges, and services provided by law and the School Board's policies.

COVID-19

~~Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 or who shows any signs or symptoms of illness should stay home. Families should report possible cases to the school nurse where the individual attends or works to initiate contact tracing. CDC and IDPH guidelines will be followed for students who are suspected of having COVID-19, whether they were tested or not. It is recommended that medically fragile and immunocompromised students consult their medical provider prior to attending school. Any individual within the school environment who shows symptoms will be immediately separated from the school population. Individuals who are sick will be sent home.~~

~~Individuals who did not have close contact with the person who is sick can return to school immediately after disinfection.~~

Illness/Injury

It is expected that injuries that occur outside of the typical school day will be cared for by parents/guardians prior to arrival at school. Notify the nurse of any injuries that need attention at school.

For the protection of the whole student body, students are not permitted to ride the bus home if they are exhibiting signs/symptoms of a contagious illness or communicable and/or chronic infectious disease. The student's parent/guardian will be contacted by the school and expected to arrange transportation.

In the event of serious symptoms or injury, paramedics will be called and a parent/guardian contacted. In emergency situation, school officials will be guided by the information provided by parents/guardians on the registration documents filled out annually. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide accurate contact information to the school in case of illness, injury, or emergency, and notify the school of any updates to the information. For safety and well-being, parents/guardians must select emergency contacts who are likely to be available to pick up their child in a timely manner if they are unable to.

If a student exhibits any of the following during the school day, the student's parent/guardian will be contacted and the student must be picked up from school to go home:

- Fever (temperature of 100 degrees or above)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea (2 episodes, child unable to manage, or blood in stool.)
- Excessive cough and/or unable to manage secretions
- Suspicious Rash
- Loss of consciousness

A student should not return to school after he/she has been out of school due to an illness until there is evidence that the student is no longer contagious. This may include a release from the student's physician, absence of symptoms for over 24 hours, or documentation of treatment. These determinations will be guided by the nurse.

Students who come to school with mobility devices (such as crutches, walking boot/shoe, wheelchair, splints or casts) for an acute episode need to submit a note from the doctor that states the activity restriction that warrants the use of the device at the school, including the time frame for the restriction.

EXCUSES FROM PE (Board Policy 7:260)

Excuses for Medical Reasons

Students healthy enough to attend school are generally considered healthy enough to attend physical education (PE) class. Notes to excuse students from PE classes for medical reasons are to be presented to the [school nurse Main Office](#). Office staff will notify the PE teacher of the excuse. A parent note excusing the student from physical activity can be accepted for up to two days for an injury or illness. A maximum of two parent notes per semester will be accepted. Any duration of time beyond two days will require a signed statement from the student's healthcare provider. The statement from healthcare provider shall include a medical note signed by the healthcare provider licensed under the Medical Practice Act that verifies the medical reason for the restriction. If the length of time is undetermined or "until further notice," a new note from the healthcare provider will be needed every three months until the student is released from the restriction.

If the student is allowed limited or modified participation, the healthcare provider's note should list specifically what activities/modifications are allowed. A modified physical activity form is available in the Nurse's Office.

Excuses for Religious Reasons

In addition, students may be excused from PE based on a religious prohibition. 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. Notes to excuse students from PE classes for religious reasons are to be presented to the Building Administrator. Office staff will notify the PE teacher of the excuse.

MEDICATION POLICY (BOARD POLICY 7:270)

Whenever possible, the parent/guardian should make arrangements for medication to be administered at home, before or after school hours and not at school or school-related activities 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 a student to take medication during school hours or school-related activities, the student's parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the student and school district guidelines must be followed for dispensing or administering the medication. The District may reject requests for administration of medication.

No school district employee shall 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 (SMA Form) is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in Board policy and its implementing procedures.

1. Medication is defined as either prescription or non-prescription drugs.
2. Medication will not be given by a school employee to a student without the completion and submission of a Med-A form, and other documentation if required, signed by both the parent/guardian and the student's licensed health care provider.
3. Specific forms are required for students with asthma, diabetes, allergies, and seizures. Forms and packets can be obtained in the Main Office or Nurse's Office or on the District website. Parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student with asthma are requested to submit an Asthma Action Plan for the student. If provided, the Asthma Action Plan will be kept on file by the Nurse. The District's Asthma Emergency Response Protocol is available from the Main Office or Nurse's Office.
4. The Med-A form must be completed annually for each medication and updated upon any changes.
5. Students may not transport medication to and/or from school. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to personally deliver the medication to school and to pick up any "leftover" medication at the close of the school year. Any medications left at the school at the end of the school year will be disposed of in a safe and appropriate manner.
6. Medications must be in their original containers and the containers must include the student's name, the medication's name, dosing information (the amount to be dispensed and the time at which or circumstances under which the medication is to be administered), and expiration date. No medication will be given by school personnel if the medication arrives at the school in an envelope or improperly labeled bottle/inhaler.
7. Medications at school will be stored in a locked cabinet in the Nurse's Office, or in the school nurse's refrigerator, if required.
8. When necessary, the school nurse will provide appropriate staff members with information concerning the medications being taken by students (i.e., side effects, other medical implications, etc.).
9. Medication dispensing guidelines include:
 - a. Medications will be dispensed to one student at a time.
 - b. The designated school employee will transfer the indicated dosage from the container to the student.
 - c. The designated school employee will document the administration.
10. Administration of Medical Cannabis. The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act allows a medical cannabis infused product to be administered as designated within the Board policy.

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

The Building Principal shall include this policy in the Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parents/guardians of students.

Self-Carry & Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess ("self-carry") an asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen®) for immediate use at the student's discretion, provided the completed Med-A form and other required forms (available in the Nurse's Office and on the District's website) are signed and returned to the Nurse's Office.

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 or epinephrine auto-injector or the storage of any medication by school personnel. 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 auto-injector and/or medication, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

A student's possession, distribution, or use of any medication (including non-prescription drugs) without proper authorization is in violation of the school policy relating to drug use, and a student may be subject to discipline (see Discipline).

School District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

The Superintendent or designee shall implement Section 22-30(f) of the School Code and maintain a supply of undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. Undesignated epinephrine auto-injector means an epinephrine auto-injector prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained

personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated epinephrine auto-injector to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an anaphylactic reaction.

This section of the policy is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school epinephrine auto-injectors.

Upon any administration of an undesignated epinephrine auto-injector, the Superintendent or designee(s) must ensure all notifications required by State law and administrative procedures occur.

Upon implementation of this policy, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions as explained in Section 22-30(c) of the School Code apply.

No one, including without limitation parents/guardians of students, should rely on the District for the availability of an epinephrine auto-injector. This policy does not guarantee the availability of an epinephrine auto-injector; students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding this medication.

Field Trip Medications

Only "daily" medications and "emergency" medications are to be sent on field trips. A Med-A form, and other documentation if required, must be on file in the Nurse's Office to ensure those medications are taken on the field trip. Medications designated "as needed" are not taken unless pre-arranged by a parent/guardian and the school nurse.

Medicaid Fees for Services

Medicaid reimbursement is a source of federal funds approved by Congress to help school districts maintain and improve special education services. If Medicaid eligible, therapy and diagnostic services provided to children are partially reimbursable. With the parent/guardian's written consent, CCUSD 301 will claim Medicaid reimbursement for services provided. These claims will have no impact on the parent/guardian's or student's ability to receive Medicaid funding either now or in the future.

CONCUSSION POLICY

The District takes the safety of its students seriously and has developed a program to manage student concussions and head injuries. Please see Board Policy 7:305 for the District's concussion policy. The District's concussion management resources, including consent forms, return-to-play protocol, and return-to-learn protocol, are available for PKMS at <http://il.8to18.com/PrairieKnolls> and for CMS at <http://il.8to18.com/bcms/>. Please contact the Athletic & Activities Director or school nurse with any questions regarding concussions or the District's concussion management program.

STUDENT SERVICES

GRADE REPORTING

Report cards will be posted through Skyward Parent Access at the end of each quarter of the school year.

GRADING POLICIES

- 1) Students will earn letter grades for courses in both the core and exploratory curriculum programs.
- 2) Student work will be evaluated using the following letter grades:
A=100-90%; B=89-80%; C=79-70%; D=69-60%; F<60%; I= Incomplete; P= Pass
- 3) The points for letter grades on the report card is as follows:
A=4.00; B=3.00; C=2.00; D=1.00; F=0.
- 4) Pluses and minuses may be appended to letter grades, but do not affect grade points.

5) Grades will be published quarterly. Semester averages will not be reported. No semester exam grades will be published on report cards.

6) A teacher may determine to issue an incomplete grade to a student who has experienced prolonged periods of absence during the grading period. All incompletes must generally be cleared within two weeks of the end of the semester. At the conclusion of the two week extension, teachers will calculate the student's grade with a score of zero entered for any assignments/assessments not completed. The resulting grade will be recorded in place of the incomplete. (If extenuating circumstances exist, the Principal or designee may exercise discretion in extending the two week deadline.)

HONOR ROLLS

Gold, Silver and Bronze Honor Rolls will be completed at the end of each quarter.

Gold Honor Roll = grade point average of 3.75 or better.

Silver Honor Roll = grade point average of 3.4 to 3.74 (with no grades of D or F)

Bronze Honor Roll = grade point average of 3.0 to 3.39 (with no grades of F)

No student who receives an F or I (incomplete) for the grading period in any course may be placed on any of the three honor rolls regardless of the grade point average earned. Students receiving a D for the grading period in any course may attain no higher than honorable mention (Bronze Honor Roll) status regardless of their grade point average. (Note: Students who are held off the honor roll due to one or more "incomplete(s)" and who makeup the work in the time allotted, may be added to the Honor Roll at a later date, once an accurate grade point average has been calculated.)

DEFICIENCY / PROGRESS REPORTS

Student grades are available online throughout the school year through Skyward. Families desiring hard copies of Progress Reports may contact the office to make this request.

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

School Social Workers are trained mental health professionals who provide services related to students' social/emotional functioning at school. School social workers help assess and address the needs of students, provide individual and group counseling, and provide referrals for community resources. School social workers are the link between the home, school, and community to promote and support students' academic and social success.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

School Psychologists are uniquely qualified members of school teams who support students' ability to learn and teachers' ability to teach. They apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior, to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. School psychologists can help staff, families, school administrators, and other professionals with, but not limited to: Data collection and analysis, assessment, progress monitoring, school-wide practices promote learning, academic/learning interventions, behavioral interventions, instructional support, and special education services. School psychologists work to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community.

Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) ~~PROBLEM-SOLVING TEAM~~

A Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) is a comprehensive framework for continuous improvement that is systemic, prevention-focused, and data-informed providing a cohesive continuum of supports responsive to meet the needs of ALL learners. The framework focuses on delivering high quality instruction in the areas of academics and social-emotional learning. It is a team-based approach that includes all stakeholders in developing and/or refining various District operations and system structures to enable efficiency and effectiveness in order to maximize student success. An MTSS framework supports a data based problem-solving approach using a system for defining and analyzing a problem, developing and implementing a plan, and evaluating the plan's effectiveness. If academic and/or social-emotional concerns are identified by a school team member or parents, a Problem Solving Team (PST) meeting may be held to develop an intervention plan to address the concerns and a plan for monitoring progress. If the student does not respond to the intervention(s) in place, the student may be referred for an evaluation for special education services.

~~The Problem Solving Team (P.S.T.) is a team consisting of the social worker(s), school psychologist(s), administration, school nurse and one or more teachers. The P.S.T. exists to identify and assist students at risk due to severe social, emotional, family, mental health, attendance, and/or academic issues. The goal of the P.S.T. is to be proactive, rather than reactive, providing assistance to students before problems become overwhelming or chronic. The team may refer the student to outside professional agencies when appropriate. Referrals to the P.S.T. can be made by any member of the team, a staff member, and/or a parent.~~

HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION (BOARD POLICY 6:150)

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rule governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services. A student qualifies for home and hospital instruction when a physician anticipates that the student may be absent due to a medical condition for a total of 10 or more days over the course of the school year.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than 5 school days after receiving a written statement from: 1. a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, 2. a licensed physician assistant, or 3. a licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized educational program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction (1) before the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered 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.

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate a student's return to school.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (BOARD POLICY 6:120)

The School District shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the District, as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and implementing provisions of the School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act. The term "children with disabilities," as used in this policy, means children between ages 3 and 21 (inclusive) for whom it is determined, through definitions and procedures described in the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules, that special education services are needed.

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

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules. For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the District shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. This system shall include notice, an opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

The District may maintain membership in one or more cooperative associations of school districts that shall assist the District in fulfilling its obligations to the District's disabled students.

If necessary, students may also be placed in nonpublic special education programs or education

facilities.

DISTRICT 301 HOMELESS INFORMATION

Each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, as provided to other children and youths, including a public pre-school education. A "homeless child" is defined as provided in the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and Illinois law.

For more information, contact:

Dr. Todd Stirn, CCUSD 301 Homeless Liaison (847) 464-6005

Kane County Homeless Liaison: Deborah Dempsey, Kane ROE McKinney/Vento Equal Chance Program (630) 444-2974

Homeless information is also available on the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) website: www.isbe.net/homeless. In addition, contact ISBE through the Homeless Information Hotline at 1-800-215-5379, or the email address homeless@isbe.net.

RETENTION

The school district reserves the right to retain a student at any grade level based on professional evaluation and in view of each student's individual progress. In accord with the Illinois School Code, criteria relating to academic success will be used as the basis for a student's being considered for retention.

DISTRICT 301# MIDDLE SCHOOL RETENTION POLICY

Our policy, as stated in the Student / Parent Handbook is that "the school district reserves the right to retain a student at any grade level based on professional evaluation and in view of each student's academic progress." Moreover, state legislation prohibits school districts from promoting students to the next grade level without evidence of mastery of the academic content of the student's present grade.

In order for a student to be promoted to the next grade level, he or she must have an overall grade average of D- or higher. The way in which this will be determined will be through a credit system. Middle school students are scheduled in 20 credit hours per year. The following is the credit break-down for middle school academic courses:

ELA = 1 credit per quarter
Math = 1 credit per quarter
Science = 1 credit per quarter
Social Studies = 1 credit per quarter
Encore = 1/2 credit per quarter
P.E. = 1/2 credit per quarter
Band / Chorus = 1/4 credit per quarter



*Reading Intervention, taken in place of an Encore will count as .5 credit per quarter.

**Special Education courses taken in place of core courses will count as 1 credit per quarter.

To be promoted to the next grade level, a student must earn 12 core credits throughout the school year. These 12 credits are the equivalent of a D- grade point average. If a student fails to earn 12 credits for the school year, he or she would be required to take summer school course(s). Students may take up to 4 credits in the summer, thus giving the student a chance to still be promoted if all required summer credits are earned. If the student fails to make up the required credits, retention will occur. If a student earned 7 credits or less during the school year, he or she would be unable to make up the required 4 credits during the summer due to the maximum of 4 summer credits accepted. This would also result in retention. The Assistant Principal or designee will be responsible for the management of all retention issues, while keeping the building Principal informed at all stages of the process.

8th Grade Credit Recovery Program

Any student who receives an F in a core subject course, in a given quarter, will be placed in an on-line Credit Recovery Course for the following quarter. This includes students who fail a 4th quarter core course in 7th grade. Students who have received multiple F's in Quarters 1, 2 and 3 of his or her 7th grade year may be placed in this course as well. This program is designed to provide intervention in content areas covered in the previous Quarter. Completion of each Credit Recovery Course will result in the recovery of the subject area credit for one quarter.

~~□ 8th graders who have not earned at least the required 12 credits by the last day of school will not be allowed to participate in the 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony.~~

Communication and Intervention with students and parents regarding retention will occur in the following ways:

1. Parents of students who earn multiple failing grades will receive an academic concern letter at the end of Quarter 1 and Quarter 2. Interventions such as Parent-Teacher meetings, Task Intervention placements, and/or Problem Solving Team meetings may also occur.
2. At the end of quarter 3, parents of possible retention candidates will receive a retention warning letter along with summer school information. Parents will also be notified by phone.
3. At the end of quarter 4, students who haven't earned the required 12 credits will receive a retention letter with the summer school subjects that are required for promotion (if applicable).

STUDENT RECORDS (BOARD POLICY 7:340)

School student records are confidential. As provided in State or federal law student records do not include:

1. Records kept in a staff member's sole possession.
2. Records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school.
3. Video and other electronic recordings (including without limitation, electronic recordings made on school buses) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes. The content of these recordings may become part of a school student record to the extent school officials create, use, and maintain this content, or it becomes available to them by law enforcement officials, for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.
4. Any information, either written or oral, received from law enforcement officials concerning a student less than the age of 17 years who has been arrested or taken into custody

Upon request, the District will disclose school student records without a parent/guardian's or student's (if 18 or over) consent to officials of another school district in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as any person as specifically required by State or federal law or court order.

Required Notices and Directory Information

Under the Illinois School Student Records Act (ISSRA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents/guardians and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") have certain rights with respect to the student's education / school student records.

In compliance with Illinois and federal law, the District shall maintain two sets of student records. The **permanent record** shall include basic identifying information concerning the student, his or her parents' names and addresses, the student's gender, date/place of birth, academic transcripts, attendance record, health records required for enrollment, unique student identifier, a certified copy of the student's birth certificate, and a record of any release of this information. The permanent record may also include honors/awards received and information concerning participation in activities/athletics. No other information shall be placed in the permanent record.

The **temporary record** consists of all other records maintained by the District concerning the student and by which the student may be individually identified. The temporary record must include a record of release of the information contained in the temporary records, scores received on state assessment tests administered in grades K-8, a completed home language survey form, information regarding serious disciplinary infractions (i.e., those involving drugs, weapons, or bodily harm to another) that resulted in punishment or sanction of any kind, information regarding any indicated report pursuant to the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, health-related information, and accident reports. It also may include family background information, intelligence/aptitude scores, achievement test results, psychological reports, honors/awards, athletics/activities, other disciplinary information, teacher anecdotal records, special education records, records associated with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, participation in extracurricular activities, and/or other information relevant to the education of the student which is not required to be in the permanent record. Information in this record shall reference authorship, position, and date. 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.

CCUSD 301 may release directory information to the general public, including local media and military recruiters, and publish such information in a school directory, school yearbook, or similar District publications. The District has designated the following information as **directory information**: the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in school-sponsored organizations and activities, membership on athletic teams, dates of attendance, and academic awards, degrees, and honors received. Directory information also includes photographs, videos, or digital images of students used for informational or news-related purposes of a student participating in a school or school-sponsored activity, organization, and athletics that have appeared in school publications. However, photographs highlighting individual faces and used for commercial purposes require prior, specific, dated, and written consent of the parent. An image on a school security videotape recording is not directory information. Further, student social security numbers or student identification or unique student identifiers are not directory information. Parents/guardians will be given the opportunity to object to the release of directory information prior to its release. A parent/guardian or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all of the above-designed directory information by providing a written request to the Building Principal.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible students have the right to inspect, copy, and challenge the student's record. In addition, a student less than 18 years old may inspect or copy information in his/her permanent school record. A request to inspect or copy a student's school record shall be granted within 15 school days after the receipt of such a request. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may request a qualified professional to be present to interpret the student's records. Access shall not be granted to the parent(s)/guardian(s) or the student to the following: confidential letters, recommendations concerning the admission to a post-secondary educational institution; application for employment. For further information, please contact your building principal.

Unless the District has actual notice of a court order or a notice of a parenting plan under the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage

Act, indicating otherwise: Divorced or separated parents/guardians with and without parental responsibilities (formerly custody) are both permitted to inspect and copy the student's school student records. The District will deny access to a student's school records only to a parent against whom an order of protection was issued if the order of protection prohibits the parent from inspecting or obtaining such records.

The District shall maintain and destroy student records in accordance with Illinois and federal law. A student's permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student has graduated, withdrawn, or transferred from the District. A student's temporary record is maintained for at least 5 years after the student has graduated, withdrawn, or transferred from the District. Upon graduation, transfer, or permanent withdrawal of a student from the District, the school shall notify the parents/guardians and student, at their last known address, of the destruction schedule for the student's permanent and temporary records. Parents/guardians, or the student if at least 18 years of age at the time of the request, may request a copy of the student's records prior to the destruction date for a copying fee.

Students in grades 10-12 or their parent(s)/guardian(s) may deny access to the student's name, address, and phone number to official military and higher education recruiting representatives by submitting a written request to the Building Principal before the end of the student's 10th grade year, or within 30 days of transfer for students who transfer into the high school after that point.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) and eligible students have 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: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20202-4605.

CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 301 TRANSPORTATION HANDBOOK

BUS TRANSPORTATION (Board Policy 7:220)

Illinois law requires that the District provide transportation to and from school for all students living 1 ½ miles or more away from their school of attendance. All students who reside outside of the walking boundaries (greater than 1.5 miles from school) are assigned District 301 transportation to/from school using their home location to designate the bus assignment. If a serious safety hazard exists along the walking route of students who lives less than 1 ½ miles from their school of attendance, the District will follow the State of Illinois guidelines.

The State of Illinois has very strict rules and regulations on the matter of school buses. CCUSD 301 is committed to carrying out these regulations in order to provide the most efficient and safest transportation possible. The following rules are included here to ensure students and parents have an understanding of what is expected of students while entering, riding, or leaving the school bus.

Instructions to Parents

Busing information for the current school year is available on the District's website through the [Bus Information Link](#) . This is a web-based program that will provide the most current busing information, such as bus time, bus stop location, and bus number.

If your child needs to start District 301 transportation, does not require District 301 transportation or you need to make arrangements for busing to/from an alternate location within your child's attending school boundaries please complete the Student Transportation Information found in Skyward under the Custom Forms tab. Students are allowed only one inbound bus and only one outbound bus to the same location. (Accommodations cannot be made for different buses on different days.) Please allow 2 school days to process any changes to your student's transportation. Transportation will send you an email confirming the changes are approved or denied.

Instructions to School Bus Riders

The school bus is an extension of the classroom; therefore, all school rules apply on the school bus. The CCUSD 301 Transportation Handbook, which is included in this Handbook, governs school bus conduct.

School bus riders, while in transit, are under the jurisdiction of the school bus driver and any adult designated by the Board of Education to supervise bus riders. Any student who violates the following regulations and/or school rules while riding the bus may be reported to the middle school administration. The student may be subject to disciplinary consequences. Transportation guidelines are in addition to CCUSD 301 policies and procedures, including those outlined in this Handbook.

Late Academic Bus

Any student that does not sign up for this bus prior to the scheduled cut off time will be denied transportation, unless approved by both the School Administration and Transportation.

Safety Regulations and Guidelines:

1. Ride only on your assigned school bus.
2. Arrive at designated bus stop 5 minutes prior to your scheduled pickup time. Be careful in approaching the place where the bus stops. Do not move toward the bus until the bus has been brought to a complete stop.
3. Remain in your assigned seat while the bus is in motion.
4. Always be alert and listen for any instructions given by the driver.
5. Keep windows at or above the white safety line at all times. Do not throw anything out of the windows. When you are on the bus, keep hands and feet inside the bus at all times.
6. Refrain from making abrupt, loud noises, and/or causing any unnecessary confusion that could divert the driver's attention from safely riding the bus. Be absolutely quiet when approaching and crossing a railroad track.
7. Refrain from littering, defacing, or destroying bus property. Never tamper with the bus or any of its equipment. 8. Assist in keeping the bus safe and sanitary at all times. Eating, drinking, or gum chewing is not allowed in the bus. 9. Do not bring any animals on the bus, unless a service animal.
10. Respect the driver, fellow pupils, other riders, and yourself.
11. Do not ask the driver to stop at places other than regular assigned bus stops. The driver is not permitted to alter their route or drop students off anywhere except for designated bus stops without proper authorization from a middle school administrator.
12. Walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus if you must cross the street after being dropped off and wait for the driver to signal to cross the road. Never run in front of a car or bus.

If necessary, students may have to sit 3 in a seat on a school bus due to the number of students riding the bus.

It is imperative that all students actively observe and support these transportation regulations and actions. The same rules and regulations apply on all bus trips, including for school sponsored trips as well as between home and school. Students who are unable to abide by the rules and expectations in order to maintain a safe environment when riding a school bus may face disciplinary consequences depending on the severity of the action.

Students who are suspended from the bus and who do not have alternative transportation to school will be provided the opportunity to make up any missed work for full academic credit pursuant to the "Makeup Work" rules set forth in the Attendance and Truancy Policy of this Student Handbook. It is the responsibility of the student's parent to notify the school principal or other administrator that the student does not have alternative transportation to school to ensure the student receives appropriate make-up work.

Restricted Items

1. Because of the potential for disrupting the school bus driver, certain items are not to be brought on the bus. Some examples of such items could be, but are not limited to:
 - Electronic games
 - Toys
 - Playing cards
 - Laser lights
 - Cameras

In some cases the student may seek approval from the Transportation Director or building administration for special situations (i.e., field trips, athletic trips, etc.)

2. Cell Phones may be used responsibly on the school bus. Any misuse of a cell phone will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook. Examples of misuse include, but are not limited to:
 - Using phone as a camera
 - Displaying inappropriate images/websites
 - Use of inappropriate language during calls or texts
 - Use of phone for Harassment or Intimidation

3. Music devices are allowed on the school bus as long as they are kept at a volume that can not be heard by others and the listener can still hear emergency directions.

Emergency Days - School Dismissal Due to Weather

At times during the winter, severe snow conditions may make bus transportation impossible or unsafe and all schools in the district will be forced to close or have a delayed starting time. In such cases, local radio stations will be notified prior to 7:00am. If weather conditions are questionable, tune your radio to WRMN in Elgin (1410 AM or 94.3 FM), WLKB in DeKalb (1360 AM or 92.5 FM), or to WFXW in Geneva (1480 AM). The school may also utilize School Reach via phone and/or email to notify parents.

Also, on occasion during the school day, weather conditions may become severe and it may be advisable to close school early.

Since it is impossible to notify parents when this is done, it is suggested that if parents plan to be away from home on a school day they arrange with their child as to where he/she should go if any early dismissal is deemed necessary.

Many bus routes have some places where buses are required to turn around in a driveway. At these points, during times with considerable snow and drifting, it may be advisable for the bus to stay on the main route and to eliminate all points where backing is necessary. Parents are requested to give their bus driver full cooperation and to provide transportation to and from the bus in all cases where snow conditions are bad.

STUDENT DEVICE HANDBOOK

As part of its commitment to integrating technology into the curriculum, the Board of Education of Central Community Unit School District No. 301 has purchased Devices and their related accessories for students' individual use. Each student will be loaned a Device while attending Central 301. In order for a student to be loaned a Device, you and your child must read, sign, and return the attached Acknowledgement to your school's main office. This Handbook is valid for the years the student is loaned the Device. A new Handbook will be provided during registration and a new Acknowledgement must be signed and returned for each school year.

Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 will be loaned a Device only for use in school; these students will not take their Devices home. Students in Grades 2-12 will be loaned a Device for use at school and at home and must bring it to school every day, just like a textbook. Access to the technology resources of the District is a privilege and not an entitlement or right, and you and your child are responsible for the appropriate care, handling, and use of the Device as outlined in this Handbook.

If the District changes this Handbook at any time during the year, the District will notify you of the change(s).

A. USING THE DEVICE

1. **Acceptable Use of Device.** Your child's use of the Device, whether at home or at school, is to be for educational purposes consistent with the curricular goals of the District and with Board of Education policies. Your child may not use (or allow others to use) the Device loaned to him/her in a way that violates the Board's policy on acceptable use of its electronic network (Board Policy 6:235, *Access to the District's Electronic Network*). By using the Device, you and your child agree to abide by Board Policies 6:235, *Access to the District's Electronic Network*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; 7:190, *Student Behavior*; as well as all other applicable policies and their corresponding administrative procedures and the guidelines in this Handbook. Violation of any of these policies, administrative procedures, or guidelines could result in your child's loss of the privilege of using the Device; discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion; and referral to law enforcement.

Using the Device. All students are provided a District account, including a username and password. Students must use that account when logging on to the Device.

Using the Device at School. Unless otherwise instructed, the Device is intended for use at school every day. If your child is permitted to use the Device at home, he/she is responsible for bringing it to school every day, fully charged. The District is not responsible for providing your child a loaner Device in the event he/she forgets the Device.

Using the Device Outside the District. In the event your child uses the Device at home or elsewhere outside the District, he/she is bound by the same policies, procedures, and guidelines as at school.

Parent Responsibility for Supervision Outside the District. The District's filters will run on your child's Device outside of school. However, the District is not responsible for supervising students' use of the Device and Internet activity outside of school. While your child is using the Device assigned to him/her outside of school, you agree to be solely responsible for supervising the use of the device, including Internet access. You may choose to limit such use.

Technical Support Outside the District. The District cannot guarantee the Device will function outside the District at the same level as inside the District. Configuration of any home network connection is your responsibility and not the responsibility of the District. Any configuration applied to the Device that impairs its performance in school may be removed by District staff.

Email Accounts. All students are issued a District email address through Google's Gmail service. These accounts will have restricted access as determined by the District. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 will only be able to send emails to and receive emails from District staff, students, and approved educational systems. Students in Grades 9-12 will be able to send emails to and receive emails from District staff, students, and approved domains.

Every email sent and received from a District email account, whether at home or school, goes through filtering software. The District makes every effort to block content that may be obscene, pornographic, or otherwise harmful or inappropriate in the school setting. However, the District cannot guarantee that every objectionable material will be filtered. If your child receives an inappropriate email,

your child should report it immediately to an adult and forward it to their building administration team.

Accessories. The District will provide either a mandatory carrying case or always on case necessary for the protection of the Device. The decision whether to purchase additional accessories (such as a wireless mouse, extra charger, keyboard, stylus, etc.) for the device rests with you and your child. As with any personal property brought to school, the District reserves the right to disallow the use of any accessory and is not responsible for any loss or damage to personal property. In addition, the District cannot and does not guarantee that an accessory purchased at one point in time will be compatible with devices provided in the future.

Caring for the Device. The Device assigned to your child remains the property of the District and must be maintained appropriately. In addition to the manufacturer's instructions included with the Device, if any, your child must care for the Device as follows:

- a. Only use a clean, soft cloth to clean the device's screen; don't use cleansers of any type.
- b. Insert and remove cords and cables carefully to prevent damage to connectors.
- c. Do not write or draw on, apply stickers or labels to, or otherwise mark up or deface the Device in a manner that would detract from the educational environment in the classroom. You may personalize the Device by setting the wallpaper or background, but only with appropriate images.
- d. Handle the device carefully. Screens can crack not only when dropped, but also when twisted or subjected to pressure from stepping or leaning on them. Don't stack other objects (books, binders, etc.) on top of the Device.
- e. Don't leave the Device in places of extreme temperature, humidity, or limited ventilation (e.g., in a car) for an extended period of time.
- f. Keep food and beverages away from the Device.
- g. Make sure the Device is secure when it is out of your child's sight. Don't leave it in an unlocked locker, desk, or other location where someone might take it.
- h. Your child was provided a protective carrying case with the Device; use it.
- i. Your child's Device will have a District-provided asset tag to identify it. This number also might be marked on the case your child was provided. Write this number down so you can identify the Device.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS

1. **Technology Fee.** In order for your student to be loaned a Device consistent with the Handbook, you must pay a technology fee of \$50 each school year.
2. **Parents' Responsibility for Child's Compliance.** You agree to monitor and supervise your child's use of the Device outside of school and to make every effort to ensure your child's compliance with the obligations and responsibilities described in this Handbook and in all applicable Board Policies related to their use of the Device.
3. **Returning of the Device.** The Device is the property of the District while the Device is loaned to the student.
 1. Kindergarten devices, unless instructed otherwise, will remain in the school and the District will make sure they are in their 1st grade classroom for the start of the next school year.
 2. For students in Grades 1-11, unless instructed otherwise, Devices and any related accessories may be taken home over the summer. However, the rules outlined in this Handbook remain in effect during the summer.
 3. If, at the end of the Device loan period, your child's technology fee has been paid in full, you will own your child's Device. The District's technical support staff will reset the Device to factory settings, and all District filters and software will be removed.
2. **Student Leaves the District.** If a student leaves the District, the family will need to inform the school office of their intentions for the Device. If we do not hear from the family and the Device is not in the school's possession, the Device will be automatically locked out.
 - a. The technology fee (\$50 per year) covers a little less than half the annual cost of the Device. The District picks up the remainder of the cost at a little over \$50 per year. As a result of this fee, the family will own the Device after two or three years of use in the District based on their rotation. If a student leaves the District early and wants to keep the Device they will need to pay the remainder of the technology and District costs at \$100 per year of expected use.

- b. If you leave during the last semester your Device is expected to be used and all of your family fees are paid, the Device is yours to keep.
- c. If your child fails to return the Device and any related accessories or you do not purchase it, the District may, in addition to seeking reimbursement from you, file a report with local law enforcement.

C. DEVICE DATA AND SOFTWARE

1. **Managing Your Files and Saving Your Work.** Work done on a Device is typically saved to Internet-based storage space (i.e., the "cloud"). It is your child's responsibility to make sure his/her work is not lost due to a failure or loss of the Device.
2. **Personal Content on the Device.** Your child should be aware that any content (including, but not limited to, documents, music or audio files, and photographs) stored on the Device potentially could be subject to access by third parties pursuant to law or subject to discovery in a legal proceeding. In addition, personal content may be deleted in the course of routine maintenance and/or troubleshooting. It is your child's responsibility to back up all personal content stored on the Device, if any.
3. **Device Data as District Records.** Data saved to the Device or to the cloud via the Device are not maintained by the District as public records or as student records. In the event data stored on a Device or stored in the cloud via a Device needs to be maintained by the District for any reason, the District will take affirmative steps to preserve it.
 4. **District-Required Software.** The District will provide any software/apps required to use the Device for school purposes. This software may not be removed. The District may update, add, or remove software at any time for any reason, without prior notice.
5. **Prohibited "Jailbreaking."** "Jailbreaking" is the act of replacing the manufacturer's operating system with custom software, allowing the user to circumvent the manufacturer's security and licensing restrictions. The act of jailbreaking or otherwise disrupting the configuration of the Device voids the manufacturer's warranty and is a violation of this Handbook. Removal of any District-installed configuration is prohibited and will be considered a violation of this Handbook.
6. **Personal Software.** Your child is not permitted to install additional software or apps on the Device.
7. **Compliance with Copyrights.** In using the Device, your child must follow the Board Policy 5:170, *Copyright*, governing use of copyrighted material and applicable copyright law.
8. **No Expectation of Privacy.** There is no expectation of privacy for any communication made using the Device or for any content created, accessed, or stored on the Device. The District reserves the right to inspect the Device and its contents at any time and for any reason.

D. REPAIR OF, LOSS OF, OR DAMAGE TO DEVICE

1. Technical Support & Device Loaners.

1. During the school year, if your child's Device is not functioning properly, students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 should alert his/her teacher, and students in Grades 6-12 should bring the Device to the LMC. If necessary, a technical support employee of the District will assess the Device and attempt to correct any problems with it. In all grades, students will be issued a loaner Device, if available, while this student's Device is being repaired. The loaner Device should be treated the same as the student's Device as set forth in this Handbook.
2. During the summer, if your child's Device is not functioning properly, the District will provide technical support at specified times and District buildings. This information will be available on the District's website or may be obtained by contacting the District office.

2. **Loss of or Damage to Device.** If your child's Device is lost or damaged, you or your child must report it immediately to your school's main office. If you believe your child's Device requires repair, you must notify the designated technical support person in your child's school. You and your child are responsible for cooperating with the District in the recovery, repair, or replacement of your child's Device.

3. **Responsibility for Lost or Damaged Device.** In the event your child's Device is lost or damaged, you will be responsible for replacement or repairs as follows:

- a. If the District determines that the damage is the result of an equipment failure covered by a warranty, the warranty will apply with no further action required.
- b. If the damage is the result of a student's negligence or intentional destruction, or if the Device is lost, you will be required to

pay in full for the repair or replacement of the equipment.

1. **Accidental Damage.** The District purchases an accidental damage policy with each Device. This covers one (1) accidental damage per Device per school year while the Device is used in the District.

E. WAIVER AND INDEMNIFICATION

1. **Waiver of Device-Related Claims.** By signing the “Device Acknowledgement” below, you acknowledge that you and your child have read, understand, and agree to follow all guidelines and policies outlined or referenced in this Handbook and agree to be bound by this Handbook. You also agree and represent that the Device (including any related accessories) was delivered in good working order and that it must be returned to the District in good working order consistent with this Handbook. **By signing this Handbook, you waive any and all claims you or your child (and each of your respective heirs, successors, and assigns) may have against Central Community Unit School District No. 301, its Board of Education, and its individual Board members, officers, employees, and agents relating to, connected with, or arising from the use of the Device or this Handbook.**
2. **Indemnification for Device-Related Claims.** To the fullest extent allowed by law, you agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Central Community Unit School District No. 301, its Board of Education, and its individual Board members, officers, employees, and agents from any and all claims, damages, losses, causes of action, and the like relating to, connected with, or arising from the use of any District Device issued to your child.

RECEIPT OF STUDENT HANDBOOK

Name Print First Name

Grade (circle one) 6 7 8

Print Last

I have received and read the Middle School Student Handbook (electronic version) for the 2021-2022 school year. I understand that I am personally responsible for reviewing and understanding the information contained in the Handbook. I also understand that this Handbook includes only a summary of Middle School and Board of Education policies and that I am subject to and must abide by all District policies. I also understand that a violation of any of the District's policies may lead to disciplinary consequences.

Student Signature Date

Parent Signature Date