2025-2026 Student Handbook Changes Summary

Board Members,

Below you will find a list of the updates made throughout the student handbooks for 2025-2026 across sites and programs. The handbooks have been updated by administrators at each level, aligned with MN statute/current law, and reviewed by district administration. They are an operational/management tool our administrators use to effectively communicate and run our schools. They will be communicated starting in early August to ensure students and families have clear information regarding the expectations, policies, and practices for the upcoming school year.

Elementary Summary of Changes
- Cover page- update cover page
- Page 1- update year to 2025-2026
- Page 1- add mission statement
- Page 1-3- reorder the "Table of Contents" for clarity
  - move "homework" from "Academic Success" to "Student Life"
  - remove "family involvement"
  - move "multilingual english learners" from "Student Support Services" to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
  - add "school" before "psychologist" and "school" before "social workers"
  - reorder "Family resource program" and "school social workers"
  - move "special education" from "Student Support Services" to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
  - move "Targeted Services" from "Student Life" to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
  - change "Personalized Learning" to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
  - add "ed" to "gift" in "Gift and Talent Development Services"
  - change "Alerts" to "Staying Connected with Eden Prairie Schools"
  - change "(Events/activities that can impact student and staff safety)" from the "Critical Incidents (Events/activities that can impact student and staff safety)" to "Ensuring Safety and Wellbeing"
  - remove "publications"
  - change "School Information" to "Guidelines for End-of-Day Changes"
  - change "Contacting your Child" to Student Contact and Cell Phone Use"
  - remove "Student Telephone Use"
  - change "Registering your Child" to "Enrolling in Eden Prairie Schools"

- move "Steps to follow if you have questions or concerns" from "Communications" section to "Safe and Supportive Schools" section
    - change "Publications" to "School Communications"
    - move "Attendance" under "Student Life" and remove subheadings associated with "Attendance"
    - remove the second "Safe and Supportive Schools"
    - move "Grading" and "Report Cards" from "Communications" to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
    - move "Fees" from the "Attendance" heading to the "Student Life" heading
    - move "Asbestos/Pesticides/Air Quality Reports" from "Attendance" to "Safety and Security"
    - move "Background Checks, Employment" from "Attendance" to "Policies and Procedures"
    - move "Pledge of Allegiance, Release of Student Directory Information, Student Records, and Student Surveys" from the "Attendance" section to the "Policies and Guidelines" section
    - insert the heading "Transportation" under the "Safety and Security" before the "Bus Assignment" section
- Page 4- move "homework" content to "Student Life" and update wording to be consistent with current practices
- Page 5- remove "family involvement" content
- Page 5- move "English Language Learners" from the "Student Support Services" section to the "Personalized Learning" section. Update heading from "English Language Learners" to "Multilingual Learners" to be more inclusive. Update content to reflect current practices
- Page 5- add "School" before "Psychologist" to provide differentiation of position
- Page 5- move "Social Worker" content to a new row, below "Family Resources Program" Add "School" to "Social Worker" to differentiate position
- Page 6- move "Special Education" from "Student Support Services" to "Personalized Learning" section
- Page 6- change "Personalized Learning" to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
- Page 6- remove "III" from "MCA III" to reflect changes to test's naming convention
- Page 6/7- change the heading "Gift and Talent Development Services" to Gifted and Talent Development Services" to reflect correct naming. Change content to reflect current practices.
- Page 7- remove curriculum content link due to new website link changes

- Page 8- update "Alert" content with "Staying Connected to Eden Prairie Schools" content to be more consistent with current practices
- Page 8- create additional row to separate first and second content under "Communications"
- Page 8/9/10- update "Critical Incidents (Events/activities that can impact student and staff safety" to more clear, concise language and correct formatting.
- Page 10- remove "Publications" section
- Page 10- update "School communications" content to be consistent with current practices
- Page 10- remove "School Information"
- Page 10- change "Contacting Your Child" to "Guidelines for End-of-Day Changes" Update content to be consistent with current practices
- Page 10- change "Student Telephone Use" to " Student Contact and Cellphone Use" and update content to be consistent with current practices.
- Page 11- change "Registering Your Child" to "Enrolling in Eden Prairie Schools" and update content
- Page 11- move "Steps to Follow if you have Questions of Concerns" to the last row in the "Safe and Supportive Schools" heading
- Page 12- remove content under "Website"
- Page 12/13- remove "End of Semester" from the heading "End of Semester Report Cards" and update content to reflect current practices. Move content to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
- Page 12/13- remove EPO related content under "Grading". Remove report card content under "Grading" for redundancy. Move content to "Authentic and Personalized Education Programming"
- Page 14- remove double print under "Expectations of Adults and Students"
- Page 14/15/16- reword text "Expectations of Adults and Students"
- Page 16- remove text under "Expectations of Adults and Students"
- Page 16- under "Severe Behavior" change weapon wording to be consistent with policy 501
- Page 17- add a section "Steps to Follow if you have Questions or Concerns" and update Assistant Superintendent title
- Page 18- update text under "Before and After School Activities"
- Page 18- move "Targeted Services Program" to "Authentic and Personalized Learning" under "Special Education"
- Page 18/19- edit text under "Dress Code"
- Page 19- remove text under "Electronic Devices"
- Page 19- update content in "Field Trips"

- Page 19- update content under "Lockers" to include link to correct policy
- Page 20- update "Visits during lunch" content and website links
- Page 21- update "Recess/Playground" content for formatting issues and clarity
- Page 22- update "iLearn@EP" content
- Page 22- update "Responsible Citizenship" for AI changes
- Page 23- update "Accessing/Posting Inappropriate Material"
- Page 24- update "Tech Support" content
- Page 24- add "Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools" section and content
- Page 24- update "Internet Acceptable Use Policy" content
- Page 25- update "Earphones" content
- Page 25- update "Applications and Content" content
- Page 26- update "Intentional Damage" content
- Page 27- add "Guardian" to "Sharing Inspiration Volunteer Program" content
- Page 27- update "District Advisory Council Volunteers" content
- Page 28/289/30- move "Attendance" content to "Student Life" on page 18. Add a content box and insert content above "Before and After School Activities"
- Page 30- move "Asbestos/Pesticides/Air Quality Notices" from "Attendance" heading to the "Safety and Security" heading
- Page 30/31- move "Background Checks, Employment" to "Policies and Procedures" section, above "Bullying Prohibition" Content
- Page 31- move "Fees" content to "Student Life" on page 19. Add a content box and insert content above "Field Trips"
- Page 31- remove "Parent Right to Know" content
- Page 31/32- move "Pledge of Allegiance, Release of Student Directory Information, Student Records, and Student Surveys" from the "Attendance" section to the "Policies and Guidelines" section
- Page 33- remove content in "Health Conditions"
- Page 33- add content under "Homebound or Hospital Instruction"
- Page 33/34- modify "Illness and Injury" content
- Page 34- strikeout the word "usually" under "Medications" add a space to separate the bullet points from the next paragraph
- Page 35- add information under "Policies and Guidelines"
- Page 35- update TitleIX link due to new website
- Page 37- capitalize the "C" on "Visitor check-in"
- Page 37- remove duplicate bullet point under "Visitor Check-in"
- Page 39- update "Bus Rules"

Central Middle School Summary of Changes
- Cover page- update cover page
- Page 1- update year to 2025-2026
- Page 3, 7, 16, 61- Remove redundancy of alerts and update wording to accommodate new website and Campus changes and for consistency across all district handbooks.
- Page 11- update Talent Development Specialist title and add a phone number
- Page 12- update content under "Evaluation/Reporting Systems/Grades" to be consistently in line with current summative and formative grading practices
- Page 15- update content under "Student Usage of Generative Artificial Intelligence" so offences are in line with current practice
- Page 17- add content to "Student Deliveries" regarding outside food deliveries
- Page 17- add content to "Parent/Guardian Communication with CMS Staff"
- Page 21- update content to "School Store" concerning operating times
- Page 31- remove sentence under "Academic Integrity"
- Page 31-32- update "Alcohol/Chemicals, Possession, Use or Under the Influence of" to "Alcohol, Tobacco, Nicotine, and Chemicals: Possession, Use or Under the Influence of" and update content for expanded usages
- Page 34- update "Dress and Grooming" consequences to reflect current practice
- Page 35- Update replacement device language to match all district handbooks
- Page 39- delete "Tobacco/Vaping Possession or Use" for redundancy
- Page 40-41- under "Weapons" update wording under "Guidelines for Possible Consequences" and "Suspension Procedures" for clarity
- Page 42- under "Structured Day" update wording
- Page 55- under "Student Surveys" word removed for grammar

Eden Prairie High School Summary of Changes
- Cover page- update cover page
- Page 1- update year to 2025-2026
- Page 8- insert new text "Schedule Change Process" to describe current practices
- Page 8- Change "Dropping Classes" to "Dropping Courses" and edit content to align with current practices
- Page 9, 11- update Gifted and Talented Coordinator to Talent Development Programming Specialist, 9-12 to align with all handbooks and district changes
- Page 11- remove content and update "Non Passing Grades Options to Pursue Credit" to reflect current practices

- Page 12- update "Grading Scale" with new credit completion and credit recovery process
- Page 14- update "Recognition" with new sentence structure and "Capstone" addition
- Page 15- update "Recognition" to include musicians
- Page 19- update alert wording to accommodate new website and Campus changes and for consistency across all district handbooks.
- Page 32- update "MacBook Air" information to align with all district handbooks
- Page 38- add a link to policy 506 DCPF and update language under "Suspension Procedures"
- Page 39 and 40- update "Administrative Oversight and Exceptions" paragraph 4 "Tobacco Possession or Use" and add tobacco/nicotine language to paragraph 3 "Alcohol/Chemicals, Possession, Use or Under the Influence of"
- Page 52- under "Weapons" include "Tasers"
- Page 56- change wording under "parking without permit regulations" to match current procedures
- Page 60- update "Leaving School During the Day" to align with current practices
- Page 66- add additional sentence to "Tardiness" to provide clearer information

Tassel Summary of Changes
- Cover page- update cover page
- Page 4-22- [Revised Page Margins] (Top & Bottom Margins Set to .5)
- Page 5- update "Lunch" for new school lunch provider plan at Valley View Campus
- Page 5- update "Lockers" for redundancy
- Page 6- update "Parking" for new Valley View Campus location parking
- Page 8- update "Health & Nursing Services" for new Valley View Campus information
- Page 11- damage multiplier language updated to be consistent across district handbooks
- Page 15-18- [Formatting] (Revised formatting and line spacing to ensure consistency and ease of reading)

EPO Elementary Summary of Changes
- Cover page- update cover page
- Page 1- update year to 2025-2026
- Page 2- update spaces above "Table of Contents"
- Page 2-3- "Table of Contents" add "Gifted &" before "Talent Development"; add "School" before "Social Worker" and change "Alerts" to "Staying Connected with Eden Prairie Schools" to align with title changes being made in brick and mortar schools.
- Page 6- "Standardized Assessments" remove "III" from MCA title to reflect changes in test's naming conventions

- Page 6- "Gifted & Talent Development Services" remove previous language and add new language to align with new districtwide description of K-5 GT services
- Page 9- "Student Support Services" add "School" before "Social Worker" to align with position name change being made in K-5 brick and mortar schools
- Page 12- "Student Behavior" add "Student Behavior" to heading of this section to align with new naming conventions in K-5 brick and mortar schools
- Page 12- "Student Behavior" remove confusing language to align with changes in K-5 brick and mortar schools
- Page 13- "Student Behavior" add language about District Policy 506 DCPF in alignment to similarly proposed changes to EPHS handbook
- Page 15- "iLearn&EP" revise section language in alignment with changes in K-5 brick and mortar schools
- Page 17- "Artificial Intelligence Tools" add this language in alignment with changes in K-5 brick and mortar schools
- Page 19- "Intentional Damage" revise in alignment with changes in K-5 brick and mortar schools
- Page 19- Change "Alerts" to "Staying Connected with Eden Prairie Schools" to align with title changes being made in brick and mortar schools
- Page 21- "Critical Incidents: Ensuring Safety & Wellbeing" add this new section to align with new content being added to K-5 brick and mortar school handbooks
- Page 23- "Background Checks for Employment" revise this section to align with new content being added to K-5 brick and mortar school handbooks

EPO Secondary Summary of Changes
- Cover page- update cover page
- Page 1- update year to 2025-2026
- Page 2-3- "Table of Contents" add "Gifted &" before "Talent Development"; add "School" before "Social Worker" and change "Alerts" to "Staying Connected with Eden Prairie Schools" and other smaller tweaks to align with title changes being made in brick and mortar schools. Add a "Critical Events: Ensuring Safety & Wellbeing" section.
- Page 5, 14- "Schedule" adjust the length and start time of advisory for next year from 8:40 AM to 8:30 AM (and from 15 minutes to 25 minutes)
- Page 10- "Grading Practices" revise language related to Credit Completion and Credit Recovery, as a result of our new ALC programming, in alignment to similarly proposed changes to EPHS handbook
- Page 11- "Academic Recognition" revise language for Red Cord, Blue Cord, Pink Cord, and NHS Stole/Medals as graduation recognition in alignment to similarly proposed changes to EPHS handbook

- Page 14- "Attendance Policy" add language to increase school support team intervention options when students are not engaging in virtual schoolwork
- Page 17- "Student Support Services" add "School" before "Social Worker" to align with position name change being made in EPO-E and K-5 brick and mortar schools
- Page 20- "Student Behavior" add "Student Behavior" to heading of this section to align with new naming conventions in handbooks
- Page 20- "Student Behavior" remove confusing language
- Page 21- "Severe Behavior" add language about District Policy 506 DCPF in alignment to similarly proposed changes to EPHS handbook
- Page 23- "iLearn&EP" revise section language
- Page 26- "Intentional Damage" revise in alignment with changes in all district handbooks
- Page 30- "Critical Incidents: Ensuring Safety & Wellbeing" added this new section to align with all district handbooks
- Page 33- "Background Checks for Employment" revise this section to align with content being in EPO-E, elementary, and secondary school handbooks
- Page 35- "Weapons" add "tasers" in alignment to similarly proposed changes to EPHS handbook
- Page 37- under "Student Surveys" word removed for grammar