

Brimfield/Suffield Elementary Schools



2020-2021

**Brimfield
Elementary School**
4170 St. Rt. 43
Kent, OH 44240
330-673-8581

**Suffield
Elementary School**
1128 Waterloo Rd.
Mogadore, OH 44260
330-552-5252

www.fieldlocalschools.org

THIS STUDENT HANDBOOK/AGENDA BELONGS TO:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

FOREWORD

This student handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that you and your parents may have during the school year. Because this handbook contains information about student rights and responsibilities, each student is responsible for knowing its contents. Please take time to become familiar with its contents. It is a valuable resource for both you and your parents. This edition of the student handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects.

MISSION STATEMENT

The professional staff of Field Local Schools believes that education, above all, is learning. Therefore, the prime mission of the school is to help students gain the skills that will enable them to become informed, self-directed learners who will be productive members of society and ultimately contribute in a positive manner to its future.

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

This District provides an equal educational opportunity for all students. Any person, who believes that the school or any staff person has discriminated against a student on the basis of race, color, creed, disability, religion, gender, ancestry, or national origin, has the right to file a complaint. Complaints and/or questions should be directed to the District's compliance officer. Complaints will be investigated and a response provided to the person filing the complaint in a timely manner. The compliance officer can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunities. Under no circumstances will the District threaten or retaliate against anyone who raises a complaint.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

The Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that no individual will be discriminated against on the basis of a disability. This protection applies both to the student and also to all individuals who have access to the District's programs and facilities.

A student can access special education services through the proper evaluation and placement procedure. Parent involvement in this procedure is required. More importantly, the school wants the parent to be an active participant. To inquire about the procedure or programs, a parent should contact the Director of Special Services at (330) 673-2659.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The school's rules and procedures are designed to allow students to be educated in a safe and orderly environment. All students are expected to follow staff members' directions and obey all school rules.

The staff expects students to come to school prepared to learn. It is the student's responsibility to arrive on time and to participate in the educational program. If, for some reason, this is not possible, the student should seek help from the guidance counselor or school principal.

WELL-BEING

School safety is the responsibility of both students and staff. Field Local School District has in place an Emergency and Crisis Response Plan which addresses all emergency situations. The plan is provided to all staff members and is available in each room. If a student is aware of any dangerous situation or accident, he/she must notify a staff member immediately.

State law requires that all students have an emergency medical authorization completed, signed by a parent or guardian, and on file in the school office. Students with specific health care needs should alert the school regarding those needs, in writing, with proper documentation by a physician. This should be given to the school office for the school nurse to review.

REMOTE LEARNING

Should a remote learning situation exist, students will be held to the same high standards of behavior that would be expected in a traditional learning environment. Failure to adhere to the expectations of the Field Local School's Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action.

SECTION II: GENERAL INFORMATION

VISITORS

Visitors, especially parents, are welcome at the school. To properly monitor the safety of students and staff, each visitor must report to the office upon entering the school to sign in and obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without signing in will be reported to the principal. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, he/she should call for an appointment prior to coming to the school in order to prevent any inconvenience. Students may not bring visitors to school without first obtaining written permission from the principal.

FEES AND FINES

Field Local Schools charge specific fees for certain activities and courses. This includes a fee for participation in extracurricular activities. Such fees or charges are determined by the cost of materials, freight/handling, and/or damage to school property. The school and staff do not make a profit. A listing of fees and charges for the current school year is available in the school office. Fees may be waived where there is financial hardship. Contact the building principal for information regarding the waiving of fees.

Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse. Late fines can be avoided when students return borrowed materials promptly. Failure to pay fines, fees, or charges may result in the withholding of grades, credits and/or ones diploma.

LOCKERS

The lockers supplied by the Board and used by the students are the property of the Board. Therefore, the lockers and the contents of all lockers are subject to random search at any time without regard to whether there is a reasonable suspicion that any locker or its contents contains evidence of a violation of a criminal statute or a school rule.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The school supplies most electronic equipment necessary in school. Students should not bring non-educational electronic equipment to school. Students using any of these devices during school hours without consent of the principal or his/her designee will be subject to confiscation and disciplinary action.

VALUABLES/LOST AND FOUND

Students are encouraged not to bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, electronic equipment, and the like should be left at home. The school is not responsible for their safekeeping and will not be liable for any loss or damage to personal valuables. Check for lost and found locations with each school office. Periodically, unclaimed items will be given to charity.

USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Students must receive the permission of the teacher before using any equipment or materials in the classroom and the permission of the principal to use any other school equipment or facility. Students will be held responsible for the proper use and safekeeping of any equipment or facility they are allowed to use.

USE OF TELEPHONES

Office telephones are not to be used for personal calls. Parents calling for students will be asked to leave a message to be delivered to the student, unless it is an emergency situation. The student will be able to return the call when he/she receives the message.

Students are not to use personal telephones to call parents to receive permission to leave school. Office personnel will initiate all calls on behalf of a student seeking permission to leave school.

Please refer to individual buildings for guidelines and procedures regarding the use of cell phones and other electronic devices.

MEAL SERVICE

The District participates in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program and makes meals available to students. Regular breakfast, lunch and a la carte items are available. Students may also bring their own lunches to school to be eaten in the school's cafeteria. All students are required to eat lunch in the cafeteria, unless given permission by the principal.

The application for the free and reduced-priced meal program is available on the District's website under Parent/Student Tools.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

The District complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire and safety (ALICE) drills in accordance with state law. Specific instructions on how to proceed will be provided to the students. The staff will oversee the safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building. Tornado drills will be conducted during the tornado season using the procedures prescribed by the state.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. In addition, there are also other trips that are part of the school's co-curricular and extracurricular program. Medications normally administered at school will be administered while on field trips. The student code of conduct applies to all field trips. Attendance rules apply to all trips. While the District encourages the student's participation in trips, alternative assignments will be provided for any student whose parent does not give permission to attend. Students who violate school rules may lose the privilege to go on trips. Arrangements for makeup work must be made in advance of the trip.

EMERGENCY CLOSING, DELAYS, OR EMERGENCY DISMISSAL

If the school must be closed, the opening delayed, or students dismissed early because of inclement weather, emergency situations, or other conditions, the school will use the parent notification system and will notify the following radio and television stations:

<u>Television</u>	<u>Radio</u>
WKYC-Channel 3 (wkyc.com)	WNIR-100FM (wnir.com)
WEWS-Channel 5 (newsnet5.com)	
WJW-Channel 8 (fox8.com)	
WOIO-Channel 19 (cleveland19.com)	

FUNDRAISING

Students participating in school sponsored groups and activities will be allowed to solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. For all fund-raising activities occurring on District premises or at a District sponsored event, or involving students or District employees, the following general rules will apply:

1. All fundraising activities will be approved in advance by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
2. No student may participate in a fundraising activity conducted by a parent group, booster club, or community organization on school property without the approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee.
3. Student participation in fundraising activities will be voluntary and will be approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
4. A student will not be allowed to participate in a fundraising activity for a group in which he/she is not a member without the approval of the coordinator.
5. Instructional time will not be used to organize or conduct a fundraising activity. Likewise, fund-raising activities will not interfere with any co-curricular or extracurricular activity.
6. Students involved in the fundraiser are not to interfere with students participating in other activities in order to solicit funds.
7. No student may participate in fundraising activities off school property without proper supervision by approved staff or other adults.

ENROLLING IN THE SCHOOL

Students are required to enroll in the school district in which they live unless enrolling under the District's open enrollment policy.

Students who are new to Field Local Schools are required to enroll with their parents or legal guardians. When enrolling, the following must be provided:

1. An original birth certificate with a raised seal. Other documents may be substituted. See BOE policy 6.02 for a complete list.
2. Court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if applicable)
3. Two (2) proofs of residency
4. Proof of immunizations
5. Social Security card

Under certain circumstances, temporary enrollment may be permitted. If that is done, the parents or guardians will be told what records are needed to make the enrollment permanent.

Students enrolling from another school must have an official transcript from the previous school in order to receive credit from that school. The office staff will assist in obtaining the transcript, if not presented at the time of enrollment.

Adult students (eighteen years of age or older) may enroll themselves, but if residing with their parents/guardians, are encouraged to include them in the process. Adult students have the responsibilities of both student and parent.

A student who has been suspended or expelled by another public school in Ohio may be denied admission to the District's schools during the period of suspension or expulsion even if that student would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the district. Likewise, a student who has been expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary purposes from a public school in another state and the period of expulsion or removal has not expired, may be temporarily denied admission to the District's schools. The period of expulsion or removal will last for the duration of time proscribed by the School Board guidelines. Prior to denying admission, however, the Superintendent will offer the student an opportunity for a hearing to review the circumstances of the suspension or expulsion and any other factors the Superintendent determines to be relevant.

WITHDRAWAL/TRANSFER FROM SCHOOL

If a student plans to transfer to another school, the parent or guardian must notify the principal. School records will be transferred when a records request is received from the new school. No student under the age of eighteen will be allowed to withdraw from school without the written consent of his/her parents or guardians and in compliance with state law. A student who withdraws from school will be reported to the Juvenile Judge of the county and to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles for suspension of his/her driver's license, if he/she is under the age of eighteen.

RECORDS

Teachers, counselors, and administrative staff keep many student records. Student records include directory information and confidential records. Directory information can be given to any person or organization for nonprofit making purposes when requested, unless the parents of the student notify the principal in writing that they wish to restrict the release of such information.

Unless specified otherwise in these guidelines, student records will be considered to be no longer needed by this District for educational purposes when:

- A. the student graduates or receives a certificate of completion; or
- B. the student has reached his/her twenty-second (22nd) birthday.

When certain records within a student's file are considered no longer needed, the school will ensure that in the event certain records are to be destroyed, the following minimal data be permanently maintained:

- A. student's name, address, and phone number;
- B. birth date;
- C. classes attended and grades;
- D. attendance record including building attended and/or transcript
- E. grade level completed and year completed.

If a student is identified as a student with a disability in special education, the school will ensure:

- A. records are maintained for five (5) years after termination of special education programs, services, and/or graduation;
- B. parents/adult students are notified when information is no longer needed to provide educational services and will be destroyed.

The personally identifiable information on a disabled student will be retained permanently unless the parents/adult students request that it be destroyed as specified in these guidelines. The COR should remind them that the records may be needed by the student or the parents for Social Security benefits or other purposes.

Confidential records contain educational and behavioral information that has restricted access based on the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Ohio law. This information can only be released with the written consent of the parents or the adult student. The only exception is to comply with State and Federal laws that authorize the release of such information without consent.

Confidential records include test scores, psychological reports, behavioral data, disciplinary actions, and communications with family and outside service providers. The school must have the parents' written consent to obtain records from an outside professional or agency. Confidential information that is in a student's record that originates from an outside professional or agency may be released to the parent through the originator and parents should keep copies of such records for their home file. Parents may also provide the school with copies of records made by non-school professional agencies or individuals.

Students and parents have the right to review all educational records generated by the school district, request amendment to these records, insert addendum to records, and obtain copies of such records. Copying cost may be charged to the requestor. To review records, please contact the school principal, in writing, stating the records desired. The records will be collected and an appointment will be made with the appropriate persons present to answer any questions.

Notification of Rights and Designation of Directory Information Under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Field Local School District ("School") receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The principal, or his/her designee, will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the School to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as

requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. For a further explanation, see item 5 below.

3. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

4. FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, § 99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the school to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student –
- To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. A school official may include a volunteer or contractor outside the school who 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 PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer 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. (§ 99.31(a)(1)).
 - To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2)).
 - To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency (SEA) in the parent or eligible student's State. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of § 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35).
 - In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4)).
 - To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to § 99.38. (§ 99.31(a)(5)).
 - To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6)).
 - To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7)).
 - To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8)).
 - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§ 99.31(a)(9)).
 - To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10)).
 - Information the school has designated as "directory information" under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11)). Specifically, the School may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the School to the contrary in accordance with School procedures. The primary purpose of directory

information is to allow the School to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information - names, addresses and telephone listings - unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want School to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Superintendent's office within two weeks of receipt of this notice. (Attn: David Heflinger, Field Local Schools, 2900 State Route 43, Mogadore, Ohio 44240). The School has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Student's address
- Student's telephone number
- Student's date and place of birth
- Photograph
- Major field of study
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team
- Dates of attendance ("from and to" dates of enrollment")
- Grade level
- Date of graduation
- Degrees, honors and awards received
- Most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student
- E-mail address

SECTION III: ACADEMIC INFORMATION

HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

In order to keep parents informed of their child's progress in school, parents will be provided information on a regular basis and whenever concerns arise. Many times it will be the responsibility of the student to deliver the information. The school, however, may use email, U.S. mail or the student to ensure contact. Parents/guardians are encouraged to check the Field Local Schools website regularly at www.fieldlocalschools.org. Parents and guardians are also encouraged to build a two-way link with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish his/her educational goals.

Report Cards: Students will receive a report card at the end of each nine-week period indicating their grades for each course of study for that portion of the academic term.

When a student appears to be at risk of failure, reasonable efforts will be made to notify the parents so they can talk with the teacher about what actions can be taken to improve poor grades.

GRADES

Field Local Schools has a standard grading procedure, as well as additional notations that may indicate work in progress or incomplete work. The purpose of a grade is to indicate the extent to which the student has acquired the necessary knowledge and/or skills. In general, students are assigned grades based upon test results, homework, projects, and classroom participation. Each teacher may place a different emphasis on these areas, whereas 75% of the assessment is formal in nature and 25% is informal. Students will be informed of a teacher's individual expectations at the beginning of the course. To pass a semester a student must achieve a minimum grade average of 60% (D-). If a student is not sure how his/her grade will be determined, he/she should ask the teacher. If work is not completed during the grading period, the student will receive an "I" until all work is completed. If work is not completed during that grading period, the student will receive a zero for each assignment.

At the middle and high school levels, parents and guardians can check student grades online through the online grading system. Personal identification numbers for accessing the online grading system will be distributed at the beginning of each school year.

GRADING POLICY

The purpose of taking a course is attaining knowledge and proficiency of the subject matter. Assessments and awarding of grades show a benchmark of understanding of the subject matter at certain times during the term of a course (nine weeks and semester grades). In school these benchmarks are reviewed at the end of a course to determine if there has been sufficient progress in knowledge and in proficiency to award credit.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE - GRADING SCALE

The school uses the following grading system:

A	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	0.7
F	50-59	0.0
I	incomplete	
P	acceptable achievement	

SECTION IV: ATTENDANCE

INTRODUCTION

Attending school is necessary and required by law. State law requires school attendance until the age of eighteen. Students, who do not maintain good attendance may fail, lose certain privileges, and/or have their parents or guardians taken to court. Field Local Schools has an attendance policy to avoid these negative consequences.

ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING/MISSING CHILDREN

The Board of Education believes in the importance of trying to decrease the number of missing children; therefore, efforts will be made to identify possible missing children and notify the proper adults or agencies. Please see Board Policy 6.10.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Students are expected to be in all classes, study halls, or other assigned areas during the school day. Attending classes regularly helps students to receive the full academic benefit of the school program. Frequent absences result in a disruption of the continuity of the educational process and time lost can never be fully regained even through makeup work. The following procedures should be followed if it is necessary for a student to be absent.

A parent or guardian must call the school office between 7:15 A.M. and 8:00 A.M. on the day of absence, reporting the name of the absent student, the reason for absence, and when the student is expected to return to school. Makeup work is permitted only if an absence is excused.

Students who arrive at school after 7:55 A.M. are marked tardy and must report directly to the office. A note from a parent or guardian, stating the reason for the late arrival is required. **Students who arrive after 9:30 A.M. are marked absent one-half day.** A decision to excuse a tardiness will be made by the Principal and/or his designee. A transportation problem is not an excused tardy. **Students who leave prior to 11:22 A.M. are marked absent for a full day. Students who leave after 11:22 A.M. are marked absent for one-half day.**

Absences and tardiness due to medical and dental appointments must be substantiated by a note from a physician or dentist when the student returns to school.

If a student, under the age of eighteen, is truant and meets certain guidelines defined by the State of Ohio, the Field Local School District may refer a student to Juvenile Court for truancy and to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for suspension of his/her license.

The skipping of classes or any part of the school day is considered an unexcused absence and no makeup work will be permitted. Disciplinary action will follow.

AUTHORIZED ABSENCES

Field Trips/School Business: Treated as an extension of the classroom. Work is given for credit. A student is not academically penalized.

Excused Absence: Work is given for credit.

ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Absences for the following reasons will be considered as excused:

- A. Personal illness
- B. Serious illness or death of a family member
- C. Funeral
- D. Medical and dental appointments that cannot be arranged during non-school hours
- E. Unusual or emergency situations at home
- F. Religious holidays and activities
- G. Authorized school sponsored activities
- H. Approved college visits
- I. Acts of God
- J. Quarantine
- K. Out-of-state travel, not to exceed four (4) days per school year, for participation in an enrichment activity approved by the Board of Education or an extracurricular activity, defined as a student activity program operated by the District but not included in a graded course of study
- L. At the Superintendent's discretion, a visit with a parent or legal guardian who is an active duty member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service and who has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting.

An absence for any reason other than those listed above will be classified as unexcused.

A student will have the opportunity to make up school work missed due to an excused absence; however, it will be the responsibility of the student to initiate a makeup procedure and schedule with his or her teacher(s). All makeup work will be completed within a reasonable time following the excused absence. A student will receive full credit for school work made up pursuant to an excused absence.

The principal or his or her designee may request written verification of a student's illness from a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state in the event of frequent or extended absences attributed to personal illness.

A student must be in attendance at school for half of the school day (4 periods) in order to participate in any school sponsored activity that is conducted on that day; in cases of emergency the principal or his/her designee may grant an exception to this limitation.

A student may accumulate up to 5 days of excused absences (per semester) with a parent or guardian telephone call for illness. Any additional absences will require a medical note from a physician, dentist, therapist, or other professional health care provider for each absence in order for the absence to be considered excused. **The medical note must be in the school office within 24 hours of the return of the student to school.** Absence for illness will be unexcused without a medical note. Projects (assignments) that are given during the absence will be due with arrangement of the instructor, not to exceed the number of days absent.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

A child between six and eighteen years of age is "of compulsory school age" for the purpose of O.R.C. 3321.01 to 3321.13, inclusive. A child under age six who has been enrolled in kindergarten also will be considered "of compulsory school age" unless at any time the child's parent or guardian, at the parent's or guardian's discretion and in consultation with the child's teacher and principal, formally withdraws the child from kindergarten. All children of compulsory school age whose parents, as defined in O.R.C. 3321.01, reside in the District will be compelled to attend the schools of this District or another school that conforms to the minimum standards prescribed by the State Board of Education.

UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCE

In the event of an unauthorized or unexcused absence, work is given but credit is denied. We encourage all students to keep current with assignments even if there can be no credit given. Examples of unauthorized absence and tardiness include but are not limited to oversleeping, car trouble, missing the bus, haircut/beauty shop appointments, babysitting, errands, etc. Cutting class is an unauthorized absence.

EARLY DISMISSAL

No staff member will permit or cause any student to leave school prior to the regular hour of dismissal except with the knowledge and approval of the principal and with the knowledge and approval of the student's parents.

In order for a student to be dismissed early, the individual signing the student out must be listed as an emergency contact in Final Forms and present photo identification when signing the student out.

The building principal will not excuse a student before the end of the school day without a request for the early dismissal by the student's parent or guardian. Additional precautions will be taken by the administration which are appropriate to the age of students and as needs arise.

No student will be released to any government agency without proper warrant or written parental permission except in the event of an emergency as determined by the principal.

TARDINESS

Students are considered tardy if they are not in class when the bell rings. All students who are tardy to school must report to the school office to sign in. When a teacher detains a student after class he/she will issue a late pass for the student's next class. This is optional at the elementary level.

Students who are tardy to class or study halls will be considered unexcused unless they have an excused slip from the office or a signed pass from a teacher. Tardiness to school due to medical and dental appointments or circumstances which constitute good and sufficient cause as determined by the principal or assistant principal are considered excused. The school must receive a note from a parent or a medical note from a physician, dentist, therapist, or other professional health care provider.

Teachers are to refer cases of chronic tardiness to the principal or assistant principal. Excessive/habitual absenteeism may result in consequences such as, but not limited to, referral to juvenile court, detention, and/or loss of parking privileges at Field High School.

VACATIONS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Vacations during the school year are undesirable. Conditions for vacation approval are listed below:

- The student's current year attendance record must be satisfactory as determined by the principal.
- Students requesting a vacation must get written approval from their guardian and be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or an adult relative on the vacation.
- If the student is not maintaining an average grade of "C" or better, permission for excused absences are at the discretion of the principal or assistant principal.
- A maximum of five (5) school days per year will be granted. Exceptions to this rule must be a special emergency situation. At the discretion of the school authority, class work may or may not be made up upon return from vacation. If makeup work is permitted, the student will have a maximum of two weeks to complete the work.
- Work that is not made up will receive zero credit and will be averaged according to the grading procedure. A minor or eighteen year old student who goes on vacation without the school's approval will be in violation of the attendance rules. This will be considered an unexcused absence as well as truancy for the minor.
- Written permission by the principal or his/her designee must be given to the student prior to going on vacation and a copy of this permission is to be placed in the student's permanent folder.

MAKEUP OF TESTS AND OTHER SCHOOL WORK

Students who have an absence from school that is excused will be given the opportunity to make up work that has been missed. The student should contact his/her teachers as soon as possible to obtain assignments.

A student may make up units of study with a properly licensed teacher if the principal has granted prior approval.

Students will be given the opportunity to make up work that was missed due to approved absences. The length of time for completion of makeup work will be commensurate with the length of the absence.

EXCESSIVE AND HABITUAL ABSENTEEISM

The discipline of students who are excessively and/or habitually absent will be in accordance with Board Policy 6.09 and House Bill 410. Legislators and the Board of Education have established this policy in order to provide guidance to employees in addressing and improving the attendance practice of any student who is habitually absent.

If the absenteeism persists, and the student becomes "habitually absent," the school will convene an Absence Intervention Team which may include parents, educators, and other supportive adults to develop an absence intervention plan. Absence intervention plans may incorporate academic and non-academic supports to remove barriers to regular attendance. Parent engagement in this process is critical.

Every day counts. Missing school even 10% of the time has a significant negative impact on reading and math achievement as children progress through school. The state of Ohio put a law (HB 410) into effect with expectations of attendance for all students. Field Local Schools adopted this policy and has changed all guidelines to reflect this. Please review this with your son/daughter and make sure they are aware of the changes and understand the process that will be followed.

Attendance Definitions:

- Excessive Absenteeism:
 - Absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse
 - Absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse
- Habitual Absenteeism:
 - Absent 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse
 - Absent 42 or more hours in one school month without a legitimate excuse
 - Absent 72 or more hours in one school year without a legitimate excuse
- If your student meets the definition of excessive absenteeism, the district will:
 - notify the family in writing
 - The student and family may be referred to community resources.
- If your student meets the definition of habitual absenteeism, the district will:
 - assign the student to an Absence Intervention Team.
 - attempt to secure parent participation on the Absence Intervention Team.
 - develop an absence intervention plan.
 - If the student does not make progress on the plan or continues to be absent, the district may file a complaint in the juvenile court.

DETENTION OF STUDENTS BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL

Reasonable detention at the beginning or end of the school day is allowed. In all cases involving bus riders, parents are to be notified a day in advance so that alternate transportation may be arranged.

SECTION V: STUDENT ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION

Field Local Schools provides students the opportunity to broaden their learning through curricular-related activities. A curricular-related activity may be for credit, required for a particular course, and/or contain school subject matter.

The school has many student groups that are authorized by the school. It is the District's policy that authorized groups are only those approved by the Board of Education and sponsored by a staff member. Extracurricular activities do not reflect the school curriculum but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities such as recreational sports, drama, and the like.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The school encourages students to attend as many school events held after school as possible, without interfering with their schoolwork and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help to build school spirit and encourage those students who are participating in the event. However, in order to ensure that students attending evening events as nonparticipants are properly safeguarded, it is strongly advised that a parent or adult chaperone accompany students when they attend the event. The school is not responsible for supervising unaccompanied students nor will it be responsible for students who arrive without an adult chaperone.

NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Non-school sponsored student groups may meet in the school building during non-instructional hours for a fee. The application for permission to use school facilities can be obtained from the principal. The application must verify that students are initiating the activity, attendance is voluntary, the event will not interfere with school activities, and non-school persons do not play a regular role in the meeting. School rules will still apply regarding behavior and equal opportunity to participate.

Membership in any fraternity, sorority, or other secret society as prescribed by law is not permitted. All groups must comply with school rules and must provide equal opportunity to participate.

Non-school sponsored organizations may not use the name of the school or school mascot on any materials or information.

SECTION VI: MEDICAL INFORMATION

IMMUNIZATIONS

Each student must have the immunizations required by law or have an authorized waiver. If a student does not have the necessary shots or waivers, in accordance with state law, the principal or designee will require compliance with a set deadline or may remove the student. This is for the safety of all students. Any questions about immunizations or waivers should be directed to the District RN.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

The board has established a policy that every student must have an Emergency Medical Authorization form completed and signed by his/her parent in order to participate in any activity on or off school grounds. This includes field trips, spectator trips, athletic and other extracurricular activities, and co-curricular activities. The form is available on Final Forms.

INJURY AND ILLNESS

All injuries must be reported to a teacher, the school clinic or office. If the injuries are minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the clinic/office will follow the school's emergency procedures.

A student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission from the teacher to go to the clinic/office. The clinic/office staff will determine whether or not the student should remain in school or go home. No student will be released from the school without proper permission from a parent or guardian.

USE OF MEDICATIONS

Prescribed Medications

In those circumstances where a student must take prescribed medication during the school day, according to state law the following guidelines are to be observed:

- A. Parents should, with their physician's counsel, determine whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.
- B. The "Prescription Medication Administered at School" form must be filed with the clinic staff before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours.
- C. All medications must be registered with the clinic staff.
- D. Medication that is brought to the office will be properly secured. Medication **MAY NOT** be sent to school in a student's lunch box, pocket, or other means on or about the student. An exception to this would be prescriptions for emergency medications, for allergies and/or reactions, or asthma inhalers.
- E. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by school personnel when a prescription is no longer to be administered or at the end of the school year.
- F. The parents will have sole responsibility to instruct their child to take the medication at the scheduled time.
- G. A log for each prescribed medication will be maintained which will note the personnel giving the medication, the date, and the time of day. This log will be maintained along with the physician's written request and the parent's written release.
- H. Medications must be provided in the containers in which they were dispensed by the prescribing physician or licensed pharmacist.

Non-prescribed (over-the-counter) Medications

Parents may authorize the school to administer a non-prescribed medication using a "Non-Prescription Medication Administered at School" form which is available in the clinic or school office. The student is not permitted to keep this medication in his/her possession.

If a student is found using or possessing a non-prescribed medication without parent authorization, he/she will be brought to the school office and the parents or guardians will be contacted for authorization. The medication will be confiscated until written authorization is received.

Any student who distributes a medication of any kind to another student or is found to possess a medication other than the one authorized is in violation of the school's code of conduct and will be disciplined in accordance with the drug-use provision of the code.

A student may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or a dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms or before exercise to prevent the onset of asthmatic symptoms. The inhaler may be used at school or at an activity, event, or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant if the appropriate form is filled out and on file in the clinic. A student who is authorized to possess and use a metered dose or dry powder inhaler may not transfer possession of any inhaler or other medication to any other student.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Casual Contact

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. The school's professional staff has the authority to remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or high-transient pest, such as lice. Specific diseases include: diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the local and state health departments. Removal will be only for the contagious period.

Non-casual Contact

In the case of non-casual contact communicable diseases, the school still has the obligation to protect the safety of the staff and students. In these cases, the person in question will have his/her status reviewed by a panel of resource people, including the county health department, to ensure that the rights of the person affected and those in contact with that person are respected. The school will seek to keep students and staff persons in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion. Non-casual contact communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), ARC-AIDS Related Complex, HIV (Human Immunodeficiency), Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and other disease that may be specified by the State Board of Health.

As required by federal law, parents or guardians will be requested to have their child's blood checked for HIV and HBV when the child has bled at school and students or staff members have been exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality.

SECTION VII - TRANSPORTATION

BUS TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL

The school provides bus transportation for all K-8 students who live farther than one mile from school. Presently, there is no school provided transportation for students in grades 9-12. The bus schedule and route is available by contacting the administration office at 330-673-2659. Transportation for students experiencing homelessness will be provided in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act, 42 U.S.C.11431 et seq.

All students must ride their regularly scheduled bus to and from school unless they have a written request from their parent or legal guardian describing an emergency situation. This note must be presented to the building principal on the morning of the request.

BUS CONDUCT

Students who are riding to and from school on transportation provided by the school are required to follow some basic safety rules. This applies to school-owned buses as well as any contracted transportation that may be provided. The driver is responsible for student safety and may assign seating or direct the student in any reasonable manner to maintain that safety.

The following behaviors are expected of all students:

Prior to loading (on the road and at school)

Each student will do the following:

1. be on time at the designated loading zone five minutes prior to scheduled stop,
2. stay off the road at all times while walking to and waiting for the bus,
3. line up single file off the roadway to enter,
4. wait until the bus is completely stopped before moving forward to enter,
5. refrain from crossing a highway until the bus driver signals it is safe, and
6. go immediately to a seat and be seated.

It is the parent's or guardian's responsibility to inform the bus driver when their child will not be boarding the bus. The bus will not wait.

During the trip

Each student will do the following:

1. remain seated while the bus is in motion,
2. keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the bus at all times,
3. keep the level of noise to a minimum,
4. not litter in the bus or throw anything from the bus;
5. keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisle,
6. be courteous to the driver and to other bus riders,
7. not eat or play games, cards, etc., and
8. not tamper with the bus or any of its equipment.

Exiting the bus

Each student will do the following:

1. remain seated until the bus has stopped,
2. cross the road, when necessary, at least ten (10) feet in front of the bus, but only after the driver signals that it is safe, and
3. be alert to a possible danger signal from the driver.

The driver will not discharge students at places other than their regular stop at home or at school unless he/she has proper authorization from school officials.

PENALTIES FOR INFRACTIONS

A student who becomes a behavior problem on the bus will be disciplined in accordance with the student discipline code and may be deprived of the privilege of riding on the bus.

VIDEOTAPES ON SCHOOL BUSES

The Board of Education has authorized the installation of video cameras on school buses for purposes of monitoring student behavior.

If a student is reported to have misbehaved on a bus and his/her actions were recorded on videotape, the tape will be submitted to the principal and may be used as evidence of misbehavior.

SECTION VIII: COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY, NETWORKS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

EMAIL, INTERNET AND COMPUTER USE

Before any student may take advantage of the school's email, Internet or computers, he/she and his/her parents or guardians must sign an agreement, which defines the conditions under which the student may participate. Failure to abide by all of the terms of the agreement may lead to termination of the student's privileges and possible disciplinary action as outlined in the student code of conduct or referral to law enforcement authorities.

Students are encouraged to use the School District's computers/network and Internet connection for educational purposes. Use of such resources is a privilege, not a right. Students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Unauthorized or inappropriate use, including any violation of Board Policy 6.48, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the student handbook, and/or civil or criminal liability. Prior to using school computers or accessing student email or the Internet, parents must sign the *Technology, Internet and Photo Usage Form*. Smooth operation of the School District's network relies upon users adhering to the following guidelines. The guidelines outlined below are provided so that users are aware of their responsibilities.

- A. Users will not violate federal or state law or encourage others to violate the law.
- B. Users may not cause harm to others or damage to their property.
- C. Users should not disclose or share their password with others or impersonate another user.
- D. Students and other users may not sell or buy anything over the Internet.
- E. All users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Be polite.
 - b. Use appropriate language.
 - c. Avoid language and uses which may be offensive to other users.
 - d. Do not assume that a sender of email is giving his or her permission to forward or redistribute the message to third parties or to give his or her email address to third parties.
 - e. Do not use the network in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
 - f. Be considerate when sending attachments with email.
- F. All users and their parents/guardians are advised that access to the electronic network may include the potential for access to material that are inappropriate for school-aged students.
- G. In using the computer network and Internet, users should not reveal personal information.
- H. It is a violation of this policy to use the school's computer network or the Internet to gain unauthorized access to other computers or computer systems, or to attempt to gain such unauthorized access.
- I. Users should never give out private or confidential information about themselves or others on the Internet.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Personal electronic devices may be used for educational purposes only, at the teacher's discretion during class time. At no time are students allowed to "play" on their devices without an educational purpose and/or teacher direction. Students are never permitted to make calls, create recordings or take pictures unless directed to do so by a teacher. If a student violates the electronic device policy, the device can be confiscated. For more specific details, please refer to each school building's policies governing cell phone and electronic device use.

SECTION IX: CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

A major component of the educational program at Field is to prepare students to become responsible citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards.

EXPECTED BEHAVIORS

Each student will be expected to:

- abide by national, state, and local laws as well as the rules of the school,
- respect the rights of others,
- act courteously to adults and fellow students,
- be prompt to school and attentive in class,
- work cooperatively with others when involved in accomplishing a common goal regardless of the other's ability, gender, race, or ethnic background,
- complete assigned tasks on time and as directed,
- help maintain a school environment that is safe, friendly, and productive,
- exhibit responsibility and self-control, and
- act at all times in a manner that reflects pride in self, family, and in the school.

HARASSMENT (Bullying)

The harassment of a student, staff member, or other person associated with the District is not permitted. Harassment includes any speech or action that creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive learning environment. Under no circumstances will the school tolerate threats or retaliations against anyone who raises or files a harassment complaint.

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances or any form of improper physical contact or sexual remark. Some forms of sexual harassment of a student by another student may be considered a form of child abuse, which will require that the student-abuser be reported to the proper authorities.

Harassment of a student by other students or any staff member is a violation of federal law and is contrary to the Board of Education's commitment to provide a physically and psychologically safe environment in which to learn. Anyone found to have violated this policy and/or the code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the District.

Any student who believes he/she is the victim of any of the above actions or has observed such actions taken by another student, staff member or other person associated with the District, or by third parties should make contact with the principal.

The student may make contact by a written report, telephone or personal visit. During this contact, the reporting student should provide the name of the person(s) whom he/she believes to be responsible for the harassment and the nature of the harassing incident(s). A written summary of each such report will be prepared promptly and a copy forwarded to the principal.

Each report of harassment will be investigated in a timely and confidential manner by the principal and/or his/her designee. While a charge is under investigation, no information will be released to anyone who is not involved with the investigation, except as may be required by law or in the context of a legal or administrative proceeding. No one involved is to discuss the subject outside of the investigation.

Given the nature of harassing behavior, the school recognizes that false accusations can have serious effects on innocent individuals. Therefore, all students are expected to act responsibly, honestly, and with the utmost candor whenever they present harassment allegations or charges.

DRESSING AND GROOMING

Students are expected to dress appropriately at all times. Any fashion (dress, accessory, or hairstyle) that disrupts the educational process or presents a safety risk will not be permitted.

Students should consider the following questions when dressing for school:

- Am I dressed appropriately for the weather? (yes)
- Do I feel comfortable with my appearance? (yes)
- Does my clothing expose too much? (no)
- Does my clothing advertise something that is prohibited to minors? (no)
- Are there obscene, profane, lewd, drug-related, gang-related, or inflammatory messages on my clothing? (no)

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Students' dress should be appropriate to the educational activities and the school environment and should be governed by good sense, good taste, and cleanliness. Much responsibility is placed upon parents for student appearance.

The Board of Education prohibits student dress or grooming practices which:

1. Present a hazard to the health or safety of the student himself/herself or to others in the school;
2. Materially interfere with schoolwork, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
3. Cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
4. Prevent the student from achieving his or her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Clothing is prohibited that bears statements, slogans, images, illustrations or insignia that are indecent, offensive, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar; or that harasses, threatens, intimidates, demeans, suggests or promotes violence against an individual or group of individuals because of their sex, color, race, religion, disability, or national origin, or otherwise constitutes sexual or other forms of harassment prohibited by Board policy or the Student Handbook; or that advertises, promotes or depicts alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or illegal drugs.

Gang-related paraphernalia (gang symbols, jewelry, emblems) or signs in communication (written or oral) are not permitted.

School dress and grooming should be similar to what would be appropriate for an informal place of business. School dress and grooming should not have a distracting influence or pose a possible health or safety hazard.

The following shall serve as guidelines for appropriate dress for school. They are not intended to be comprehensive. The final decision about any dress code violation shall rest with the building principal.

1. Skirts shall cover the mid-upper thigh.
2. Shorts shall have at least a two-inch inseam. Pockets shall not be visibly sticking-out from under shorts.
3. Shirts shall fully cover the midriff.
4. Halters, backless and strapless tops are not permitted. Tops must cover cleavage. Tank tops are permitted.
5. Underwear shall be covered at all times. Underwear or skin shall not be visible through clothing.
6. Hats, hoods, bandannas and all other head coverings shall not be worn in a school building during the school day. Head coverings worn for religious purposes are exempt from this prohibition.
7. Clothing, jewelry and other accessories that contain sharp edges or spikes are not permitted.
8. Clothing and accessories shall not reference, depict, advertise or suggest drugs, tobacco, illegal substances, weapons, violence, profanity or obscenities.
9. Shoes must be safe to the environment.

If a student is sent to the office for a dress code violation, he/she will be asked to change clothes. If he/she does not have a change of clothing, a parent or guardian will be called and asked to bring a change of clothes from home. The objective is to return students to class as soon as possible, but students will not be allowed to return to class until the dress code violation is fixed. A student may be assigned an in-school restriction if he/she refuses to change or while waiting for a parent/guardian to arrive with a change of clothes. Repeated violations of this policy may result in disciplinary consequences.

CARE OF PROPERTY

Students are responsible for the care of their own personal property. Valuables such as jewelry or irreplaceable items should not be brought to school. The school is not responsible or liable for damage to or theft of personal property.

If a student loses or damages school property, the student or his/her parents/guardians will be required to pay for the damage or replacement of the property. If the damage or loss was intentional, the student will be subject to discipline according to the student discipline code.

CONDUCT (ZERO TOLERANCE)

A student who fails to comply with established school rules or with any reasonable request made by school personnel in accordance with Board of Education policy is subject to approved student discipline. The Board will not tolerate violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior, including excessive truancy, by its students.

DISCIPLINE

It is important to remember that the school's rules apply going to and from school, at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, or school transportation, and on property not owned or controlled by the board but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred or property owned or controlled by the board. Furthermore, students may be disciplined for conduct that is directed at a board official or employee or the property of such official or employee, regardless of where or when it occurs.

Ultimately, it is the principal's responsibility to keep things orderly. In all cases, the school will attempt to make discipline prompt and equitable and to have the punishment match the severity of the incident.

Two (2) types of discipline are possible: informal and formal.

Informal Discipline

Informal discipline takes place within the school. It includes, but is not limited to:

- Writing assignments
- Change of seating
- In-school restriction
- Lunchtime detentions
- Before or after school detentions
- Disciplinary removal
- Community service
- Parental contact
- Schedule changes
- Loss of parking privileges (high school)

The following rules will apply to in-school restriction:

1. Assignments are provided and credit is given for assignments that are completed during the in-school restriction.
2. Students are required to have class assignments with them. If a student does not bring work, the monitor will provide work.
3. Students are not to communicate with each other unless given special permission to do so.
4. Students are to remain in their designated seats at all times unless permission is granted to do otherwise.
5. Students will not be allowed to put their heads down or sleep.
6. No radios, cell phones, cards, magazines, or other recreational articles will be allowed in the room.
7. No food or beverages will be consumed with the exception of lunch.

A student missing any portion of his/her assigned time during in-school discipline may be given additional time. Failure to timely serve in-school discipline may lead to suspensions from school. Any such disciplinary action will be in accordance with District guidelines.

Formal Discipline

Students being considered for in-school restriction, suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion are entitled to an informal hearing with the building administrator prior to removal at which time the student will be notified of the charges and given the opportunity to respond.

Students involved in co-curricular and extracurricular activities such as band and athletics can lose their eligibility for violating the school rules. This is especially true for infractions involving drugs, alcohol, tobacco use, or harassment.

If a student commits a crime while under the school's jurisdiction, he/she may be subject to school disciplinary action as well as legal action.

- A. Suspension is defined as the denial to a student for a period of at least one but not more than ten days of permission to attend school and to take part in any school function. Credit is given for work missed due to out-of-school suspension.
- B. Expulsion is defined as the denial to a student of permission to attend school and to take part in any school function, for a period exceeding ten school days but not exceeding the greater of 80 school days, or one year in certain circumstances, or the number of school days remaining in the semester or term in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place, unless the expulsion is extended. Whenever an incident occurs that may lead to an expulsion the principal may suspend a student prior to the expulsion hearing.
- C. Emergency removal is defined as the denial of permission to be on school premises or at curricular activities to a student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process.
- D. In-school restriction is an action less severe than suspension, expulsion, or emergency removal and defined as the denial to a student of permission to attend the classes in which he/she is enrolled.
- E. Permanent exclusion means the prohibition of a student forever from attending any public school in Ohio that is operated by a city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school district.
 1. A student may be permanently excluded from attending any of the public schools of this state if the student is convicted of or adjudicated a delinquent child for committing, when he/she was 16 years of age or older, an act that would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult and if the act is any of the following: O.R.C. 2923.122, 2923.12, 2925.03, 2925.11, 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2907.02, 2907.05, or former O.R.C. 2907.12. Also complicity in any violation set forth in the section on reasons for permanent exclusion that was alleged to have been committed in the manner described above, regardless of whether the act of complicity was committed on property owned or controlled by, or at an activity held under the auspices of a Board of Education.
 2. If the Superintendent obtains or receives proof that a student has been convicted of committing a violation listed in the section on reasons for permanent exclusion when he/she was 16 years of age or older or was adjudicated a delinquent child for the commission, when he/she was 16 years of age or older, of a violation listed in the section on reasons for permanent exclusion the Superintendent may issue to the Board a request that the student be permanently excluded from public school attendance in accordance with O.R.C. 3313.662.

DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

Before a student may be suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded from school, there are specific procedures that must be followed. See BOE policy 6.18 for more detail.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities will be entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Act (I.D.E.I.A.), and, where applicable, the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.), and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

RESTRICTION OF BUS RIDING/TRANSPORTATION PRIVILEGES

When a student is being considered for a restriction of bus riding/transportation privileges, the administrator in charge will notify the student of the reason. The student will then be given an opportunity to explain his/her side. After that informal hearing, an administrator will make a decision whether or not to restrict his/her bus riding/transportation privileges for all or part of the school year. If a student's bus riding/transportation privileges are restricted, he/she and his/her parents or guardians will be notified, in writing within one (1) day, of the reason for and the length of the restriction.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

School authorities are charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. School authorities may search the person or property (including vehicles, lockers, purses, backpacks, gym bags, etc.) of a student, with or without the student's consent, whenever they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of law or of school rules. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction and the student's age. General housekeeping inspection of school property may be conducted with reasonable notice.

When the police have probable cause to believe that a student is in possession of unlawful or dangerous items, a search may be conducted without a previously issued warrant.

In collaboration with police, properly trained canines may be used to sniff lockers, automobiles, and other places on the District premises.

If there is a reasonable basis for suspecting that a particular student has committed, or is committing a violation of a law or District rule, a properly trained canine may be used to detect evidence of that violation by sniffing that student. If a canine indicates the presence of evidence of the violation of laws or District rules on the student's person, the student may be searched for evidence of the suspected violation.

Anything that is found in the course of a search that may be used as evidence of a violation of school rules or the law may be taken, held, or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items which have been confiscated.

RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION

The school recognizes the right of students to express themselves within the Code of Conduct guidelines. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do so appropriately. Students may distribute or display, at appropriate times, non-sponsored, non-commercial written material and petitions; buttons, badges, or other insignia; clothing, insignia, and banners; and audio and video materials. All items must meet the following school guidelines:

- A. Material cannot be displayed if it:
 1. is obscene, libelous, indecent or vulgar,
 2. advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law,
 3. intends to be insulting or harassing, or
 4. intends to incite fighting or presents a likelihood of disrupting school or a school event.
- B. Material may not be displayed or distributed during class periods or between classes. Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods and after school in designated locations, as long as exits are not blocked and there is proper access to the building.

Students must present materials to be displayed to the building administrator twenty-four (24) hours prior to display.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The items in this Code are applicable to misconduct by a student that occurs on property owned or controlled by the District and off of property owned or controlled by the District but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the District and misconduct by a student that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a District official or employee or the property of such official or employee and all students when properly under the authority of school personnel during a school activity, function, or event whether on property owned, rented, or maintained by the Board of Education or property owned, rented, or maintained by another party. Additionally, the provisions of this Code will apply to students if the prohibited act(s) takes place while on properties immediately adjacent to school property, within the line of sight of school property, on school transportation, or if the act affects the operation of the schools.

This Code will also be inclusive for the right to exercise authority and for personal and property protection of administrators, teachers, librarians, or clerks, substitute teachers, teacher aides, monitors, authorized volunteers, tutors, secretaries, cooks, custodians, bus drivers, visitors, or other authorized school personnel.

Violation by a student of any one or more of the following items from the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action(s) which may include detention, parental contact, referrals to legal authorities, emergency removal, in-school restriction, suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion. A student may be suspended pending the outcome of expulsion proceedings.

1. Use, possession, concealment, transmitting, or being under the influence of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, or LOW ALCOHOL BEER, that being a brewed or fermented malt product containing either no alcohol or not more than 0.5% of alcohol by volume. Being under the influence of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR MIND ALTERING SUBSTANCES while on school property; (including buses) or at any school sponsored activities.
2. ARSON or attempted arson, and related offenses.
3. ASSAULT, ASSAULT AND BATTERY, or threat thereof to any school personnel, other student, or visitor.
4. Any other form of BEHAVIOR which is detrimental to a proper school and/or school activity atmosphere as prescribed by the Administrator and as outlined in the student/parent handbook for the building in which the student is enrolled.
5. CHEATING.
6. COLLUSION, COMPLICITY, OR AIDING AND ABETTING anyone in the commission of conduct prohibited by Board policy, or state or federal law.
7. Any attempts to engage in CONDUCT prohibited by this policy.
8. DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, DEFACEMENT OR VANDALISM of school property or private property on school premises; (including buses) or at any school.
9. Open DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION between members of the same or opposite sex.
10. DISRESPECT to any individual.
11. DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL by use of violence, force, coercion, threat, harassment, noise, or disorderly conduct. This includes the use of the aforementioned to incite others toward acts of disruption.
12. Violation of school policies pertaining to DRESS AND APPEARANCE.
13. DRIVING in an unsafe manner.
14. Violation of school building policy regarding the usage of personal ELECTRONIC DEVICES.
15. The act of EXTORTION from any person on school property; (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activity.
16. FALSE ALARMS - including fire and/or bomb threats.
17. The act of FALSELY REPORTING INCIDENTS, making accusations, or giving testimony to school personnel.
18. FALSIFYING in writing the name of another person, times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms or correspondence directed to the school.
19. Violation of FEDERAL OR STATE STATUTES on school premises or involving school activities.
20. FIGHTING, hitting, pushing, kicking, biting, slapping, tripping, scratching, and/or poking among two or more students on school property; (including buses) or at any school sponsored activity. This will include inciting and/or encouraging others to fight.
21. Possession of a FIREARM: Firearm has the same meaning as provided pursuant to the "Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994." At the time this policy was adopted, the above-referenced statute defined a firearm as any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; including the frame or receiver of any such weapon; and any firearm muffler or silencer; or any destructive device. A firearm does not include: an antique firearm; a rifle that the owner intends to use solely for sporting and recreational or cultural purposes; any device that is neither designed or redesigned for use as a weapon; any device although originally designed as a weapon, redesigned as a signaling, pyrotechnic, line throwing, safety or like device, surplus ordnance, sold, loaned or given by the Secretary of the Army or Class C common fireworks. If the definition of a firearm as Field Local School District Board of Education 6.19 Policy Manual page 4 Chapter VI – Pupil Personnel provided by the "Gun Free Schools Act of 1994" changes, the the definition set forth in this policy will automatically change to conform to it.

22. Possession, use or threatened use of FIREWORKS, EXPLOSIVES, OR OTHER SUCH INSTRUMENTS capable of inflicting bodily injury or disrupting the operation of the schools.
23. GAMBLING for money or valuables on school property (including buses) or at any school sponsored activity.
24. The Superintendent may prohibit a student from attending and/or participating in the District's GRADUATION CEREMONIES as part of a student's suspension, expulsion, or removal from school.
25. HAZING AND INTIMIDATION, subjecting other students to pranks or humiliation causing mental or physical harm.
26. Commission of an IMMORAL ACT.
27. INSUBORDINATION AND/OR DISOBEDIENCE in refusing to comply with directions of school personnel.
28. Violation of policies governing INTERNET USAGE.
29. LEAVING SCHOOL PROPERTY or assigned area prior to specified dismissal time without official permission.
30. LOITERING, LITTERING, or causing a disturbance on public or private property adjacent to, across from, or in close proximity to a school site, while either coming to and from school or school activities, or during the school day, or during school activities.
31. Persistent, willful MISCONDUCT. Violation of a reasonable and uniformly enforced rule or policy. Intentionally doing that which should not be done or intentionally failing to do that which should be done.
32. MISUSE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY.
33. Use, possession, concealment, buying, selling, transmitting, or being under the influence of any NARCOTIC DRUG OR OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, including, but not limited to marijuana, as well as any counterfeit or "look alike" controlled substance or any prescription drug or medication which is not in its original container and prescribed for the student. Field Local School District Board of Education 6.19 Policy Manual page 2 Chapter VI – Pupil Personnel
34. Failure to PAY TUITION or other approved charges.
35. PLAGIARISM.
36. Use of PROFANE, INDECENT, OR OBSCENE LANGUAGE written or verbal; directed toward school personnel or students. This will include use of obscene gestures, pictures, or signs.
37. POSSESSION OF A KNIFE: Knife, for the purposes of this policy, is defined as a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade or edge.
38. Those acts or violations listed in the PERMANENT EXCLUSION PORTION OF THE BOARD POLICY ON STUDENT DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES.
39. REPEATED OFFENSES OR FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS of any school rules or accepted standards of school behavior.
40. REPEATED TARDINESS to class or school.
41. VIOLATION OF TERMS OF SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, OR OTHER FORMS OF DISCIPLINE.
42. Violation of STATE STUDENT MANDATES, including, but not limited to, required immunization
43. THEFT of school property or equipment, of personal property of any school personnel, or of another student or visitor, including property at school sponsored activities.
44. Unauthorized THROWING OF ANY OBJECT including, but not limited to, snowballs.
45. TOBACCO/NICOTINE. A student will not possess, use, transmit, or conceal any tobacco product, any alternative nicotine product or device including electronic, vapor, or other substitute forms of cigarettes, or any tobacco or nicotine cessation product on school premises, during school activities, or events off school grounds.
46. TRESPASSING OR LOITERING.
47. TRUANCY from school; including study hall, class, or any other assigned activity for class, or any other assigned activity for part or all of a day, without school authorization.
48. Possession, use, or threatened use of WEAPONS, or any object which might be considered a dangerous weapon or instrument of violence including counterfeit or look-alike weapons.

