# Student/Guardian Handbook Acknowledgement and Pledge

Name of Student:

# Student Acknowledgement and Pledge

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

I understand that the student handbook and school district policies may be amended during the year and that such changes are available in the school office.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature Date

# **Guardian Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the student handbook and school board policy on student behavior. I have read these materials and understand all the rules, responsibilities and expectations.

I understand that the student handbook and school district policies may be amended during the year and that such changes are available on the school district website or in the school office.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Guardian Signature Date

# **<u>RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS OF DISTRICT STAKEHOLDERS</u>**

While this summary may not fully encompass every stakeholder need, it establishes a framework for reference.

| Each student may expect:  | Each student is responsible to:  |
|---|--|
| <ul> <li>A free and appropriate education.</li> <li>Due process involving any disciplinary action.</li> <li>A safe educational environment conducive to learning.</li> <li>An environment of civility.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Learn and follow the rules and regulations established by the Board of Education and implemented by school personnel.</li> <li>Respect the rights and individuality of others.</li> <li>Refrain from taunting, bullying or harassing others.</li> <li>Dress appropriately. (Appearance shall be safe, clean, and not disrupt the educational process.)</li> <li>Come to school on time every day.</li> <li>Go to all classes and do your best on all school assignments.</li> <li>Refrain from behavior that disrupts the educational process.</li> <li>Facilitate the communication and delivery of information between school and home.</li> <li>Respect the authority of school personnel in maintaining discipline in school and at school-sponsored activities.</li> <li>Respect and maintain school and private property in accordance with school rules.</li> </ul>  |
| Each parent/guardian may expect:  | Each parent/guardian is responsible to:  |
| <ul> <li>Information concerning the lawful policies, procedures, rules and regulations established by school authorities.</li> <li>A safe environment conducive to learning.</li> <li>To have access to his/her child's school record according to District guidelines.</li> <li>Regular student progress reports.</li> <li>An environment of civility when addressing academic and behavioral decisions relating to their son or daughter.</li> <li>To be guided through the Chain of Command as established in Board Policy.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Make sure that your child has necessary supplies and has completed all physicals and immunizations at the beginning of the year.</li> <li>Have current contact and emergency information on file with the school office.</li> <li>See that his/her child attends school in accordance with Illinois State Laws and arrives on time.</li> <li>Be aware of and follow District policies and building rules, traffic laws, guidelines and regulations concerning his/her child.</li> <li>Ask for academic and behavioral requirements in the classroom.</li> <li>Know that nutrition, proper rest, hygiene, and overall attitude directly impact student learning.</li> <li>Know your child's teachers. When a question/concern arises regarding any class, the first contact should be with that teacher. The second contact would be the building Principal.</li> <li>Take an interest in your child's academic progress and discuss it frequently with your child.</li> <li>Know when progress reports and report cards are due and discuss them with your child.</li> <li>Call the school within one hour of start time if your child is ill or cannot come to school.</li> <li>Create a healthy routine for the completion of homework.</li> <li>Support your child through your attendance at open houses, parent-teacher conferences, student performances, awards ceremonies, and school supported organizations.</li> </ul> |

| School Personnel may expect:   | School Personnel are responsible to:  |
|--|---|
| <ul> <li>To be involved in communication to and from parents.</li> <li>An environment of civility when addressing academic and behavioral decisions relating to the student performance.</li> <li>To be guided through the Chain of Command as established in Board Policy.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Know and accurately follow discipline guidelines as established by District policy.</li> <li>Make school rules and regulations contained in a handbook and/or District calendar available to all students and parents.</li> <li>Notify the appropriate authority of criminal violations by students.</li> <li>Implement intervention procedures within his/her jurisdiction through available means.</li> <li>Notify parents in a timely manner of any significant violation of discipline policy.</li> <li>Communicate regularly with parents/guardians through a variety of means including report cards, progress reports, newsletters, phone calls, e-mails and parent conferences.</li> <li>Notify parents whenever possible if child is absent and the parent has not called.</li> </ul> |
| The Board of Education may expect:   | The Board of Education is responsible to:   |
| <ul> <li>An environment of civility when<br/>addressing decisions relating to the policies<br/>and practices of JSD #117.</li> <li>To be guided through the Chain of<br/>Command as established in Board Policy.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Secure that personnel are highly-qualified and adhere to District curriculum.</li> <li>Secure that each student has equal access to established curriculum.</li> <li>Hold students (and adults) accountable for disorderly conduct on school property and to discipline for disorderly conduct on the way to and from school and at any school function.</li> <li>Hold parents or guardians liable for all damages caused by their child or ward.</li> <li>Review any disciplinary action taken by school personnel.</li> <li>Expel students from school for a serious violation or chronic series of violations of school policy guidelines.</li> </ul>   |

# School Operations During a Pandemic or Other Health Emergency

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

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

Additionally, please note the following:

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

- 7. School personnel will work closely with students with disabilities and other vulnerable student populations to minimize the impact of any educational disruption.
- 8. Students who have a compromised immune system, live with an individual with a compromised immune system, or have a medical condition that may impact their ability to attend school during a pandemic or other public health emergency should contact school officials.
- 9. During a pandemic or other health emergency, teachers and school staff will receive additional training on health and safety measures.
- 10. In accordance with school district or state mandates, the school may need to conduct a daily health assessment of your child. Parents and students will be notified of the exact assessment procedures if this becomes necessary.
- 11. Parents should not send their child to school if their child exhibits any symptoms consistent with the pandemic or other health emergency.
- 12. Please do not hesitate to contact school or district officials if you have any concerns regarding your child's education, health or safety.

#### **General School Information**

The faculty and staff wish to welcome you! We are here to assist you in any way possible with your development and education. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the CLC office and arrange an appointment. The office is open Monday through Friday 7:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. and the phone number is 243-0065. A staff directory with contact information can be found at clc.jsd117.org.

The school building will open at 7:45 A.M. Students will be required to wait outside until that time. Students wishing to see teachers upon their arrival should secure a pass before proceeding to a classroom.

This handbook is a summary of the school's rules and expectations, and is not a comprehensive statement of school procedures. The Board's comprehensive policy manual is available for public inspection through the District's website jsd117.org or at the Board office, located at: 211 W. State St. Jacksonville, IL 62650

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

Noel Beard, President Mike Lonergan, Vice-President Jennifer Lacey, Secretary Byron Pool, Member Sherie Trace, Member Heather Leonard, Member Brenda Stewart, Member Teresa Wilson, Member

The School Board has hired the following administrative staff to operate the school: Steve Ptacek, Superintendent Matthew Moore, Assistant-Superintendent Jill Dillard, Principal

The school is located and may be contacted at: 30 N. Central Park Plaza Jacksonville, IL 62650 217-243-0065

#### **Chain of Command**

The Jacksonville School District takes pride in its communication efforts with all stakeholders of the District. To ensure that parent concerns or issues are heard by the appropriate individual who can resolve the issue at the point of origin and provide a direct response, the Board of Education asks that parents follow the District's Chain of Command outlined below. It is the intent of the Chain of Command to resolve concerns and issues during the earliest steps with the individual(s) directly involved with the concerns

Step 1) In the event of a concern, a parent or community member should contact the teacher, supervisor, coach or staff member who is directly involved with the concern or situation

Step 2) If a parent or community member has completed Step 1 and feels that the issue/concerns was not remedied, they should contact the building Principal, Director of the program, or the Athletic Director

Step 3) If a parent or community member has completed Steps 1 and 2 and feels that the issue/concern warrants yet further discussion, the parent or community member should then contact Central Office

Step 4) If the issue/concern of the parent or community member still remains after the completion of Steps 1, 2, and 3, the parent or community member should contact a Board of Education member. The Board of Education member in consultation with the Board of

Education President and Superintendent will redirect the individual back to the appropriate level or request that the concern be placed on the Board of Education agenda for full Board discussion.

## **Visitors**

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

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

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

- 1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
- 2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
- 3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
- 4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.
- 5. Damage or deface school property.
- 6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local or county ordinance.
- 7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
- 8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
- 9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectible, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
- 10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied with Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and district policies.
- 11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
- 12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
- 13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized district employee's directive.
- 14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
- 15. Violate other district policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or district employee.
- 16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the district or a school function.

Any person who engages in prohibited conduct may be ejected from or denied admission to school property in accordance with State law. The person may also be subject to being denied admission to school athletic or extracurricular events for up to one calendar year.

### Equal Educational Opportunities and Sex Equity

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

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

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact: Human Resource Director at 243-9411.

### Animals on School Property

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

### School Volunteers

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

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

# Handouts/Advertisements/Fundraising

Anything non-school related (flyers, invitations, party invitations, etc.) must be cleared by the superintendent before being posted or handed out to others..

#### **Emergency School Closings**

In cases of inclement weather and other local emergencies, please listen to any local radio or television station to be advised of school closings, late starts or early dismissals. School closings, for any reason, will be announced as soon as possible to accommodate family needs.

Local media sources that receive school closure information include:

WJIL 1550 AM WLDS 1180 AM WEAI 107.1 WJVO 105.5 Channel 20 News

Skylert/School Messenger messages will also be used to communicate with parents regarding emergency school closures. Skylert/School Messenger is a school-to-parent notification system service that allows the District to make one phone call, record a detailed voice message, and send it immediately to parents. It is very important that parents keep the school informed of any change in telephone number.

If it becomes necessary to run bus snow routes in the rural areas, the emergency routing will be in effect for both morning and afternoon runs. Parents are urged to be at the emergency stop to pick up their children in the afternoon as drivers are instructed not to let children off unless they live close by or someone is there to pick them up.

Weather related announcements will also be published on the District's web page at <u>www.jsd117.org</u>. To receive these announcements via email or telephone, go to the website and sign up for Notify Me.

If school is dismissed early for an emergency of any reason, all after-school functions are reviewed by the administrative team to determine needed cancellations. Cancellations for after-school events will be sent to the same media sources and parent communication resources listed for school closures.

To secure your child's safety, you are urged to make a family plan in advance with your child(ren) in the event of an early dismissal from school.

### Video and Audio Monitoring Systems

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

It is the practice of Jacksonville School District 117 to allow only school personnel overseeing the video monitoring system to view video/audio tapes. This practice is to secure the safety and privacy rights of all children.

### Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

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

### Students with Food Allergies

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

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the building principal at (217) 243-0065.

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

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

### **Care of Students with Diabetes**

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

a. Inform the school in a timely manner of any change which needs to be made to the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school for their child.

b. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.

c. Sign the Diabetes Care Plan.

d. Grant consent for and authorize designated School District representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the Diabetes Care Plan.

# Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

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

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

# Accommodating Breastfeeding Students

Students who choose to breastfeed an infant after returning to school are provided reasonable accommodations. A student who is a nursing mother may take reasonable breaks during the school day to express breast milk or breastfeed her infant. Reasonable accommodations include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Access to a private and secure room, other than a bathroom, to express breast milk or breastfeed an infant.
- 2. Permission to bring onto school campus a breast pump or other equipment used to express breast milk.
- 3. Access to a power source for a breast pump or any other equipment used to express breast milk.
- 4. Access to a place to store expressed breast milk safely.
- 5. Reasonable breaks to accommodate the student's need to express breast milk or breastfeed an infant child<u>, or attend to health</u> needs associated with breastfeeding (including eating, drinking, or using the restroom).
- 6. The opportunity to make up work missed due to the student's use of reasonable accommodations for breastfeeding.

Complaints regarding violations of this procedure should be made to the District's Complaint Manager or Non-Discrimination Coordinator.

#### Student Appearance

A student's appearance, including dress and hygiene, must not disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety. The school does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists. The school will not prohibit students from wearing or accessorizing the student's graduation attire with items associated with the student's cultural, ethnic, or religious identity or any other protected characteristic or category identified in the Illinois Human Rights Act. Students who disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety must modify their appearance.

### Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, Grooming Behaviors, and Boundary Violations

Child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations harm students, their parent/guardian, the District's environment, its school communities, and the community at large, while diminishing a student's ability to learn.

### Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse

Warning signs of child sexual abuse include the following.

Physical signs:

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or other genital infections
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing
- Unusual weight gain or loss
- Behavioral signs:
- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or being afraid to be away from primary caregivers
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors that the child had grown out of, such as thumb sucking or bedwetting
- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

Emotional signs:

- Change in eating habits or unhealthy eating patterns, like loss of appetite or excessive eating
- Signs of depression, such as persistent sadness, lack of energy, changes in sleep or appetite, withdrawing from normal activities, or feeling "down"
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Anxiety, excessive worry, or fearfulness
- Increase in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headaches
- Loss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors or expressing thoughts of suicide or suicidal behavior
- Failing grades
- Drug or alcohol use

•

Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors

School and District employees are expected to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students based upon students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels.

Prohibited grooming is defined as (i) any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, (ii) by an employee with direct contact with a student, (iii) that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples of grooming behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Sexual or romantic invitations to a student
- Dating or soliciting a date from a student
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog with a student
- Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
- Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with a student
- Failing to respect boundaries or listening when a student says "no"
- Engaging in touching that a student or student's parents/guardians have indicated as unwanted
- Trying to be a student's friend rather than filling an adult role in the student's life
- Failing to maintain age-appropriate relationships with students
- Talking with students about personal problems or relationships
- Spending time alone with a student outside of their role in the student's life or making up excuses to be alone with a student
- Expressing unusual interest in a student's sexual development, such as commenting on sexual characteristics or sexualizing normal behaviors
- Giving a student gifts without occasion or reason
- Spending a lot of time with a student
- Restricting a student's access to other adults

School and District employees breach employee-student boundaries when they misuse their position of power over a student in a way that compromises the student's health, safety, or general welfare. Examples of boundary violations include:

- Favoring a certain student by inviting the student to "hang out" or by granting special privileges
- Engaging in peer-like behavior with a student
- Discussing personal issues with a student
- Meeting with a student off-campus without parent/guardian knowledge and/or permission
- Dating, requesting, or participating in a private meeting with a student (in person or virtually) outside of a professional role
- Transporting a student in a school or private vehicle without administrative authorization
- Giving gifts, money, or treats to an individual student
- Sending a student on personal errands
- Intervening in a serious student problem instead of referring the student to an appropriately trained professional
- Sexual or romantic invitations toward or from a student
- Taking and using photos/videos of students for non-educational purposes
- Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day in a one-on-one or non-group setting
- Inviting a student to an employee's home
- Adding a student on personal social networking sites as contacts when unrelated to a legitimate educational purpose
- Privately messaging a student
- Maintaining intense eye contact with a student
- Making comments about a student's physical attributes, including excessively flattering comments
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog
- Making sexually suggestive comments directed toward or with a student

- Disclosing confidential information
- Self-disclosure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Full frontal hugs
- Invading personal space

If you believe you are a victim of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, or boundary violations, or you believe that your child is a victim, you should immediately contact the Building Principal, a school counselor, or another trusted adult employee of the School.

Additional Resources include: National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE (4673) National Sexual Abuse Chatline at online.rainn.org Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE (2873)

# Faith's Law Notifications

**Employee Conduct Standards** 

School districts are required to include in their student handbook the District's Employee Code of Professional Conduct. These standards, in part, define appropriate conduct between school employees and students. A copy of these standards can be found on the District's website or requested from the Superintendent's office.<sup>1</sup>

### Prevention of Anaphylaxis

While it is not possible for the School or District to completely eliminate the risks of an anaphylactic emergency, the District maintains a comprehensive policy on anaphylaxis prevention, response, and management in order to reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment for anaphylactic reactions. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and students who desire more information or who want a copy of the District's policy may contact the Building Principal.

# Food and Wellness

Due to health concerns and scheduling, treats and snacks for any occasion must be arranged in advance with the school office. All treats and snacks must be store bought and prepackaged in individual servings. Homemade treats or snacks are not allowable at school. Treats and snacks may not require refrigeration and must have a clearly printed list of ingredients on the packaging. In accordance with the JSD #117 Wellness Policy, it is strongly encouraged that you select a treat or snack with nutritional value.

### Sexual Abuse Response and Prevention Resource Guide

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) maintains a resource guide on sexual abuse response and prevention. The guide contains information on and the location of children's advocacy centers, organizations that provide medical evaluations and treatment to victims of child sexual abuse, organizations that provide mental health evaluations and services to victims and families of victims of child sexual abuse, and organizations that offer legal assistance to and provide advocacy on behalf of victims of child sexual abuse. This guide can be accessed through the ISBE website at www.isbe.net or you may request a copy of this guide by contacting the school's office.

### Free and Reduced-Price Food Services: Meal Charge Notification

The following notification is provided to all households of students at the beginning of each school year as federally required notification regarding eligibility requirements and the application process for the free and reduced-price food services that are listed in Board policy 4:130, Free and Reduced-Price Food Services, and 4:140, Waiver of Student Fees. This notification is also provided to households of students transferring to the District during the school year. For more information, see www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/unpaid-meal-charges, and/or contact the Building Principal or designee.

### Free and Reduced-Price Food Services Eligibility

When the parents/guardians of students are unable to pay for their child(ren)'s meal services, meal charges will apply per a student's eligibility category and will be processed by the District accordingly.

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. Dept. of Agriculture, and distributed by the III. State Board of Education.

# Meal Charges for Meals Provided by the District

The Building Principal and District staff will work jointly to prevent meal charges from accumulating. Every effort to collect all funds due to the District will be made on a regular basis and before the end of the school year. Contact your Building Principal or designee about whether your child(ren)'s charges may be carried over at the end of the school year, i.e., beyond June 30th.

Unpaid meal charges are considered delinquent debt when payment is overdue as defined by Board policy 4:45, Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery and the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act (105 ILCS 123/). The District will make reasonable efforts to collect charges classified as delinquent debt, including repeated contacts to collect the amounts and, when necessary, requesting that the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) apply for meal benefits to determine if the student qualifies for such benefits under Board policy 4:130, Free and

Reduced-Price Food Services. The District will provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of the student's ability to pay or negative account balance.

When a student's funds are low and when there is a negative balance, reminders will be provided to the staff, students, and their parent(s)/guardian(s) at regular intervals during the school year. State law allows the Building Principal to contact parents(s)/guardian(s) to attempt collection of the owed money when the amount owed is more than the amount of \$10.00. If a parent/guardian regularly fails to provide meal money for the child(ren) that he/she is responsible for in the District and does not qualify for free meal benefits or refuses to apply for such benefits, the Building Principal or designee will direct the next course of action. Continual failure to provide meal money may require the District to notify the III. Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and/or take legal steps to recover the unpaid meal charges, up to and including seeking an offset under the State Comptroller Act, if applicable.

## School Messenger

School Messenger is a messaging system that allows the district to quickly send mass notifications to employees, parents and students. Skylert is a web portal that works through Skyward's Family Access to provide you with the means to manage your contact sources and choose how you will be contacted for a variety of purposes. You can decide the contact method(s) by which you receive messages. School Messenger can provide you with information in two ways: Telephone/Cell Phone or Email

### **Telephone**

Students may use the school office phones as determined by school personnel. Parents should use the main school number, 243-0065, to leave messages for their students. Students need to make prior arrangements to be picked up by parents after school and extracurricular events.

### <u>Attendance</u>

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

#### Student Absences

There are certain exceptions to the attendance requirement for children who: attend private school, are physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), are lawfully and necessarily employed, are between the ages of 12 and 14 while in confirmation classes, have a religious reason requiring absence, or are 16 or older and employed and enrolled in a graduation incentive program.

Attendance is taken at the beginning of the day and again after lunch.

**Excused absences include:** illness, observance of a religious holiday or event, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond the control of the student, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety, attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS, or other reason as approved by the building principal. Additionally, a student will be excused for up to 5 days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. The Board of Education, in its discretion, may excuse a student for additional days relative to such leave or deployment. A student and the student's parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student's teachers prior to any excused absences and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student prior to his or her return to school. All other absences are considered unexcused. Students are allowed one day-long absence per school year for the purpose of attending a civic event.

**Unexcused absences include**: All other absences that do not fall under the definition of excused. Examples of unexcused absences include, but are not limited to: oversleeping, running errands, staying at home to provide daycare for siblings, shopping with family or friends, minor aches and pains, ordinary weather conditions, vacations, business that could be held outside of regular school hours, and unsecured transportation.

### Absences Due to Illness

Many studies show that successful performance in school is dependent upon regular student attendance and participation. Successful performance in school can directly impact the choices available to students later in life. Because of the magnitude of this impact, school officials are required to monitor student attendance. One piece of this monitoring includes the oversight of student health needs in relationship to their attendance and scholastic advancement.

It is the practice of District 117 to require that if a student is continually sick and repeatedly absent from school due to illness that said student must be under the supervision of a physician in order to receive an excuse from attendance. The diagnosis of the licensed medical professional is used to support the parent in parenting and to support the school with the delivery of services. Without the support of the medical professional, valuable time and resources could be misdirected.

It is the practice of District 117 to require a doctor's excuse after 10 days of excused absence (within an academic year) based on communications from the parent or guardian that their child is ill. All absences after the 10 day mark are recorded as unexcused unless a

remedy is established between the school and the family. In the event a student has a chronic or documented health condition, parents should readily communicate this to school officials for documentation in the student file. This communication will secure that all resources can be reviewed to support the child and family in the school setting.

Students and families who abuse the approved and excused absences policy will be considered to have committed academic dishonesty. Examples of abuse include falsifying an illness or family emergency, falsely claiming that attendance at the event is required, falsely claiming to have attended an event, or falsely claiming that an absence is approved. If a school official determines that a student/family is guilty of falsifying attendance information, consequences are outlined in the Behavior Consequence chart at the end of this handbook.

## **Notification of the School**

In the event of any absence, the student's parent or guardian is required to notify the school before 8:00 a.m. to explain the reason for the absence. If notification has not been made to the school by 10:00 a.m. on the day of a student's absence, a school official will document a call to the parent or guardian to inquire why the student is not at school. In the event that communication does not occur between the parent/guardian and the school, the student will be required to submit a signed note within 48 hours of the recorded absence. The note should include: student name, parent name, date of absence, reason for absence, and parent signature. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence.

### **Release Time for Religious Instruction and Observance**

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

Students excused for religious reasons will be given an opportunity to make up all

### Truancy

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district. Students who miss more than 1% but less than 5% of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are considered truants. Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause are chronic truants. Students who skip class may also be considered truant. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue. If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action, including: Referral to the truancy officer, Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act, Referral to the State's Attorney, or Appropriate school discipline. Parents will receive notice of truancy after 4, 7, and 9 days of unexcused absence. A student who misses 15 consecutive days of school without valid cause and who cannot be located or, after exhausting all available support services, cannot be compelled to return to school is subject to expulsion from school.

It is the policy of this District that no punitive action, including out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, or court action is taken against a student who is a chronic or habitual truant solely for such truancy unless available supportive services and school resources have been offered to the student and he/she has failed, within a reasonable time, to correct the behavior.

Parents who are negligent of their child's right to a free public education will be referred to the Truant Officer at the Regional Office of Education for possible prosecution by the Morgan County State's Attorney. A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

### **Grading and Promotion**

School report cards are available on Skyward for parents' viewing access every nine weeks. For questions regarding grades, please contact the classroom teacher. The decision to promote a student to the next grade level is based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on standardized tests and other testing. A student will not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

# <u>Skyward Family Access</u>

District 117 has implemented a web-based service that will allow JMS parents and authorized family members to view attendance records, schedules, grades, assignments, progress reports, discipline, and basic health information with a simple "point and click."

This service is located on the Jacksonville School District 117 home page [www.jsd117.org]. On the homepage, parents will find a link for Skyward Family Access. Each family has been assigned a unique username and password. This will allow families to view information about their student(s) enrolled in District 117. There are also email links that allow communication directly with staff members. Families should contact the JMS records secretary if they are experiencing difficulty with this service.

## **Exemption From PE Requirement**

All students are required to participate in physical education unless exempted by a doctor. In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request. Upon written notice from a student's

parent/guardian, a student will be excused from engaging in the physical activity components of physical education during a period of religious fasting. Excuse from PE in excess of 3 consecutive days requires a doctor's verification.

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

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

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

# Home and Hospital Instruction

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant or licensed advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of an extensive 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 the continuum of placement options for home/hospital services. Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than 5 school days after receiving a physician's, physician assistant or licensed advanced practice registered nurse written statement. In order for school officials and staff to better serve homebound or hospitalized students, the physician's written statement should include: Diagnosis, List of symptoms that would/could manifest in the instructional setting, Transition plan for a return to school.

Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program. 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. Parents seeking home or hospital instruction should contact the building principal with the detailed physician's statement. A complete physician's, physician assistant or licensed advanced practice registered nurse statement will allow the school to begin the 5 day timeline for response to the student's need.

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 licensed 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.

### Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

Parents or guardians have the right to inspect all instructional materials used as a part of their child's education. If you believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy, you may file a complaint under the District's uniform grievance policy. Parents or guardians with other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a Curriculum Objection Form, which is available from the school office. A parent or guardian may also request that their child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a Curriculum Objection Form.

### Fees, Fines & Charges; Waiver of Student Fees

The school establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Students will not be denied the opportunity to participate in curricular and extracurricular programs of the school district due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parent or guardian is unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver applies to all fees related to school, instruction, and extracurricular activities.

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

- 1. The student currently lives in a household that meets the same income guidelines, with the same limits based on household size, that are used for the federal free meals programs;
- 2. The student's parent is a veteran or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line;
- 3. The student is homeless, as defined by the Mc-Kinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

The building principal will give additional consideration where one or more of the following factors are present:

- An illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Unemployment;
- Emergency situations; or
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

The building principal will notify the parent/guardian promptly as to whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied. Questions regarding the fee waiver application process or an appeal of the District's decision to deny a fee waiver should be addressed to the Building

Principal. Pursuant to the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act, the school is required to provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to a student who requests one, regardless of whether the student has the ability to pay for the meal or snack or owes money for earlier meals or snacks. Students may not be provided with an alternative meal or snack and the school is prohibited from publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay for or owes money for a meal or snack.

Fines for loss or damage to school property are waived for students who meet certain eligibility guidelines.

# School Lunch Program

Lunch is served every school day, except when there is an 11:00 a.m. or earlier dismissal. Students may bring their own lunch. Bringing in outside (fast food type) lunches is not permitted. Energy drinks should not be brought to school.

# **Bus Transportation**

The district provides bus transportation to and from CLC for all students.

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

# <u>Bus Conduct</u>

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

- 1. Violating any school rule or school district policy.
- 2. Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.
- 3. Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
- 4. Repeated use of profanity.
- 5. Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor.
- 6. Such other behavior as the building principal deems to threaten the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.

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

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

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

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

Video and audio cameras may be active on buses to record student conduct and may be used for the purposes of investigation into misconduct or accidents on the bus. For questions regarding school transportation issues, contact: 245-6624.

# Immunization, Health, Eye & Dental Examination

All students are required to present appropriate proof of a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases within one year prior to:

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

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Students between the age of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, an age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year1 will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.

New students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

# **Dental Examination**

All students entering kindergarten, second, sixth and ninth grades must present proof by May 15 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

# **Exemptions**

A student will be exempted from the above requirements for:

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

# **Illness and Injuries**

If your child is injured or ill, it may be necessary to contact you. Minor first aid may be administered, but school personnel are not qualified to make a medical diagnosis. Please make sure the office has accurate emergency information for your child. You will need to have prior arrangements made to have your child picked up at school in an illness/emergency occurs. All accidents that occur at school must be reported to the office. Students with school insurance should be sure to complete claim forms promptly. Accident insurance provides the necessary coverage required for students who participate in interscholastic activities.

# Student Medication

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

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

# **Self-Administration of Medication**

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

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

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

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

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

# **Undesignated Medications**

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

# **Emergency Aid to Students**

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

# **Designated Caregiver Administration of Medical Cannabis**

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act allows a parent/guardian of a student who is a minor to register with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH) as a designated caregiver to administer medical cannabis to their child. A designated caregiver may also be another individual other than the student's parent/guardian. Any designated caregiver must be at least 21 years old and is allowed to administer a medical cannabis infused product to a child who is a student on the premises of his or her school or on his or her school bus if:

- 1. Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH:
- 2. Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the District; and

3. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a *School Medication Authorization Form – Medical Cannabis*,

*Medical cannabis infused product* (Product) includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited.

After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver shall immediately remove it from school premises or the school bus. The product may not be administered in a manner that, in the opinion of the District or school, would create a disruption to the educational environment or cause exposure of the product to other students. A school employee shall not be required to administer the product.

# Personnel Authorized to Administer Medication

1. All student medication must be left in the school office.

2. All medication must be in the original container and be clearly marked with the student's name, doctor's name, contents and dosage.

3. All student medication will be administered by a school nurse, the Principal or his/her designee.

4. A record shall be kept of all medication dispensed by school personnel to students specifying the time of dispensation, dosage and supervising personnel.

5. When appropriate, the Principal may request parent(s)/guardian(s) to come to school to administer medication or aid.

# Safety Drill Procedures and Conduct

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school board. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement lockdown drill to address a school shooting incident, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. The law enforcement lockdown drill will be announced in advance and a student's parent/guardian may elect to exclude their child from participating in this drill. All other drills will not be preceded by a warning to students.

# Communicable Disease

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

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

# <u>Head Lice</u>

The school will observe the following procedures regarding head lice.

- 1. Parents are required to notify the school if they suspect their child has head lice.
- 2. Infested students will be sent home following notification of the parent or guardian.

- 3. The school will provide written instructions to parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the infestation.
- 4. A student excluded because of head lice will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings the student to school to be checked by the school nurse or building principal and the child is determined to be free of the head lice and eggs (nits). Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

# **Targeted School Violence Prevention Program**

Threats and acts of targeted school violence harm the District's environment and school community, diminishing students' ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Providing students and staff with access to a safe and secure environment is an important goal of the School and District. While it is not possible to completely eliminate threats, the School and District maintain a Targeted School Violence Prevention Program and a Threat Assessment Team to reduce these risks to its environment.

Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to report any expressed threats or behaviors that may represent a threat to the community, School, or self. Reports can be made to any school administrator, law enforcement authorities, or the Safe2Help Illinois helpline (www.safe2helpil.com/).

Students and parents are urged to participate in behavioral threat assessment and intervention programs if the Behavioral Threat Assessment Team believes that intervention is necessary to prevent a student from harming themselves or others. However, if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker(s) or parent/guardian(s), the threat assessment process will continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment for all.

For further information, please contact the Building Principal.

# **General Building Conduct**

Students shall not arrive at school before 8:45 a.m. and classes begin at 9:00 a.m. and students are dismissed at 2:50 p.m. each day. The following rules shall apply, and failure to abide by the rules may result in discipline:

1. CLC will follow all Jacksonville School District #117 policies.

2. Students will turn in all electronic devices and all possessions upon arrival to CLC. Belongings will be stored in locked drawers and will be returned to students after successful completion of their school day.

3. Students will be "wanded" with a hand-held metal detector and searched before entering the school. Students will be required to remove their shoes for the search.

- 4. Students will be escorted to the restroom and water fountain.
- 5. Students are allowed to bring unopened water bottles to school.

6. Breakfast and lunch will consist of a school meal or a packed meal brought from home. Food may not be delivered to students during the day.

7. Student interactions will be monitored and generally limited to social skills sessions.

8. The CLC dress code is consistent with that of the student's home school. If students arrive and are not dressed appropriately for school, they will be required to change into something at CLC or spend the day in isolation.

- a. Hats and coats are not allowed to be worn in the building.
- b. Clothing, jewelry and accessories must be school appropriate.
- c. Clothing or accessories that pose a potential health hazard are not allowed.
- d. Pants must be worn at waist level.
- e Skirts and shorts must be fingertip length or longer.
- f. Garments with holes above fingertip length will not be allowed.
- g. Shirts must cover the student's torso and shoulders.

### Personal Property

Students and parents should consider carefully the decision to bring any non-instructional supplies to school. The school will not accept responsibility for any non-instructional items that are lost, broken or stolen. Any item brought to school that causes a disruption to the educational environment, distraction to other students or potential threat to safety will be deemed to be inappropriate and may be confiscated by the school. Confiscated items will be placed in the safe in the school's main office. The school may require a parent or guardian to sign for return of the item in the main office.

### **Student Behavior**

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

- 1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens or other vaping related products.
- 2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
- 3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:
  - Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law).
  - Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.

- Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under Ashley's Law.
- Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
- Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in a tablet or powdered form.

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

- 1. Using, possessing, controlling or transferring a "weapon" or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.
- 2. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, or similar electronic device in any manner, including using the device to take photographs in bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device or cellular telephone, commonly known as "sexting."
- 3. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
- 4. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a staff member's request to stop or submit to a search.
- 5. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
- 6. Engaging in bullying, hazing or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student or encouraging other students to engage in such behavior. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network or other comparable conduct.
- 7. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning) and sexual assault.
- 8. Engaging in teen dating violence.
- 9. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
- 10. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
- 11. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (calling 9-1-1); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
- 12. Being absent without a recognized excuse.
- 13. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society.
- 14. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
- 15. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and hazing.
- 16. 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.
- 17. 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.
- 18. Operating an unarmed aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds.

For purposes of these rules, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the

student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

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

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

# When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

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

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

# **Disciplinary Measures**

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

- 1. Notifying parents/guardians.
- 2. Disciplinary conference.
- 3. Withholding of privileges.
- 4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
- 5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen or damaged property.
- 6. In-school suspension.
- 7. After-school study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. (If transportation arrangements cannot be made in advance, an alternative disciplinary measure will be assigned to the student.)
- 8. Community service.
- 9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
- 10. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
- 11. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days.
- 12. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, such as, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

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

### **Isolated Time Out, Time Out and Physical Restraint**

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

# **Corporal Punishment**

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment means a discipline method in which a person deliberately inflicts pain upon a student in response to the student's unacceptable behavior or inappropriate language, with an aim to halt the offense, prevent its recurrence, or set an example for others.

# Weapons Prohibition

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

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

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

# Gang & Gang Activity Prohibited

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

# **Re-Engagement of Returning Students**

The building principal or designee shall meet with a student returning to school from an out-of-school suspension. The goal of this meeting shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusion.

# Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Discrimination, Intimidation, and Harassment

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important district and school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge from military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender orientation, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, physical appearance, socioeconomic status, academic status, order of protection status, homelessness, actual or marital status, parenting status, pregnancy, parenting status, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in each of the following situations:

- 1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
- 2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
- 3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
- 4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school-related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school district or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school.

Bullying includes cyber-bullying 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.

Cyberbullying 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. Cyberbullying 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. Cyberbullying 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.

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

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

·

Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Manager: Jill Dillard Principal 217-243-0065 30 N. Central Park Plaza Jacksonville, IL 62650 jdillard@jsd117.org

A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is prohibited. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the school's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

Students and parents/guardians are also encouraged to read the following school district policies: 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited and 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment.<sup>3</sup>

Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the school shall make diligent efforts to notify a parent or guardian within 24-hours after the school's administration is made aware of a student's involvement in an alleged bullying incident. The term "bullying incident" includes individual instances of bullying, as well as all threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be a result of bullying. Notification to a parent or guardian shall include, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.

# Federal and State Agencies

If the District fails to take necessary corrective action to stop harassment based on race, color, or national origin, further relief may be available through the Illinois Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) or the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights. To contact IDHR, go to:

https://dhr.illinois.gov/about-us/contact-idhr.html or call (312) 814-6200 (Chicago) or (217) 785-5100 (Springfield).

### Prevention and Response Program

The District maintains a prevention and response program to respond to complaints of discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including harassment, and retaliation. The program includes procedures for responding to complaints which:

- 1. Reduce or remove, to the extent practicable, barriers to reporting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation;
- 2. Permit any person who reports or is the victim of an incident of alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to be accompanied when making a report by a support individual of the person's choice who complies with the District's policies and rules;
- 3. Permit anonymous reporting, except that an anonymous report may not be the sole basis of any disciplinary action;
- 4. Offer remedial interventions or take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate on a case-by-case basis;
- 5. Offer, but do not require or unduly influence, a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation the option to resolve allegations directly with the accused; and
- 6. Protects a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation from suffering adverse consequences as a result of a report of, investigation of, or a response to the incident.

# Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The school and district shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law.

# **Teen Dating Violence Prohibited**

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

For more information about this issue, please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's educational materials at: www.cdc.gov/injury/features/dating-violence/index.html.

# Making a Report or Complaint

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student's same gender.

Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to discipline.

#### **Investigation Process**

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

#### **Enforcement**

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion, consistent with the student discipline information in this handbook.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy 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 person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

#### Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites

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.

#### **Computer Usage**

Computers are to be used only under teacher supervision. Students must have on file an Authorization for Use (AUP) that has been signed by a guardian as well as the student before being allowed to use any computer at JMS. Access to the Internet should be made using the links provided through the JMS website or other web addresses provided by a teacher.

### **Loitering**

Take care of school business and quickly move to where you belong. School ends at 2:50 p.m. on a regular attendance day. Students should leave school grounds at the end of the instructional day. Rides should arrive no later than 3:10 p.m.

### Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks

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

### **Terms and Conditions**

The term electronic networks includes all of the District's technology resources, including, but not limited to:

- 1. The District's local-area and wide-area networks, including wireless networks (Wi-Fi), District-provided Wi-Fi hotspots, and any District servers or other networking infrastructure;
- 2. Access to the Internet or other online resources via the District's networking infrastructure or to any District-issued online account from any computer or device, regardless of location;
- 3. District-owned and District-issued computers, laptops, tablets, phones, or similar devices.

### Acceptable Use

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

### Privileges

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

### Unacceptable Use

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

- 1. Using the electronic networks for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other intellectual property rights or contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
- 2. Using the electronic networks to engage in conduct prohibited by board policy;
- 3. Unauthorized downloading of software or other files, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or scanned for malware;
- 4. Unauthorized use of personal removable media devices (such as flash or thumb drives);
- 5. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
- 6. Using the electronic networks for private financial or commercial gain;
- 7. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
- 8. Hacking or attempting to hack or gain unauthorized access to files, accounts, resources, or entities by any means;
- 9. Invading the privacy of individuals, including the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature, such as a photograph or video;
- 10. Using another user's account or password;
- 11. Disclosing any network or account password (including your own) to any other person, unless requested by the system administrator;
- 12. Posting or sending material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
- 13. Posting or sending anonymous messages;
- 14. Creating or forwarding chain letters, spam, or other unsolicited messages;
- 15. Using the electronic networks for commercial or private advertising;
- 16. Accessing, sending, posting, publishing, or displaying any abusive, obscene, profane, sexual, threatening, harassing, illegal, or knowingly false material;
- 17. Misrepresenting the user's identity or the identity of others; and
- 18. Using the electronic networks while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

# **Network Etiquette**

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

- 1. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- 2. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- 3. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
- 4. Recognize that the District's electronic networks are not private. People who operate District technology have access to all email and other data. Messages or other evidence relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- 5. Do not use the networks in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- 6. Consider all communications and information accessible via the electronic networks to be private property.

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

# **Indemnification**

By using the District's electronic networks, the user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

# <u>Security</u>

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

### <u>Vandalism</u>

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

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

# **Copyright Web Publishing Rules**

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

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

- 4. The fair use rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
- 5. Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and student.

# <u>Use of Email</u>

The District's email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the District. The District provides email to aid students in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, and as an education tool.

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

# Internet Safety

Internet access is limited to only those acceptable uses as detailed in these procedures. Internet safety is supported if users will not engage in unacceptable uses, as detailed in these procedures, and otherwise follow these procedures.

Staff members will supervise students while students are using District Internet access to ensure that the students abide by the Terms and Conditions for Internet access contained in these procedures.

Each District computer with Internet access has a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

The system administrator and Building Principals shall monitor student Internet access.

Students must not distribute material that:

- 1. Will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
- 2. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to, material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
- 3. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the students' maturity level, including but not limited to, material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or sexting as defined by School Board Policy and Student Handbook,
- 4. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
- 5. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. However, material from outside sources or the citation to such sources may be allowed, as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students;1 or
- 6. Incites students to violate any Board policy.
- 7. A student may use the School District's Uniform Grievance Procedure to resolve a complaint.
- 8. Whenever these guidelines require written notification, the appropriate administrator may assist the student in preparing such notification.

### Annual Notice to Parents about Educational Technology Vendors Under the Student Online Personal Protection Act

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

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

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

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

Basic identifying information, including student or parent/guardian name and student or parent/guardian contact information,

username/password and student ID number

- Demographic information
- Enrollment information
- Assessment data, grades, and transcripts
- Attendance and class schedule
- Academic/extracurricular activities
- Special indicators (e.g., disability information, English language learner, free/reduced meals or homeless/foster care status)
- Conduct/behavioral data
- Health information
- Food purchases
- Transportation information
- In-application performance data
- Student-generated work
- Online communications
- Application metadata and application use statistics
- Permanent and temporary school student record information

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

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

# Use of Artificial Intelligence

"Artificial intelligence" or "AI" is intelligence demonstrated by computers, as opposed to human intelligence. "Intelligence" encompasses the ability to learn, reason, generalize, and infer meaning. Examples of AI technology include ChatGPT and other chatbots and large language models.

AI is not a substitute for schoolwork that requires original thought. Students may not claim AI generated content as their own work. The use of AI to take tests, complete assignments, create multimedia projects, write papers, or complete schoolwork without permission of a teacher or administrator is strictly prohibited. The use of AI for these purposes constitutes cheating or plagiarism.

In certain situations, AI may be used as a learning tool or a study aid. Students who wish to use AI for legitimate educational purposes must have permission from a teacher or an administrator.

Students may use AI as authorized in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students may not use AI, including AI image or voice generator technology, to violate school rules or school district policies.

In order to ensure academic integrity, tests, assignments, projects, papers, and other schoolwork may be checked by AI content detectors and/or plagiarism recognition software.

# Search and Seizure

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

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

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

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

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

### Seizure of Property

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

# **Ouestioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity**

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

A student's refusal to submit to a search would be deemed a violation of an administrative directive.

## **Education of Children with Disabilities**

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

The School provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the school. The term "children with disabilities" means children between ages 3 and the day before their 22nd birthday for whom it is determined that special education services are needed, except those children with disabilities who turn 22 years of age during the school year are eligible for special education services through the end of the school year. It is the intent of the school to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

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

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

For further information, please contact: Barbie Davidsmeyer 217-243-7402

### **Behavioral Interventions**

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

# **Discipline of Special Education Students**

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

# **Related Services Log**

For a child with an individualized education program (IEP), the school district must create related service logs that record the type of related services administered under the child's IEP and minutes of each type of related service that has been administered. The school will provide a child's parent/guardian a copy of the related service log at the annual review of the child's IEP and at any other time upon request.

# **Exemption From PE Requirement**

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

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

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

# Request to Access Classroom or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation or Observation

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

For further information, please contact the building principal.

# PUNS (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) Database Information for Students and Parents or Guardians

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) maintains a statewide database known as the PUNS database (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) that records information about individuals with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities who are potentially in need of services.

IDHS uses the data on PUNS to select individuals for services as funding becomes available, to develop proposals and materials for budgeting, and to plan for future needs. The PUNS database is available for children with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities with unmet service needs.

Registration to be included on the PUNS database is the first step toward receiving developmental disabilities services in this State. A child who is not on the PUNS database will not be in the queue for State developmental disabilities services.

For more information and to sign up for PUNS, see the Illinois Department of Human Services PUNS information page at https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=41131.You may also contact the following District employee for assistance: 1

# Student Records

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

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

- 1. The right to inspect and copy the student's education records within 10 business days of the day the District receives a request for access. The degree of access a student has to his or her records depends on the student's age. Students less than 18 years of age have the right to inspect and copy only their permanent record. Students 18 years of age or older have access and copy rights to both permanent and temporary records. A parent/guardian or student should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) he or she wishes to inspect. Within 10 business days, the building principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent/guardian or student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. In certain circumstances, the District may request an additional 5 business days in which to grant access. The District charges \$.35 per page for copying but no one will be denied their right to copies of their records for inability to pay this cost. These rights are denied to any person against whom an order of protection has been entered concerning the student.
- 2. The right to have one or more scores received on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript. I Parents/guardians or eligible students may have one or more scores on college entrance examinations included on the student's academic transcript. The District will include scores on college entrance examinations upon the written request of the parent/guardian or eligible student stating the name of each college entrance examination that is the subject of the request and the dates of the scores that are to be included.
- 3. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/ guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper. A parent/guardian or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that is believed to be inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper. Requests should be sent to the building principal and should clearly identify the record the parent/guardian or eligible student wants changed and the specific reason a change is being sought. If the District decides not to amend the record, the District will notify the parent/guardian or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent/guardian or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- 4. The right to permit disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the FERPA or Illinois School Student Records Act authorizes disclosure without consent. Disclosure without consent is permitted to school officials with legitimate educational or administrative interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board. A school official may also include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or educational technology vendor); or any parent/guardian or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility or contractual obligation with the district. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as

to any person as specifically required by State or Federal law. Before information is released to these individuals, the parents/guardians or eligible student will receive prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information, and an opportunity to inspect, copy, and challenge such records.

Academic grades and references to expulsions or out-of-school suspensions cannot be challenged at the time a student's records are being forwarded to another school to which the student is transferring.Disclosure is also permitted without consent to: any person for research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified; to another school district that overlaps attendance boundaries with the District, if the District has entered into an intergovernmental agreement that allows for sharing of student records and information with the other district,2 any person named in a court order; appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons; and juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties who request information before adjudication of the student.

- 5. The right to a copy of any school student record proposed to be destroyed or deleted. The permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. The temporary record is maintained for at least 5 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. Temporary records that may be of assistance to a student with a disability who graduates or permanently withdraws, may, after 5 years, be transferred to the parent/guardian or to the student, if the student has succeeded to the rights of the parent/guardian. Student temporary records are reviewed every 4 years or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first.
- 6. The right to prohibit the release of directory information. Throughout the school year, the District may release directory information regarding students, limited to:
  - Name
  - Address
  - Grade level
  - Birth date and place
  - Parent/guardian names, addresses, electronic mail addresses, and telephone numbers
  - Photographs, videos, or digital images used for informational or news-related purposes (whether by a media outlet or by the school) of a student participating in school or school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics that have appeared in school publications, such as yearbooks, newspapers, or sporting or fine arts programs
  - Academic awards, degrees, and honors
  - Information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics
  - Major field of study
  - Period of attendance in school
- 7. Any parent/guardian or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all of the above information by delivering a written objection to the building principal within 30 days of the date of this notice.
- 8. The right to request that military recruiters or institutions of higher learning not be granted access to your student's information without your prior written consent.3 Federal law requires a secondary school to grant military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon their request, access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers, unless the student's parent/guardian, or student who is 18 years of age or older, submits a written request that the information not be released without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian or eligible student. If you wish to exercise this option, notify the building principal.
- 9. The right contained in this statement: No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege or benefits or make as a condition of employment, credit, or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record which such individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under State law.
- 10. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

U.S. Department of Education Student Privacy Policy Office 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington DC 20202-8520 Cross-Reference: PRESS 7:340, Student Records

# Student Biometric Information

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

# **Teacher Qualifications**

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

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

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact the school office.

# Standardized Testing

Students and parents/guardians should be aware that the State and District require students to take certain standardized tests, including the following: Illinois Assessment of Readiness, Illinois Science Assessment, iReady.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to cooperate in preparing students for the standardized testing, because the quality of the education the school can provide is partially dependent upon the school's ability to continue to prove its success in the state's standardized tests.

Parents/Guardians can assist their students to achieve their best performance by doing the following:

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

#### Homeless Child's Right to Education

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

(1) continuing the child's education in the school of origin for as long as the child remains homeless or, if the child becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year during which the housing is acquired; or (2) enrolling the child in an attendance area in which the child or youth is actually residing. Other resources are available to homeless children. These resources are provided through Title I funding. To learn more about these resources, parents should contact the following:

Kelly Zoellner, District Homeless Liaison 243-9411 ext. 1119

#### School Visitation Rights

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

### Pesticide Application Notice

The district maintains a registry of parents/guardians of students who have registered to receive written or telephone notification prior to the application of pesticides to school grounds. To be added to the list, please contact the school office at 217-243-0065.

### Mandated Reporter

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

#### **Unsafe School Choice Option**

The unsafe school choice option allows students to transfer to another District school or to a public charter school within the District. The unsafe school choice option is available to: (1) All students attending a persistently dangerous school, as defined by State law and identified by the Illinois State Board of Education; and (2) Any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense that occurred on school grounds during regular school hours or during a school-sponsored event.

#### Student Privacy

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

### Sex Offender Notification Law

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

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

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

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

In all other cases, convicted child sex offenders are prohibited from being present on school property unless they obtain written permission from the superintendent or school board.

Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property – including the three reasons above - he/she is responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property. It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times he/she is in the presence or vicinity of children.

A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Information about sex offenders or violent offenders against youth is available to the public on the Illinois State Police (ISP) website. The ISP website contains the following:

## Illinois Sex Offender Registry, https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/Disclaimer

Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry, https://isp.illinois.gov/MVOAY/Disclaimer

# Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Sex Offenders, https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/FAQ

# Parent Notices Required by the Every Student Succeeds Act

I. Teacher Qualifications

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, whether:

- 1. The teacher has met the State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- 2. The teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status.
- 3. The teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- 4. Paraprofessionals provide services to the student and, if so, their qualifications.
- 5.

#### II. Testing Transparency

The State and District requires students to take certain standardized tests. For additional information, see handbook procedure 12:202

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, information regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by law or District policy, which shall include information on any applicable right you may have to opt your student out of such assessment.

### III. Annual Report Card

Each year, the District is required to disseminate an annual report card that includes information on the District as a whole and each school served by the District, with aggregate and disaggregated information for each required subgroup of students including: student achievement on academic assessments (designated by category), graduation rates, district performance, teacher qualifications, and certain other information required by federal law. When available, this information will be placed on the District's website at ww.jsd117.org<sup>3</sup>

### IV. Parent & Family Engagement Compact<sup>4</sup>

### V. Unsafe School Choice Option

The unsafe school choice option allows students to transfer to another District school or to a public charter school within the District under certain circumstances. For additional information, see handbook procedure 12:100.<sup>5</sup>

### VI. Student Privacy

Students have certain privacy protections under federal law. For additional information, see handbook procedure 12.105.6

### VII. English Learners

The school offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State standards that all children are expected to meet. For additional information, see handbook procedure 12:60.<sup>7</sup>