

# BMS Handbook Changes for 2024/2025

June 11, 2024

**General:** Updated all 23/24 dates to 24/25, updated staff names as needed, updated calendars, updated food service program prices, updated school board policies as needed, and updated The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. Will update page numbers on Index page once these changes are approved.

**Page 8:** Under **ATTENDANCE:**

*Added a section:*

**Attendance for Out of Town Athletic Events/After School Events and Activities**

*No student is allowed to travel the day of an away tournament or attend an after school event without attending school at least half of the school day the day of the event. Special permission can be granted at the discretion of a building principal or dean of students/activities director.*

**Page 14:** Under **DETENTION/SUSPENSION/ROOM 1004/LUNCH DETENTION:**

*Removed wording:*

After school detention is held ~~on Wednesdays and Thursdays~~ from 3:25 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Page 16:** Under **DRESS GUIDELINES:**

*Added a bullet point to "Unacceptable student dress"*

- *Coats and blankets will be stored in lockers during the school day.*

**Page 16:** Under **ELECTRONIC DEVICES:**

*Added wording to the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph:*

Any inappropriate movies, pictures of teachers, students or school activities are prohibited. It is a violation to photograph or videotape **or record** anyone without his or her permission.

**Page 20:** Under **MEDIA CENTER CHECKOUT and INTERNET ACCESS**

*Updated section as follows:*

**MEDIA CENTER CHECKOUT and INTERNET ACCESS**

The Media Center will be open at 8:05 a.m. and remain open throughout the day until 3:30 p.m. Each student may check out three (3) books at a time. The books will be due in three (3) weeks and may be renewed once by bringing the book to the media center and rechecking it. Students may not check out another book if they have an overdue. A note from the parent/guardian is necessary for a book to be removed from the list of overdues and marked as lost.

~~Students will be allowed use of the internet under direct supervision of an adult when the signed permission form (part of the registration form) is returned with student and parent signature agreeing to follow the guide lines established in the Acceptable Use Policy. **Please send the school a written statement if you do not want your child using the Internet.**~~

**Page 21:** *Added a new section:*

**NOTIFICATION OF VIOLENT STUDENTS**

*Any students who violate the code of conduct in the area of "Assault" will become a part of a list, which requires the district to notify any of the students' teachers that the child has been violent in the past. This notification process lasts two years from the date of the most recent incident.*

**Page 21:** Added a new section:

**NON-EXCLUSIONARY BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS**

*The following are ways in which Bemidji Middle School provides non-exclusionary behavior interventions:*

- *Building Wide: Positive Peer Relations (PPR), Bully Boxes reporting system, Step 4 system, behavior tickets, home visits, parent meetings.*
- *Pod/Grade Level Practices: Lumberjack Math/Reading, MATH Rocks, Reading Rocks, Inclusion or resource room special education, restate and reteach expectations, parent contact, positive reinforcement, remove from area, teacher/student conferences, seating change, redirection, loss of privilege, verbal and nonverbal prompts, parent/teacher/student conference.*
- *Support Services: Indian Education Liaison, two School Counselors, School Social Worker, Behavior Interventionist, McKinney Vento Home/school Liaison, Assistant Principal, Dean of Students, School Link Mental Health, staff educated in motivational interviewing.*

**Page 21:** Under **OPEN ENROLLMENT**

*Removed wording as follows:*

~~*In accordance with School Board Policy SBR 700-10-1, a student's open enrollment may be terminated, without delay or at the end of the school year, if one or more of the following criteria are met:*~~

- ~~*Assault of staff or student(s)*~~
- ~~*Fighting*~~
- ~~*Cumulative five or more days out of school suspension*~~
- ~~*Attendance that reaches the level of Continual Truant (CT) and results in a CT letter being sent to the family*~~

**Page 24:** Under **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS:**

*Update wording:*

*Students who are referred to the office by a substitute teacher will receive the following consequences **may be referred to any of the following on a case-by-case basis: detention, in-school suspension, out of school suspension.***

**Page 25:** Under **VERBAL ABUSE AND/OR RACISTS COMMENTS:**

*Update wording:*

~~Bemidji Area Schools Mission Statement includes the following language: 4. Education is a partnership with family and community and 5. each person will show sensitivity and respect for self and others. In recognition of these values~~ ***our school and district values***, actions which indicate willful and repeated verbal or physical abuse towards ANY individual using language that is racist or derogatory towards protected classes (regardless whether a student is a member of a minority group themselves), will result in a consequence parallel to the level of severity of the instance and education of the student in question. Consequences vary, but may include: parent conference, lunch detention, after school detention, ISS, and/or OSS in accordance with the Code of Conduct.