

Midway ISD Student Handbook - 2025-2026 Update
Guide to Changes Table

| <p><i>Non-substantive changes such as acronyms, dates, or minor wording changes to enhance readability were not included in this change table.</i></p> <p><i>New or updated language is in purple font</i></p> <p><i>Deleted text from the previous year's handbook is in red font</i></p> | | |
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| Topic | Page | Description of Change |
| Table of Contents | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Updated after revisions |
| Consent to Conduct a Psychological or Psychiatric Evaluation | 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Added per SB 12 <p>Consent to Conduct a Psychological or Psychiatric Evaluation</p> <p>Unless required under state or federal law, a district employee or contractor of the district will not conduct a psychological or psychiatric examination, test, or treatment without obtaining prior written parental consent.</p> <p>Note: An evaluation may be legally required under special education rules or by the Texas Education Agency for child abuse investigations and reports.</p> |
| Opting out of Advanced Mathematics in Grades 6-8 | 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Added this section per TASB model Student Handbook <p>The district will automatically enroll a student in grade 6 in an advanced mathematics course if the student performed in the top 60 percent on the grade 5 mathematics STAAR or in the top 40 percent on a local measure that demonstrates proficiency in the student's grade 5 mathematics course work.</p> <p>Enrollment in an advanced mathematics course in grade 6 will enable students to enroll in Algebra I in grade 8 and advanced mathematics in grades 9-12.</p> <p>The student's parent may opt the student out of automatic enrollment in an advanced mathematics course.</p> |

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| Parent Review of Instructional Materials and Plan | 18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per SB 12 <p>A parent has the right to review teaching materials, textbooks, and other teaching aids and instructional materials used in the curriculum, and to examine tests that have been administered, whether instruction is delivered in-person, virtually, or remotely.</p> <p>A parent is also entitled to request that the school allow the student to take home instructional materials the student uses. The school may ask the student to return the materials at the beginning of the next school day.</p> <p>A school must provide printed versions of electronic instructional materials to a student if the student does not have reliable access to technology at home.</p> <p>Teachers are required to provide a copy of the teacher's instructional plan or course syllabus for each class to the parent of each student enrolled in that class before the beginning of each semester. A parent may obtain additional copies of the plan or syllabus by request. A teacher's instructional plan or course syllabus will be available by the first day of the semester. Parents may view these documents through SeeSaw for grades K-3 or Schoology for grades 4-12.</p> <p>[For information about parental access to any online library catalog and library materials, including records of their child's checked out library materials, see Library (All Grade Levels).]</p> |
| Accessing Student Records | 19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added per SB 12 <p>Records relating to school library materials the child obtains from a school library [see Library (All Grade Levels) for more information.]</p> |
| Compulsory Attendance - Exemptions All Grade Levels | 31 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added and/or updated per SB 207, HB 367, and SB 1049 <p>Documented health-care appointments for the student or a child of the student, including absences related to autism services and mental health appointments</p> <p>Absences resulting from a serious or life-threatening illness or related treatment that makes a student's attendance infeasible, with certification by a physician on the district's form</p> <p>Absences for attendance in a released time course in religious instruction</p> |
| Certification of Absence Due to Severe Illness or Treatment | 34 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per HB 367 <p>If a student is absent because of a serious or life-threatening illness or related treatment that makes a student's attendance infeasible, a parent must provide certification from a physician licensed to practice in Texas specifying the student's illness and</p> |

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| | | the anticipated period of absence related to the illness or treatment on the district's form . A parent may access the required form by contacting DeeAnn Kleypas, Coordinator of Health Services, at 254-761-5680. |
| Class Rank/Highest Ranking Student | 41 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per MISD Graduation Program language <p>To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two semesters immediately preceding graduation; and Have completed the Foundation High School Recommended Program with an Endorsement and the Distinguished Level of Achievement. the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, or the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement. |
| College and University Admissions and Financial Aid | 43 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per tu's decision regarding its automatic admission "cap" for incoming first-year students <p>The University of Texas at Austin may limit the number of automatically admitted students to 75 percent of the University's enrollment capacity for incoming resident freshmen. From the summer/fall 2026 term through the spring 2027 term, the University will admit the top five percent of a high school's graduating class who meet the above requirements. Additional applicants will be considered by the University through a holistic review process.</p> |
| College Credit Courses (Secondary Grade Levels Only) | 43 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per TASB model handbook <p>Enrollment in AP or dual credit courses through the virtual or hybrid courses offered by the district or another district or school.</p> |
| Complaints and Concerns (All Grade Levels) | 45 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per SB 12 <p>For those complaints and concerns that cannot be resolved informally, the board has adopted a Student and Parent Complaints/Grievances policy FNG(LOCAL) in accordance with Education Code Chapter 26A. This policy describing the grievance process in detail is available in the district's online policy manual at https://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/860 and at the principal's or superintendent's office. To submit a grievance electronically, a parent may download the grievance/complaint form, complete the form, scan the form, and email it to AdministrativeServices@midwayisd.org. Visit the Administrative Services website to access the forms (www.midwayisd.org/programs-services/administrative-services)</p> |

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| | | <p>In general, the written grievance form should be completed and submitted to the campus principal in a timely manner.</p> <p>Grievances shall begin Level One with the superintendent's designee.</p> <p>If the concern is not resolved, a parent or student may appeal to the superintendent or superintendent's designee.</p> <p>If the concern is still unresolved, the district provides a process for parents and students to appeal to the board of trustees.</p> <p>Hearings at each level will be conducted in accordance with the timelines established by law described in the district's policy at FNG(LOCAL).</p> |
| Sexual Harassment and Sex-Based Harassment | 52 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes reflect Title IX rules currently in effect. <p>Sexual Harassment and Gender Sex-Based Harassment</p> |
| Distance Learning | 54 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB 569 repeals the Texas School Virtual Network and allows for students to enroll in virtual or hybrid courses offered by the district or another district or school approved in accordance with new Education Code Chapter 30B. <p>If a student wishes to enroll in a correspondence course or a distance learning course that is not provided through the Texas Virtual School Network (TXVSN), as described below, to earn credit in a course or subject, the student must receive permission from the principal before enrolling in the course or subject. If the student does not receive prior approval, the district may not recognize and apply the course or subject toward graduation requirements or subject mastery.</p> |

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| Virtual and Hybrid Instruction | 54 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Added per SB 569 <p>The Texas Virtual School Network (TXVSN) has been established by the state as one method of distance learning. A student has the option, with certain limitations, to enroll in virtual or hybrid instruction a course offered through virtual or hybrid courses offered by the district or by another district or school the TXVSN to earn course credit for graduation.</p> <p>Depending on the TXVSN virtual or hybrid course in which a student enrolls, the course may be subject to the “no pass, no play” rules. [See Extracurricular Activities, Clubs, and Organizations (All Grade Levels)] In addition, a student who enrolls in a TXVSN virtual or hybrid course for which an end-of-course (EOC) assessment is required must still take the corresponding EOC assessment.</p> <p>A parent may ask questions or request that their child be enrolled in a virtual or hybrid course offered by the district TXVSN course by contacting the school counselor. Unless an exception is made by the [insert position], a student will not be allowed to enroll in a TXVSN course if the school offers the same or a similar course.</p> |
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| <p>Possession and Use of Personal Communications Devices, Including Cell Phones, and Other Electronic Devices</p> | <p>57</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per HB 1481 <p>In accordance with state law, the district prohibits the use of a personal communication device (such as cell phones, tablets, and smartwatches) while on school property during the school day. For more information about permitted use in certain circumstances and disciplinary measures that apply to this prohibition, see the Student Code of Conduct and policy FNCE(LOCAL).</p> <p>Personal Communication Device means a telephone, cell phone such as a smartphone or flip phone, tablet, smartwatch, radio device, paging device, or any other electronic device capable of telecommunication or digital communication.</p> <p>The use of cell phones or any device capable of capturing images is strictly prohibited in locker rooms or restroom areas while at school or at a school-related or school-sponsored event.</p> <p>Students shall not turn on, use, or remove a personal communication device from proper storage on school property during the school day. Students shall store personal communications devices in a proper storage site such as a backpack, purse, bag, or car.</p> <p>The school day begins when a student enters the school building and ends at the last bell of the school's last instructional period of the day.</p> <p>If a student uses a personal communications device without authorization during the school day, the student will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Confiscated telecommunications devices that are not retrieved by the student or the student's parent will be disposed of after the notice required by law. [See policy FNCE for more information.]</p> <p>In limited circumstances and in accordance with law, a student's personal communications device may be searched by authorized personnel. [See Searches in this document and policy FNF for more information.]</p> <p>The district is not responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen communications devices.</p> |
| <p>Instructional Use of Personal Electronic Devices</p> | <p>58</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per HB 1481 <p>Students must obtain prior approval to use personal electronic devices allowed by law for instructional purposes while on campus. The district may not permit use of a prohibited personal communication device except as required by law. See[Possession and Use of Personal Communications Device, Including Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices].</p> <p>Students must also sign a user agreement that contains applicable rules for use (separate from this handbook). Parents acknowledge understanding of these policies in the online enrollment process.</p> |

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| | | All personal devices must be turned off during the school day when not in use for approved instructional purposes. Violations of the user agreement may result in withdrawal of privileges and other disciplinary action. |
| Parental Consent | 63 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added per SB 12 <p>State law requires the district to obtain written parental consent before a student may participate in a student club that is authorized or sponsored by the district. A parent may obtain consent forms for student clubs. Each campus will distribute club consent forms electronically to obtain parent consent for participation.</p> |
| Students with Disabilities | 73 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per HB 2 <p>A student who receives special education services may earn the distinguished level of achievement or an endorsement under the foundation program. If the student's curriculum requirements for the endorsement were modified, the student's ARD committee will determine whether the modified curriculum is sufficiently rigorous to earn the distinguished level of achievement or endorsement. The ARD committee must also determine whether the student must perform satisfactorily on any end-of-course assessment to earn an endorsement.</p> |
| Health-Related Services | 75 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added per SB 12 <p>The district is required to provide notice of each health-related service offered at a student's campus. A parent may withhold consent for or decline a health-related service.</p> <p>The following health-related services offered by district campuses may include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute Care: Providing immediate care for illnesses and non- life threatening injuries. (i.e taking temperature, cleansing a scrape & applying a bandaid, assessing stomach ache, headaches) Chronic Disease Management: Assisting students with chronic conditions like asthma or diabetes in managing their health, administering medications, and developing individualized healthcare plans (IHPs). Medication Administration: Administering both prescribed and over-the-counter medications as per physician's orders and with parental consent. Preventive Care: Providing or coordinating preventive care like state required immunization reminders and resources. Promote health education on topics like nutrition and hygiene. Care Coordination: Collaborating with physicians, families, and school staff to ensure comprehensive care, advocacy and communicate health information effectively. (i.e. ensuring all staff are aware of child medical needs and support needed throughout the school day). |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● State-Mandated Health Screenings: Conducting the following screenings on select students as required by state law: vision, hearing, spinal screening, acanthosis nigricans (Texas Risk Assessment for Type 2 Diabetes in Children)● Health Education: Educating students and parents on various health topics, including disease prevention, healthy lifestyles, and managing chronic conditions.● Mental Health Support: Provide first-aid care and crisis intervention, then partner with and transfer care to the campus counseling department for further support if warranted.● Identifying and Addressing Health Barriers to Learning: Recognizing health problems that may be impeding a student's educational progress and partner with education staff in developing plans to address them. (i.e participating, advocating in IEP/504 meetings)● Referrals to Community Resources: Connecting students and families with community healthcare providers and social services. |
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| Unassigned Opioid Antagonists (All Grade Levels) | 78 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State law requires districts to adopt a policy regarding opioid antagonists. Board Policy FFAC(LOCAL) addresses this issue per the TASB Model Handbook <p>In accordance with Chapter 38, Subchapter E of the Education Code, the board has adopted a policy to allow authorized and trained school personnel at each campus to administer an opioid antagonist, such as Narcan or Naloxone, to an individual who is reasonably believed to be experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose.</p> <p>Each campus will have at least one authorized and trained individual to administer an opioid antagonist present during regular school hours.</p> |
| Parental Rights and Options | 88 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added per SB 12 - TEA is required to create a form for districts to use in complying with this requirement that is not yet available. <p>State law provides that a parent has the right to direct the moral and religious training of the parent's child, make decisions concerning the child's education, and consent to medical, psychiatric, and psychological treatment of the child without obstruction or interference from a governmental entity of Texas, including a school district.</p> <p>In addition to referring to the rights of parents, including the right to withhold consent for or exempt the parent's child from certain activities and instruction specified throughout this handbook, parents may access additional information regarding parental rights at the district's website at www.midwayisd.org/families.</p> |
| Working Together | 88-89 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added per SB 12 <p>Attending scheduled conferences and requesting additional conferences as needed. The district will provide at least two opportunities for in-person conferences during each school year for each parent of a child enrolled in the district with the child's teachers. To schedule a telephone or in-person conference with a teacher, school counselor, or principal, please call the school office for an appointment. The teacher will usually return your call or meet with you during his or her conference period or before or after school. [See Report Cards/Progress Reports and Conferences in this document.]</p> <p>Attending board meetings to learn more about district operations. Regular board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p. m. at the MISD Administration Building. An agenda for a regular or special meeting is posted no later than 3 business days before each meeting at the administration building and online at www.midwayisd.org [See policies BE and BED for more information.]</p> |
| Safe Storage of Firearms | 95 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added per HB 121 |

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| | | <p>A firearm should be stored unloaded in a safe or locked container, with ammunition stored elsewhere.</p> <p>It is unlawful to store, transport, or abandon an unsecured firearm in a place where children are likely to be and can obtain access to the firearm. Under the Penal Code, a person commits the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child if the child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm, and the person with criminal negligence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failed to secure the firearm; or Left the firearm in a place to which the person knew or should have known the child would gain access <p>The penalty for allowing a child access to a firearm can range from a Class C misdemeanor (punishable by a \$500 fine) to a Class A misdemeanor (punishable by a \$4,000 fine, a year in jail, or a combination of the two).</p> |
| Library (All Grade Levels) | 100 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated per SB 13 <p>Campus libraries are open for independent student use during various times before, during, and after school. Library hours for specific campuses can be found by contacting the campus librarian or campus principal. All other library information can be found by contacting the campus librarian.</p> <p>The district provides a wide range of library materials for students and faculty that support student achievement and present varying levels of difficulty, diversity of appeal, and a variety of points of view. The district follows the Texas State Library and Archive Commission's standards for school library collection development.</p> <p>Parents are the primary decision makers regarding their student's access to library material. The district encourages parental involvement in library acquisition, maintenance, and campus activities. Parents are encouraged to communicate with the campus librarian and their child's teacher about special considerations regarding library materials self-selected by their student. A parent may submit to the district a list of library materials that their child may not be allowed to check out or otherwise access for use outside of the school library. Visit the Library Services site on the MISD webpage for more information. https://www.midwayisd.org/programs-services/library-services</p> <p>The district will provide to parents a record of each time the parent's child checks out a library material that includes the title, author, genre, and return date of the library material. Visit the Library Services site on the MISD webpage for more information. https://www.midwayisd.org/programs-services/library-services</p> <p>A parent may access the school's library or any available online catalog. For information on accessing a school's library or available online catalog visit the Library Services site on the MISD webpage. https://www.midwayisd.org/programs-services/library-services</p> <p>The district welcomes student and parent feedback on library materials and services; parents may contact their campus principal with questions or comments about their child's campus library. A district employee, parent, or person residing in the district may</p> |

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| | | <p>submit a written challenge to the inclusion of any library material in the catalog of the school library by visiting the Library Services site on the MISD webpage for more information. https://www.midwayisd.org/programs-services/library-services</p> <p>For more information, see EFB (Local)</p> |
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