

# Salt Fork South Elementary School Handbook



**2016-2017**

*Salt Fork Community Unit School District # 512 partners with families and the community to provide a safe and engaging environment in which students acquire the skills necessary for success. Students take responsibility for their learning by actively participating in authentic situations and continually striving to achieve excellence.*

**Student/Parent Handbook Acknowledgement and Pledge**

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Acknowledgement and Pledge**

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the Student/Parent Handbook and School Board policy on student behavior. I have read these materials and understand all 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/Parent 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 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

**Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the Student/Parent Handbook and School Board policy on student behavior. I have read these materials and understand all rules, responsibilities and expectations.

I understand that the Student/Parent 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## **Section 1: General School Information**

### **District Information**

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 [www.saltfork.k12.il.us](http://www.saltfork.k12.il.us), or at the Board office, located at:

7087 North 600 East Road  
Sidell, IL 61876

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

Jeff Fauver, President  
Jeff Carder, Vice-President  
Andrea Van Leer, Secretary  
Troy Chew, Member  
Shelley Darnell, Member  
Seth Smoot, Member  
Ron Taylor, Member

The School Board has hired the following administrative staff to operate the school:

Dr. Philip T. Harrison, Superintendent  
Mr. Brian Allensworth, South Elementary Principal/Junior High School Principal  
Mr. Darin Chambliss, High School Principal  
Mr. Phillip Cox, North Elementary Principal/District Curriculum Director  
Mrs. Darcy Shepherd, High School Guidance Counselor  
Mr. Jason Baccadutre, High School Dean/Athletic Director  
Mr. Joe Hageman, South Campus Dean/Athletic Director

School Directory:

Salt Fork Unit Office  
7087 North 600 East Road  
Sidell, IL 61876  
217-288-9306

Salt Fork North Elementary  
216 North Webster  
Catlin, IL 61817  
217-427-5421

Salt Fork High School

701 West Vermilion  
Catlin, IL 61817  
217-427-5331

Salt Fork South Elementary/Salt Fork Junior High School  
7087 North 600 East Road  
Sidell, IL 61876  
217-288-9394

**Arrival & Dismissal**

Students shall not arrive at school before 7:45 a.m. and classes begin at 8:05 a.m. and students are dismissed at 3:05 p.m. each day. Students must be picked up no later than 3:10 p.m.

On early dismissal days, dismissal is at 2:05 p.m. On half-days, dismissal is at 11:30 a.m.

**Bus Transportation**

The district provides bus transportation to and from school for all students living 1.5 miles or more from the school. A list of bus stops will be published at the beginning of the school year before student registration. Parents will be notified regarding pick-up and drop-off locations at the beginning of the school year. Students are not permitted to ride a bus other than the bus to which they are assigned. Exceptions must be approved in advance by the building principal.

**Calendar**

Thursday, August 18	Staff Institute – No Student Attendance
Friday, August 19	Staff Institute – No Student Attendance
Monday, August 22	First Day of Student Attendance
Monday, September 5	Labor Day – District Closed
Wednesday, September 21	11:30am Student Dismissal / ½ Day Staff Institute
Friday September 30	1:30pm Student Dismissal - Homecoming
Friday, October 7	Staff Institute Day – No Student Attendance
Monday, October 10	Columbus Day – No Student Attendance
Friday, October 14	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter – Regular 3:05pm Dismissal
Wednesday, October 19	2:05pm Student Dismissal / Parent Conferences 3-7pm
Thursday, October 20	Parent Conferences–3:30-6pm (Regular 3:05pm Dismissal)
Friday, October 21	District Closed
Friday, November 11	Veteran’s Day – District Closed
Wednesday, November 23	2:05pm Dismissal for Thanksgiving Break
Thursday, November 24	Thanksgiving Break – District Closed
Friday, November 25	Thanksgiving Break – District Closed
Wednesday, December 7	11:30am Student Dismissal / ½ Day Staff Institute
Tuesday, December 20	2:05pm Dismissal for Winter Break
December 21-January 3	Winter Break – District Closed
Wednesday, January 4	School Resumes
Monday, January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – District Closed
Friday, February 3	11:30am Student Dismissal / ½ Day Staff Institute

Monday, February 20	President's Day – District Closed
Friday, March 10	End of 3rd Quarter – Regular 3:05pm Dismissal
Wednesday, March 15	2:05pm Student Dismissal / Parent Conferences 3-7pm
Thursday, March 16	Parent Conferences–3:30-6pm (Regular 3:05pm Dismissal)
Friday, March 17	District Closed
March 20-24	Spring Break – District Closed
Monday, March 27	School Resumes
Friday, April 21	11:30am Student Dismissal / ½ Day Staff Institute
Friday, May 5	11:30am Student Dismissal / ½ Day Staff Institute
Thursday, May 25	Staff Institute Day – No Student Attendance
Friday, May 26	11:30am Student Dismissal / ½ Day Staff Institute (If no snow days use – Report cards issued end of day)
Monday, June 5	Last Day of 185-day calendar (If all snow days are used)

**Emergency School Closings/Delayed Starts**

In cases of bad weather and other local emergencies, parents/guardians will be notified by telephone using the District School Messenger System. Closings, cancellations, delayed starts, and/or early dismissals will also be announced via local radio or television stations. On delayed start days, school will begin at 9:05am. If bad weather or other emergency occurs during the day, please listen to local media stations for possible early dismissal information.

For your child's safety, make certain your child knows ahead of time where to go in case of an early dismissal.

If we dismiss early for an emergency, all after-school functions are automatically cancelled.

**Fees**

Registration Fee: \$50  
PE (Skating): \$5

**Field Trips**

Field trips are a privilege for students. Students must abide by all school policies during transportation and during field-trip activities, and shall treat all field trip locations as though they are school grounds. Failure to abide by school rules and/or location rules during a field trip may subject the student to discipline.

All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to receive appropriate permission from parent/guardian or teacher;
- Failure to complete appropriate coursework;
- Behavioral or safety concerns;
- Denial of permission from administration;
- Other reasons as determined by the school.

### **Invitations**

Party invitations for classmates should not be brought to school to be distributed unless all members of the class receive one.

### **Parental Involvement**

The school and its teachers provide meetings, including parent/teacher conferences, at flexible times to accommodate a variety of parent schedules. Parents/Guardians will be given notice of meeting availability at the beginning of each year, and at least two weeks before conferences or other regularly scheduled meetings, to provide sufficient opportunity to schedule and attend meetings with teachers. Additionally, teachers are available regularly to meet with parents/guardians to discuss the success of their child. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to inquire about available meeting times, and to work with teachers. Parents/Guardians will be involved in an organized and timely way when any programs are created, considered, or altered, and will be continually involved in the ongoing development of programming, curriculum, and policy.

The school provides Parents/Guardians with access to:

1. school performance profiles required by Federal law and their child's individual student assessment results, including an interpretation of such results;
2. a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
3. opportunities for meetings to formulate suggestions, share experiences with other Parents/Guardians, and participate as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their children if such Parents/Guardians so desire; and
4. timely responses to suggestions.

Everyone is responsible for the success of the students of the school. While the school provides the best education we can, it is critical to the success of students that parents assist us in meeting the goals of education set forth by the state, the federal government and ourselves.

### **School Lunch Program**

Lunch and breakfast are available daily through the School Lunch Program. Menus are available online and are subject to change.

Free or reduced price meals are available for qualifying students. For an application, contact the Unit Office.

### **Student Pick-Up/Drop-Off**

Those dropping off and picking up children may do so in front of the main entrance from 7:45am-8:00am and 3:05pm-3:15pm. No parking is allowed in the student pick-up/drop-off zone.



### **Treats & Snacks**

Due to health concerns and scheduling, treats and snacks for any occasion must be arranged in advance with the classroom teacher. Treats and snacks may not require refrigeration. We strongly encourage you to select a treat or snack with nutritional value.

### **Visitors**

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building and proceed immediately to the main office. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school.

Visitors must sign in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location they are visiting. Approved visitors must take a tag identifying themselves as a guest and place the tag to their outer clothing in a clearly visible location. Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. All visitors must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school.

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 trespass and/or disruptive behavior.

### **Visitor Parking**

The school has designated locations available for school visitor parking. Vehicles MAY NOT be parked or located in the bus lanes or fire lanes at ANY TIME. Vehicles located in these locations may be ticketed and/or towed by the police.

### **Volunteers**

All school volunteers must complete the "Volunteer Information Form" and be approved by the school 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.

## **Section 2: Student Attendance**

### **Attendance**

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between six (by September 1<sup>st</sup>) 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 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.

### **Student Absences**

There are two types of absences: excused and unexcused. Excused absences include: illness, observance of a religious holiday, 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 safety or health, or other reason as approved by the principal. All other absences are considered unexcused. The school may require documentation explaining the reason for the student's absence.

Pre-arranged excused absences must be approved by the principal. Parents and students must complete a Pre-Arranged Absence Form and submit it to the office 5 days prior to the absence. Any work assigned is due upon the student's return to school.

In the event of any absence, the student's parent or guardian is required to call the school before 8:00 a.m. to explain the reason for the absence. If a call has not been made to the school by 10:00 a.m. on the day of a student's absence, a school official will call the home to inquire why the student is not at school. If the parent or guardian cannot be contacted, the student will be required to submit a signed note from the parent or guardian explaining the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence. Upon request of the parent or guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

Students who accumulate an excess of 8 excused absences during the school year where no documentation is provided for the absence will be placed on an excessive absences list. The student's parent or guardian will be required to provide written documentation, such as a doctor's note or court appointment, in order to excuse any future absences.

### **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 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are considered chronic truants. 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
- Appropriate school discipline

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

### **Make-Up Work**

If a student's absence is excused, he/she will be permitted to make up any missed work, including homework and tests. The student will be permitted the same number of days as he/she was absent to turn in the make-up work. The student is responsible for obtaining assignments from his/her teachers. Students who are unexcused from school will be allowed to make up missed work; however, such work may be given partial credit for completion.

### **Home & Hospital Instruction**

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician anticipates his or her absence from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. For information on home or hospital instruction, contact your building principal.

### **Release Time for Religious Instruction/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 any examination, study, or work requirement.

## **Section 3: Academics**

### **Grade Changes**

Parents/students who are challenging a quarter or semester grade must contact the classroom teacher directly within 2 weeks of the end of the academic term. The parent/student must provide a rationale for the grade dispute and any evidence to support a grade change. The teacher shall determine whether or not he/she feels a grade change is warranted. If the teacher feels the grade change is not warranted, the parent/student may appeal the decision to the building principal. The principal will consult with both the parent/student and the teacher prior to making a final decision and provide all parties with the rationale for the decision. The building principal's decision will be final.

### **Grading**

School report cards are issued to students on a quarterly basis. For questions regarding grades, please contact the classroom teacher. Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grades will use a standards-based report card. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will use traditional letter grades with the following grading scale: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D, < 60=F.

### **Homework**

Homework is used as a way for students to practice what they have learned in the classroom. The time requirements and the frequency of homework will vary depending on a student's teacher, ability and grade level.

### Promotion

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.

## Section 4: Student Conduct

### Discipline

#### Prohibited Student Conduct

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 or a school activity, function, or event; or
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.

#### Examples of Disciplinary Infractions

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

**Alcohol:** Liquids containing any intoxicating agent including, but not limited to, ethanol.

**Arson:** The willful burning or destruction, attempt to burn or destroy, or articulated plans or threats to burn or destroy any District property through the use of fire, an explosive device, or any other combustion-type weapon capable of property destruction.

**Assault and Battery:** Any unlawful touching of another or threat of unlawful touching, which is without justification or excuse. The two offenses differ from each other in that battery requires physical contact of some sort (bodily injury or offensive touching), whereas assault is committed without physical contact.

**Bullying:** The use of pervasive written or verbal communications or physical conduct intended to psychologically injure, harass, humiliate, coerce, or intimidate another person.

**Cheating:** The willful act of obtaining, using, giving, or attempting to obtain, use, or give information in a fraudulent manner or any other deliberate violation of an academic rule.

**Consensual Sex:** Willingly engaging in a sexual act on or near school property, including at any activity under school sponsorship.

**Cyberbullying:** The use of electronic information and communication devices, including but not limited to e-mail messages, instant messaging, text messaging, cellular telephone communications, internet blogs, internet chat rooms, internet postings, and websites including, but not limited to, Facebook and/or Twitter, to bully another person or persons (See Bullying).

**Disrespect:** To call derogatory names, dishonor, or in other manner abuse verbally or in writing any member of the school staff or student body. (Disrespect to staff would fall under the “Major” category).

**Disruption:** Any act, attempt, or articulated plan or threat that interferes with or disturbs the educational process or setting.

**Distribution of Unauthorized Printed Materials:** The act of distributing unauthorized materials on school property.

**Dress Code Violation:** The manner of dress not acceptable by the Board of Education for students as outlined in the handbook.

**Failure to Serve a Detention:** The act of not serving an assigned detention.

**False Alarms:** The activation or attempting to activate a fire alarm or sprinkler system or making or attempting to make a false report, either written or oral, regarding a fire, bombing, or other catastrophe.

**False Reports:** The act of reporting incidents or making accusations or giving testimony to school personnel, which would affect the welfare of others or interferes with the educational process that are known to be untrue or reasonably should have been known to be untrue at the time they were made.

**Fighting:** Aggressive, hostile bodily contact with students and/or adults.

**Fireworks or Explosives:** Possession, use, sale, or attempted use or sale of fireworks explosives, or items capable of, or intended to, produce combustion, or concussion damage.

**Forgery:** The act of falsely using, in writing, the name of another person, or falsifying times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms.

**Gambling:** To wager or attempt to wager money or property on an uncertain outcome or the monetary participation or attempted participation in a game of chance.

**Gang:** A gang is an organized group of two or more persons, some of whom may be students, whose purpose, at least in part, is to exhibit or display intimidation, or threatening behavior toward others; to inflict physical injury or violence on any person (assault); to commit vandalism, extortion, or theft; to promote gang presence through display of gang symbols, graffiti or colors; to commit illegal acts; to violate school rules regarding gangs or solicitation of other students to further gang goals or activities; or to engage in any other course or pattern of criminal activity or the attempt to engage in any of the above conduct.

**Hazing:** Hazing includes the performance of any act by a student for the purpose of induction or admission into any group, organization, or society associated or connected with the school district if the act is not sanctioned or authorized by the school district.

**Horseplay:** A rough or boisterous act that may reasonably lead to property damage and/or personal injury.

**Inciting Others to Violence or Disobedience:** Encourage or attempt to encourage others to demonstrate or protest which disrupts or may reasonably lead to disruption of the educational process, through written or spoken words, or actions.

**Indecency in Behavior or Appearance:** The act of offending against commonly recognized standards of health, safety, or propriety (including but not limited to necking, petting, fondling, and passionate kissing).

**Insubordination:** The willful failure to respond or carry out a reasonable request by authorized school personnel.

**Littering:** The act of a student not disposing or cleaning up of items no longer needed by the student.

**Loitering:** The act of being in or about any school building or property, or in specifically restricted areas of a school building or property at unauthorized times or without the specific authorization of the school's personnel.

**Misrepresentation:** The act of false identification of a student related to any school activities.

**Obscenity:** Conduct or language which is socially inappropriate due to the maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is pornographic, pervasively lewd and vulgar, or contains indecent or vulgar language.

**Physical Attack:** Causing or attempting to cause physical injury, including sexual assault, to any student or other person on or off school property which includes school sponsored events.

**Plagiarism:** The act of willfully taking the ideas, writing, etc., from another and passing them off as one's own.

**Sexting:** The act of creating, sending, viewing, or receiving sexually explicit images or audio and/or video messages electronically, via cell phone, computer, internet or other electronic device with or without consent of the individual who is subject of the images or messages. Sexting shall also include possessing or storing such images and messages on such electronic devices or in an electronic storage site on the internet, with or without the consent of the individual who is subject of the photograph.

**Sexual Abuse:** The term includes unwanted intentional fondling or touching, either directly or through clothing, of intimate body parts, of any person or any part of the body of a child under 13 years of age.

**Sexual Assault:** The term is commonly identified as “rape” and involves threatened force, attempts at or actual sexual contact, bodily harm, or threats of bodily harm.

**Sexual Harassment:** The act of sexual harassment, whether verbal, non-verbal, or physical.

**Shakedown and/or Strong Arm:** Extorting or attempting to extort money or other property of value by force, intimidation, coercion, or illegal means.

**Tardiness:** The act of lateness to school, class, homeroom, or any other part of the student's schedule.

**Telecommunication/Electronic Devices:** Use of electronic or telecommunication devices which include, but are not limited to pagers and cellular telephones, unless the student has been given permission to use said device by a teacher, administrator, or staff member. Electronic signaling and cellular radio telecommunication devices must be stored out of sight in the “off” mode or unable to transmit or receive communication.

**Theft:** Taking or attempting to take the property of another without consent; the possession of stolen property having knowledge or should have had knowledge that the property was stolen; exerting and/or retaining unauthorized control over the property of another with intent to permanently deprive.

**Threatening or Intimidating Acts or Aggressive Behavior or Acts:** The use of aggressive or assertive words, either written or oral, or actions intended to threaten, injure, provoke, incite, coerce, intimidate, or harass another person, or damage District property or property of another.

**Unauthorized Entry:** The act of entering, or attempting to enter, without permission, with or without force, any rooms, vehicles, and personal property in or on school property.

**Unauthorized Gatherings:** Participating in a gathering that disrupts the educational process (See Disruption and Unauthorized Student Protests).

**Unauthorized Petitions:** The act of presenting or distributing petitions which contain obscenities, libelous statements, and which are not within the bounds of protected free speech.

**Unauthorized Sale or Distribution:** The act of selling or distributing or attempting to sell or distribute any object or substance which has not been authorized for sale or distribution by the building principal to any person on school property.

**Unauthorized Student Protest:** The act of protesting which results in the disruption of or interference of the educational process.

**Unexcused Absence:** The act of unauthorized absences for any portion of the day from school, class, study hall, or any other part of the school day. Unauthorized absences are cumulative by the number of incidents or by unauthorized absences in an individual class.

**Unlawful Drugs and Behavior Altering Substances/ Look-Alikes:** Possession, use, or sale, or the attempted use or sale of any controlled substance, cannabis (including medical marijuana), prescription medicine, alcohol, or look-a-like on District property or at a school sponsored event.

**Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia:** Any device used in or with the consumption of unlawful drugs and behavior altering substances/look-alikes.

**Use/Possession of Tobacco, Smoking Paraphernalia, and E-cigarettes:** Exercise of control or consumption of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, pipes, or smoking tobacco in any other form, including smokeless or "chewing" tobacco.

**Vandalism:** Destroying, damaging, or attempting or threatening, either written or oral, to destroy or damage District property or property at a school sponsored event.

**Weapons/Look-Alikes:** The act of possessing, using, or threatening to use any weapon. The term "weapon" means possession, use, control, or transfer of any object which may be used to cause bodily harm, including but not limited to knives, guns, firearms, rifles, shotguns, brass knuckles, billy clubs, mace, pepper spray, or look-alike thereof. Such items as baseball bats, bottles, locks, pencils, and others may be considered weapons if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm.

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. Detention

7. Saturday School Detention
8. In-school suspension.
9. Community service.
10. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of the personal property that was used to violate school rules.
11. Suspension of bus riding privileges.
12. Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
13. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
14. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for transfer under State law.
15. 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 or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension or expulsion, 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.

#### Definition of Disciplinary Measures

- Detention – A detention may last up to 30-minutes and may occur before school hours, after school hours, or during lunch at the discretion of the administrator. Parents will be given a day’s notice before a student is required to serve a before or after school detention in order to make transportation arrangements. During a detention, students may be required to work on school work, write sentences, or do work around the school, such as general cleaning.
- Saturday School Detention – During a Saturday School Detention, students report for up to 3 hours on a Saturday. Students are expected to bring school work. During a Saturday School Detention, students may be required to work on school work, write sentences, or do work around the school, such as general cleaning.
- In-School Suspension – During an in-school suspension, students report to school during regular hours but spend the day in a designated area separate from the regular classroom. Students are marked present and receive full-credit for any work assigned during an in-school suspension. During an in-school suspension, students may be required to work on school work, write sentences, or do work around the school, such as general cleaning.
- Out-of-School Suspension – During an out-of-school suspension, students may not attend school for a specified number of days. Students may make-up for credit any work missed.



### Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The building principal or designee shall meet with a student returning to school from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or alternative school setting. The goal of this meeting shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusion and shall include an opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make-up missed work for equivalent academic credit.

### Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

### Firearms, Knives, Brass Knuckles & Other Objects Used or Attempted to Be Used to Cause Harm

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 be expelled for a period of not less than one year:

1. A firearm. For the purposes of this Section, "firearm" means 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. The expulsion period may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.
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 expulsion 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

"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 members or affiliation in a gang; or (2) use an 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.

**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.

**Bus Behavior**

Students are expected to follow all school rules while on the bus. Students may be suspended from riding the school 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. Dress properly for the weather.
2. Arrive on time at the bus stop, and stay away from the street while waiting for the bus.
3. 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.
4. Take a seat right away and remain seated facing forward. Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Wait until the bus pulls to a complete stop before standing up. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
  9. 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.
  10. 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.
  11. 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 the building principal.

### **Lunch & Cafeteria Rules**

#### **Lunch Rules**

Students may not leave campus during lunch, except with permission granted by administration or authorized staff. During lunch, students must proceed directly to the cafeteria or designated lunch area, and, after getting their lunch, shall immediately sit in a chair at a table. Students shall remain seated until dismissed, at which point they shall clean the area in which they are seated, dispose of any trash in the appropriate receptacle, and exit the cafeteria to their assigned location. Students shall follow all cafeteria rules during lunch.

#### **Cafeteria Rules**

- Students shall not save seats for other students.
- Students shall walk to lunch and shall be orderly and quiet during lunch.
- Trays shall be stacked neatly after placing silverware in its proper container. No food shall leave the cafeteria.
- Loud talking, yelling, screaming, and other disruptions are prohibited.
- Students shall not throw food, milk cartons or other items.
- Students shall not trade food.
- Students shall follow the instructions of the lunchroom aides and show proper respect toward all cafeteria personnel.
- Students shall remain seated while in the cafeteria except to return to the lunch line or return trays.
- Students shall immediately become silent when staff or presenters make announcements in the cafeteria.
- Students shall report spills and broken containers to cafeteria staff immediately.
- Students shall be dismissed from the cafeteria by the lunch room supervisor.

Misbehavior will result in disciplinary action in according to the school's disciplinary procedures.

**Prevention of & Response to Bullying, Intimidation, & 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 school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, immigration status, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, 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 nonschool-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 (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) 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.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the district complaint manager or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. 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.

**Complaint Managers:**

**Dr. Phil Harrison**  
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217-288-9306  
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**Mr. Brian Allensworth**  
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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*.

**School Dress Code / Student Appearance**

Students are expected to present an appearance that does not disrupt the educational process or interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate. Dress and/or grooming which are not in accordance with reasonable community standards of health, safety, modesty, and decency will be considered inappropriate. Head gear (including bandanas) of any nature will not be worn in any of the education buildings until after 4 pm. Any attire that has logos, pictures, or words of a suggestive nature, inappropriate language, or advertise substances illegal for minors will not be allowed as school attire. Student torsos must be covered at all times. Undergarments must be covered at all times. Shorts/skirts/dresses must be at least fingertip length. Tube tops, halter-tops, or other revealing attire will not be allowed. Straps on dresses and shirts must be at least 1" in width. Students may not wear leggings, tights, or tight-fitting yoga pants unless a fingertip length shirt/skirt/shorts/dress is worn over them.

**Search & 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 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.

Students

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as, purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or district's student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

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.

**Sexual Harassment Prohibited**

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

Sexual harassment of students is prohibited. A person engages in sexual harassment whenever he or she makes sexual advances, requests sexual favors, and/or engages in other verbal or physical conduct, including sexual violence, of a sexual or sex-based nature, imposed on the basis of sex, that:

1. Denies or limits the provision of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or that makes such conduct a condition of a student's academic status; or
2. Has the purpose or effect of:
  - a. Substantially interfering with a student's educational environment;
  - b. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
  - c. Depriving a student of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or
  - d. Making submission to or rejection of such conduct the basis for academic decisions affecting a student.

The terms *intimidating*, *hostile*, and *offensive* include conduct that has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Examples of sexual harassment include touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual

characteristics, and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities. The term *sexual violence* includes a number of different acts. Examples of sexual violence include, but are not limited to, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

**Making a Complaint; Enforcement**

Students are encouraged to report claims or incidents of sexual harassment, teen dating violence or any other prohibited conduct to the nondiscrimination coordinator, building principal, assistant building principal, dean of students, or a complaint manager. A student may choose to report to a person of the student's same sex. Complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible given the need to investigate. Students who make good faith complaints will not be disciplined.

**Nondiscrimination Coordinator:**

**Dr. Phil Harrison**

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**Complaint Managers:**

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

**Video & Audio Monitoring Systems**

A video and/or audio monitoring system may be in use on school busses 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.

**Section 5: Health and Safety**

**Care of Students with Diabetes**

If you 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 campus nurse. 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.

For further information, please contact the campus nurse.

### **Communicable Diseases**

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

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse 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.

### **Head Lice**

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding head lice.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse 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. Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

### **Immunization, Health, Eye, & Dental Examinations**

#### **Required Health Examinations and Immunizations**

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.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student’s exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. 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.

#### Eye Examination

All students entering kindergarten or the school for the first time must present proof by October 15 of the current school year of an eye examination performed within one year. Failure to present proof by October 15, allows the school to hold the student’s report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

#### Dental Examination

All students entering kindergarten, second and sixth 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.

### **Safety Drill Procedures & Conduct**

Safety drills will occur at times established by the building principal. 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 drill, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. Drills will not be preceded by a warning to the students.

### **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 school nurse at your campus.

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 will 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.

### **Student Medication**

The Board of Education of the Salt Fork Community Unit School District 512 strives to deliver medical services in compliance with all state and federal laws. As such, the Board of Education affirms the following regarding the administration of medication at school.

Medication may be given to a child at school in an emergency or, for the critical health and well-being of the student if it is required for the child to remain in daily attendance or, as a necessity. The term medication includes prescription and over the counter medications. The school district retains the discretion to reject requests for administration of medication. If the request is denied, the principal or his/her designee will notify the parent in writing of this decision.

The school district and its employees incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of an “asthma inhaler” or use of an epinephrine auto-injector.

The permission for self-administration of an “asthma inhaler” or use of epinephrine auto-injector is effective the school year for which it is granted and shall be renewed each

school year. Parents or guardians must supply written authorization for self-administration of “asthma inhaler” and supply a prescription label. Physician, physician’s assistant, or advanced practice nurse will supply written authorization for use of epinephrine auto-injector.

#### Procedure for the Administration of Medication

1. The in-school administration of medication to students by appropriate District employees shall be permitted upon satisfaction of the following requirements:
  - A. Written orders are to be provided to the school from a physician detailing the name of the drug, dosage, and the time interval in which the medication is to be taken. The written orders shall be accompanied by the parent’s or guardian’s written consent and waiver of liability. These orders are to be renewed annually: or
  - B. A written request and waiver of liability from the parent or guardian of the pupil to the district requesting that the medication be given at school, the exact dosage and when (time) it is to be given at school, as well as anticipated reaction to the medication, the circumstances under which the medication must be given, the reasons for administration of the medication and telephone number of the student’s physician. These requests shall be considered temporary pending the completion of Part A. Request shall be attached to the Permission for Administering Medication form.
  - C. Medication must be brought to the school in the original container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. The medication will be kept and administered from the original container. The container will be kept at school until medication is completed or more medication is sent.
2. When the conditions contained in Section I of this policy are satisfied, medication shall be administered in the following manner:
  - A. Medication will be left with the school nurse of the person designated by the administration. Inhalers can be self-administered if accompanied by the parent’s written permit and a prescription label. Parent and physician will be notified if self-administration policy is abused.
  - B. A secured area will be provided for the storage of medication. Opportunities should be provided for communication with the pupil, parent and physician regarding the effects of the medication administered during school hours.
  - C. The nurse will maintain a copy of the doctor’s orders and parent’s permission.
3. A copy of this policy shall be distributed to all parents and to all new students upon registration.

## **Section 6: Special Education**

### **Discipline of Students with Disabilities**

#### **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.

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday for whom it is determined that special education services are needed. 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.

**Exemption from Physical Education Requirement (3-12)**

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 school principal.

## **Section 7: General Notices**

### **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.

### **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 principals 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.

### **Equal Opportunity & 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 the building administrator.

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

The school establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Some students may be unable to pay these fees. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit 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 does not exempt a student from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and/or equipment.

Applications for fee waivers may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has been assessed a fee. A student is eligible for a fee waiver if the student currently lives in a household that meets the income guidelines, with the same limits based on the household size, that are used for the federal free meals program.

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.;
- Seasonal employment;
- Emergency situations; or
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

Within 30 days, the building principal will notify the parent/guardian if the fee waiver request has been denied, along with the appropriate appeal process. If you have questions regarding the fee waiver process, you may contact the building principal.

### **Guidelines for Student Distribution of Non-School-Sponsored Publications**

A student or group of students seeking to distribute more than 10 copies of the same material on one or more days to students must comply with the following guidelines:

1. The student(s) must notify the building principal of the intent to distribute, in writing, at least 24 hours before distributing the material. No prior approval of the material is required.
2. The material may be distributed at times and locations selected by the building principal, such as, before the beginning or ending of classes at a central location inside the building.
3. The building principal may impose additional requirements whenever necessary to prevent disruption, congestion, or the perception that the material is school-endorsed.
4. Distribution must be done in an orderly and peaceful manner, and may not be coercive.
5. The distribution must be conducted in a manner that does not cause additional work for school personnel. Students who distribute material are responsible for cleaning up any materials left on school grounds.
6. Students must not distribute material that:
  - a. Will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
  - b. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to, material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
  - c. 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;
  - d. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use; or
  - e. Is primarily prepared by non-students.
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.

A student or group of students seeking to distribute 10 or fewer copies of the same

publication on one or more days to students must distribute such material at times and places and in a manner that will not cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities and in compliance with paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Students are prohibited from accessing and/or distributing at school any pictures, written material, or electronic material, including material from the Internet or from a blog, that:

1. Will cause 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, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
  3. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, or contains indecent and vulgar language;
  4. Is primarily intended for the immediate solicitation of funds; or
  5. Is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes.
- Nothing herein shall be interpreted to prevent the inclusion of material from outside sources or the citation to such sources as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students.

The distribution of non-school-sponsored written material must occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the material is endorsed by the school district.

#### **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 any school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

#### **Internet Acceptable Use**

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

**Acceptable Use** - Access to the electronic network 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** - The use of the electronic network is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. 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 network. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

- a. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
- b. Unauthorized downloading of software, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or de-virused;
- c. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
- d. Using the network for private financial or commercial gain;
- e. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
- f. Hacking or gaining unauthorized access to files, resources, or entities;
- g. Invading the privacy of individuals, that includes the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature including a photograph;
- h. Using another user's account or password;
- i. Posting material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
- j. Posting anonymous messages;
- k. Using the network for commercial or private advertising;
- l. Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material; and
- m. Using the network 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:

- a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
- d. Recognize that email is not private. People who operate the system have access to all email. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- e. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the network 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** - The user agrees to indemnify the School 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.

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

**Vandalism** - 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 computer viruses.

**Telephone Charges** - The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone 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 web or on District websites or file servers without explicit written permission.

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.

**Use of Email** - The District's email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the School District. The School District provides email to aid students as an education tool.

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. Electronic messages transmitted via the School 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 School 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 School District. Users will be held personally responsible for the content of any and all email messages transmitted to external recipients.
- d. Any message received from an unknown sender via the Internet 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.
- e. Use of the School District's email system constitutes consent to these regulations.

#### **Mandated Reporters**

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.

#### **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 Unit Office.

Notification will be given before application of the pesticide. Prior notice is not required if there is imminent threat to health or property.

#### **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. Letters verifying participation in this program are available from the school office upon request.

#### **Sex Education Instruction**

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or course in comprehensive sex education if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The parent or guardian's decision will not be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this Section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene or traditional courses in biology.

Parents or guardians may examine the instructional materials to be used in any district sex education class or course.

### **Sex Offender & Violent Offender Community Notification Laws**

State law requires that all school districts provide parents/guardians with information about sex offenders and violent offenders against youth.

You may find the Illinois Sex Offender Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor/>.

You may find the Illinois Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry on the Illinois State Police's website at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/>.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Student Privacy Protections**

#### **Surveys by Third Parties**

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey

or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.

Parents who object to disclosure of information concerning their child to a third party may do so in writing to the building principal.

#### Surveys Requesting Personal Information

School officials and staff members will not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the school or district) containing one or more of the following items:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
3. Sexual behaviors or attitudes.
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
8. Income other than that required by law to determine program eligibility.

The student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

#### Instructional Material

A student's parent/guardian may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

#### **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 that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes; and electronic recordings made on school buses.

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 15 school 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. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent/guardian or student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. 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 request removal from the student's academic transcript one or more scores received on college entrance examinations.** A parent/guardian or eligible student may ask the District to remove certain scores of college entrance exams from their student's academic transcript. Students often take college entrance examinations multiple times in order to improve their results. Test publishers provide the results from each examination taken to the student's high school. Schools must include each of these scores on the student's transcript, which may result in academic transcripts having multiple scores from a single college entrance exam. A parent/guardian or eligible student may not want certain scores to be sent to postsecondary institutions to which the student applies. To request the removal of scores on college entrance examinations, the parent/guardian or eligible student must submit a written request 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 removed.
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 send 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 person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); 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. 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; 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
  - Gender
  - 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

*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.*

7. **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.** 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 parent/guardian, or student who is 18 years of age or older, request that the information not be disclosed without prior written consent. If you wish to exercise this option, notify the building principal.
8. **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.**
9. **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:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington DC 20202-4605

### **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 school district's policy, is posted on the school district website. Information can also be obtained from the school office.

### **Teacher Qualifications**

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

1. Whether the teacher has met State certification requirement
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status by which State licensing criteria have been waived
3. The teacher's college major
4. Whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees

5. Whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

**Victim of Violent Crime**

If a student is a victim of a violent crime that occurred on school grounds during regular school hours or during a school-sponsored event, the parent/guardian may request a transfer to another public school within the district.