

## BULLYING PREVENTION

The board recognizes the negative impact that bullying has on student health, welfare, safety, and the school's learning environment and prohibits such behavior. Bullying is defined as any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, at a designated school bus stop, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.

Bullying may constitute grounds for detention, suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment, subject to state and federal statutes and the district's student discipline and due process procedures.

Every report of alleged bullying that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the protections of laws against discrimination shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of an ongoing bullying investigation, potential issues of discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged bullying.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement appropriate programs or procedures for the purpose of educating students regarding bullying prevention.

This policy shall be reviewed annually.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-2,137

Cross Reference: 505 Student Discipline

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The board prohibits behavior that has a negative impact on student health, welfare, safety, and the school's learning environment. Incidents of dating violence will not be tolerated on school grounds, in district vehicles, or at school sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.

Dating violence is defined as a pattern of behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner. Dating partner means any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious or long-term.

The district will provide appropriate training to staff and incorporate within its educational program age-appropriate dating violence education that shall include, but not be limited to, defining dating violence, recognizing dating violence warning signs, and identifying characteristics of healthy dating relationships.

Every report of alleged dating violence that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the protections of laws against discrimination shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of an ongoing dating violence investigation, potential issues of discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged dating violence.

This policy shall be published in the student handbook.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-2,141

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

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Legal Reference:      Neb. Statute 79-2,141

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS

Social networks refer to a group of websites and tools on the Internet which support collaboration and sharing of opinions, insights, experiences and perspectives. The content within them, and the functionality of that content, is managed and regulated by the user community itself and not the provider of the network or a third party institution. Typical examples of social networks are blogs, wikis, podcasts, message boards, and social networking sites themselves such as Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, LinkedIn and many others.

The district provides access to social networks strictly for educational purposes toward the support of the district's educational goals and allows their use only for the value they may provide in the context of assigned educational exercises. Students must follow these guidelines when using social networks:

- Any students using social networks must be directly supervised by a teacher or other staff member who is aware of and approves of their attempt to access such a site. Only sites not blocked by the district technology department may be used.
- Students shall not reveal their name or personally identifiable information to, or establish relationships on the Internet unless a parent or teacher has coordinated the communication.
- Students who utilize social networking for educational purposes shall be aware of and familiar with privacy options on the social networking site, and shall set those options to limit access to personal information to "friends" only.
- Students and parents shall be aware, however, that privacy options alone can never fully protect personal information. If a student shares personal information with "friends," those friends may share that information with others. With this in mind, students shall carefully consider what information is posted online.
- Photos posted on social networking sites as a part of educational exercises shall NOT contain other students. Permission, either spoken or in writing, should be granted from any adults before posting their pictures.
- Teachers and other adult staff have been advised NOT to "friend" students on social networking sites. Students are given the same advice toward teachers. Remember that teachers are ethically and legally bound to report any activity in which a student may be breaking the law or may be in danger of hurting him/herself or others.
- All policies and guidelines regarding student behavior in general apply when using social networks, including all guidelines under the district's Acceptable Use of Computers policy and all district rules relating to harassment, bullying and behavior disruptive to the educational environment.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## SUICIDE AWARENESS

The board wishes to ensure that appropriate staff training for suicide awareness and prevention as required by state statutes is conducted on an annual basis. All district nurses, teachers, counselors, school psychologists, administrators, school social workers, and any other appropriate personnel shall receive at least one hour of such training each year.

The training should include such topics as how to identify appropriate mental health services both within the school and also within the larger community, and when and how to refer youth and their families to those services.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement and monitor this training.

Legal Reference: 2014 LB 923

Approved 9-10-14 Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT

It is the the policy of this district to comply with federal law and regulations under Title IX prohibiting sexual harassment, which is a form of unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex. The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that it operates, including admission and employment. Inquiries about the application of Title IX to the District may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator, to the Regional Office of Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both.

The Board encourages students, employees and third parties who believe they or others have been subject to Title IX sexual harassment, other discrimination or retaliation to promptly report such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator or building principal, even if some elements of the related incident took place or originated away from school grounds, school activities or school conveyances. A person who is not an intended victim or target of discrimination but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination with the Title IX Coordinator.

The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's Title IX Coordinator and may or may not have the same person serve as Compliance Coordinator:

Title: Sonia Rittcher, K-12 School Counselor  
Office address: 101 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Elgin, NE 68636  
Email: [sonia.rittcher@elgineagles.org](mailto:sonia.rittcher@elgineagles.org)  
Phone number: 402-843-2455

Other district employees filling key roles for implementing Title IX sexual harassment procedures include investigator(s), decision-maker(s), individuals to handle appeals, and individuals to facilitate an informal resolution process. Specific individuals filling these roles may vary from complaint to complaint as appropriate.

The Director of the Regional Office of Civil Rights can be contacted at the Kansas Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, Suite 320, Kansas City, MO 64106, (816) 268-0550, by email to [OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov).

The district is committed to providing a nondiscriminatory workplace for employees. It is committed to the maintenance of a safe, positive learning environment for all students by providing student course offerings, counseling, assistance, services, employment, athletics, and extracurricular activities without any form of discrimination, including Title IX sexual harassment. Discrimination is inconsistent with the rights of employees and students and the educational and programmatic goals of the district and is prohibited at or, in the course of, district-sponsored programs or activities, including transportation to or from school or school-sponsored activities.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

The student's parents/guardian or any other person with knowledge of conduct that may violate this policy is encouraged to immediately report the matter to the building principal. A school employee who suspects or is notified that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the building principal, as well as properly making any mandatory police or child protective services reports required by law.

Violations of this policy, including acts of retaliation as described in this policy, or knowingly providing false information, may result in disciplinary consequences under applicable Board policy and procedures.

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, at any time, including during non-business hours. Such a report may be made in person, by mail, by telephone or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report.

For purposes of this policy and the grievance process, "Title IX sexual harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A District employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
3. "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 USC 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(8) or "stalking" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(30). These definitions are included in the procedures to this policy.

Such conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity and against a person in the United States to qualify as sexual harassment under Title IX. An education program or activity includes the locations, events, or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the harassment occurs. Title IX applies to all of a district's education programs or activities, whether such programs or activities occur on-campus or off-campus.

When the alleged harassment or discrimination does not meet the Title IX definition of sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator directs the individual to the applicable process for investigation.

### Retaliation Prohibited

The District prohibits intimidation, threats, coercion or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or this policy, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation proceeding or hearing, or acted in opposition to practices the person reasonably believes to be discriminatory, if applicable. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges against an individual for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, but arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or complaint of sex discrimination, or a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or this part, constitutes retaliation.

### Confidentiality

The District must keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment, any individual who has been alleged to be the victim or perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment, and any witness, except as may be permitted by Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or as required by law, or to carry out the purposes of the Title IX regulations, including the conduct of any investigation, hearing or judicial proceeding arising under the regulations.

### Notice Requirements

The District provides notice to applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians of elementary and secondary school students, employees and the union(s) holding collective bargaining agreements with the district with the name or title, office address, email address and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator and notice of the District grievance procedures and process, including how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to file a formal complaint of sexual harassment and how the District will respond. The District also posts the Title IX Coordinator's contact information and Title IX policies and procedures in a prominent location on the District website and in all handbooks made available by the District.

### Training Requirements

The District ensures that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, receives training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process including examination of evidence, handling hearings, appeals and informal resolution processes, when applicable, how to address complaints that do not qualify as Title IX sexual harassment, and how to serve impartially including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest



and bias. The District also ensures that decision-makers and investigators receive training on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant as set forth in the formal procedures that follow, and training on any technology to be used at a live hearing, if applicable. Investigators also receive training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence. All materials used to train individuals who receive training under this section must not rely on sex stereotypes and must promote impartial investigations and judgments of formal complaints of sexual harassment and are made publicly available on the District's website.

#### Conflict of Interest and Bias

The District ensures that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent.

#### Determination of Responsibility

The individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment is presumed not responsible for alleged conduct. A determination regarding responsibility will be made by the decision-maker at the conclusion of the investigation in accordance with the process outlined in the accompanying regulation. No disciplinary sanctions will be imposed unless and until a final determination of responsibility is reached.

#### Other Title IX Coordinator Duties

The Title IX Coordinator, along with the Compliance Coordinator, shall fulfill designated responsibilities to ensure adequate nondiscrimination procedures are in place, to recommend new procedures or modifications to procedures and to monitor the implementation of the district's nondiscrimination procedures in the following areas, as appropriate:

1. Curriculum and Materials - Review of curriculum guides, textbooks, and supplemental materials for discriminatory bias.
2. Training - Provide training for students and staff to prevent, identify and alleviate problems of discrimination.
3. Resources - Maintain and provide information to staff on resources available to complainants in addition to the school complaint procedure or Title IX procedures, such as making reports to the police, available supportive measures such as assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs and community health resources including counseling resources.

4. Review - Review of personnel practices and actions for discriminatory bias and compliance with laws against discrimination to include monitoring and recommending corrective measures when appropriate to written position qualifications, job descriptions and essential job functions; recruitment materials and practices; procedures for screening applicants; application and interviewing practices for hiring and promotions; district designed performance evaluations; review of planned employee demotions, non-renewal of contracts, and proposed employee disciplinary actions up to and including termination.
5. Student Access - Review of programs, activities, and practices to ensure that all students have equal access and are not segregated except when permissible by law or regulation.
6. District Support - Assure that like aspects of the school programs and activities receive like support as to staffing and compensation, facilities, equipment, and related areas.
7. Student Evaluation - Review of assessments, procedures, and guidance and counseling materials for stereotyping and discrimination.
8. Reports/Formal Complaints - Monitor and provide technical assistance to individuals involved in managing informal reports and formal complaints.

Legal Reference: Civil Rights Act, Title VI; 42 USC 2000d et seq.  
Civil Rights Act, Title VII; 42 USC 2000e et seq.  
Education Amend. of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.  
Exec. Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375  
Equal Pay Act; 29 USC 206  
34 CFR part 106

Cross Reference: 103.00 Equal Educational Opportunity  
402.01 Equal Opportunity Employment  
402.15 Staff Conduct with Students  
403.02 Child Abuse Reporting  
403.03 Abuse of Students by School District Employees  
404.06 Harassment by Employees  
405.00 Employee Conduct and Appearance  
501.00 Objectives for Equal Educ. Opportunities for Students  
504.03 Student Conduct  
504.14 Hazing, Initiation, Secret Societies or Gang Activity  
504.18 Harassment by Students  
504.20 Bullying Prevention  
504.21 Dating Violence Prevention  
505.03 Suspension and Expulsion of Students  
612.05 Individualized Education Program  
612.10 Procedural Safeguards

## TITLE IX REPORTING FORM

The Board declares it to be the policy of this district to provide a safe, positive learning and working environment that is free from bullying, hazing, dating violence, sexual harassment and other discrimination, and retaliation. If you have experienced, or if you have knowledge of, any such actions, we encourage you to complete this form. The Title IX Coordinator will be happy to support you by answering any questions about the report form, reviewing the report form for completion and assisting as necessary with completion of the report. The Title IX Coordinator's contact information is:

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Retaliation Prohibited**

The district, its employees and others are prohibited from intimidating, threatening, coercing, or discriminating against you for filing this report. Please contact the Title IX Coordinator immediately if you believe retaliation has occurred.

### **Confidentiality**

Confidentiality of all parties, witnesses, the allegations and the filing of a report shall be handled in accordance with applicable law, regulations, Board policy, procedures, and the district's legal and investigative obligations. The school will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the report, consistent with a request for confidentiality as long as doing so does not preclude the school from responding effectively to the report. If you have any questions regarding how the information contained in this report may be used, please discuss them with the Title IX Coordinator prior to filing the report. Once this report is filed, the district has an obligation to investigate the information provided.

***Note:** For purposes of Title IX sexual harassment, this Report Form serves initially as an informal report, not a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment under Title IX.*

**I. Information About the Person Making This Report:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

School Building: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a:

☐ Student    ☐ Parent/Guardian    ☐ Employee    ☐ Volunteer    ☐ Visitor

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (please explain relationship to the district)

If you are not the victim of the reported conduct, please identify the alleged victim:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The alleged victim is: ☐ Your Child    ☐ Another Student    ☐ A District Employee

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (please explain relationship to the alleged victim)

**II. Information About the Person(s) You Believe is/are Responsible for the Bullying, Hazing, Harassing or Other Discrimination You are Reporting**

Please record the name(s) of the individual(s) you believe to be responsible for the conduct you are reporting.

Name(s):

**The reported individual(s) is/are:**

☐ Student(s)    ☐ Employee(s)

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (please explain relationship to the district)

### **III. Description of the Conduct You are Reporting**

In your own words, please do your best to describe the conduct you are reporting as clearly as possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary:

When did the reported conduct occur? (Please provide the specific date(s) and time(s) if possible):

Where did the reported conduct take place?

Please provide the name(s) of any person(s) who was/were present, even if for only part of the time.

Please provide the name(s) of any other person(s) that may have knowledge or related information surrounding the reported conduct.

Have you reported this conduct to any other individual prior to giving this report?

☐ Yes      ☐ No

If yes, who did you tell about it?

If you are the victim of the reported conduct, how has this affected you?

I affirm that the information reported above is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Making the Report

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Received By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

***This section is to be completed by the Title IX Coordinator based on reviewing the report with the complainant or other individual making the report.***

***The purpose of this form is to assist the Title IX Coordinator in gathering information necessary to properly assess the circumstances surrounding the reported conduct to determine if the allegations fall under the definition of Title IX sexual harassment or if the matter merits review and action under other Board policies. The Title IX Coordinator shall gather as much information as possible in cases of incomplete or anonymous reports to assess the report.***

***Upon receipt of the report, The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant regarding the report to gather additional information as necessary, and to discuss the availability of supportive measures as described in Policy 504.24. The Title IX Coordinator shall consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures.***

**I. Reporter Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

School Building: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporter is a:

☐ Student      ☐ Parent/Guardian      ☐ Employee      ☐ Volunteer      ☐ Visitor

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (please explain relationship to the district)

If the reporter is not the victim of the reported conduct, please identify the alleged victim:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The alleged victim is: ☐ Reporter's Child      ☐ Another Student      ☐ Another Employee

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (please explain relationship to the alleged victim)

**II. Respondent Information**

Please state the name(s) of the individual(s) believed to have conducted the reported violation:

Name(s):

**The reported respondent(s) is/are:**

- ☐ Student(s)      ☐ Employee(s)
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (please explain relationship to the district)

**III. Level of Report:**

- ☐ Informal      ☐ Formal (see additional information below on Title IX formal complaints)

**IV. Type of Report:**

- ☐ Title IX Sexual Harassment      ☐ Discrimination      ☐ Retaliation      ☐ Bullying
- ☐ Hazing      ☐ Dating Violence      ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Nature of the Report (check all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race                | <input type="checkbox"/> Age                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color               | <input type="checkbox"/> Creed                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sex                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Harassment (Title IX) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Origin     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ancestry                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marital Status      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handicap/Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Bullying                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazing              | <input type="checkbox"/> Dating Violence              |

**V. Reported Conduct**

Describe the reported conduct below, including specific actions, dates, times, locations and any other details necessary to properly assess the reported incident(s).



How often did the conduct occur?

Is it being repeated? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do the circumstances involve a student identified as a student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act?

☐ No.

☐ Yes, please identify the student with a disability and contact the Director of Special Education.

Special Education Director was contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

How has the conduct affected the alleged victim's ability to fully participate in the school's academic, programs, activities or school employment?

What is the alleged victim's relationship with the alleged respondent?

Insert names, descriptions, and/or contact information of individuals believed to have observed the conduct or who otherwise may have knowledge of the conduct and/or related circumstances.

Additional observations or evidence including pictures, texts, emails, video or other information submitted to the Title IX Coordinator.

## **VI. Safety Concerns**

Are there safety concerns that may require Emergency Removal of or Administrative Leave for a respondent? (This requires an individualized safety and risk analysis as to whether there is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of a student or other individual.)

☐ No.

☐ Yes, please describe:

**VII. Other Reports**

Has the conduct been reported to the police or any other agency?

☐ No

☐ Yes      Date reported: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**VIII. Identification of Policies Implicated by Reported Conduct**

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Policy 103.00 Equal Educational Opportunity
- ☐ Policy 501.00 Equal Opportunity
- ☐ Policy 504.14 Hazing and Initiation
- ☐ Policy 504.18 Harassment (Students)
- ☐ Policy 504.24 Title IX Sexual Harassment
- ☐ Policy 504.20 Bullying
- ☐ Policy 504.21 Dating Violence
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

To meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment, the conduct must have taken place during a district education program or activity involving a person in the United States. An **education program or activity** includes the locations, events or circumstances over which the district exercises substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs. Title IX applies to all of a district's education programs or activities, whether such programs or activities occur on-campus or off-campus.

Did the incident occur during a during a school program or activity involving a person in the United States?

☐ Yes

☐ No

To meet the definition of Title IX sexual harassment, the conduct needs to satisfy one or more of the following (please check all that apply):

- ☐ A district employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or district service on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct, commonly referred to as quid pro quo sexual harassment.
- ☐ Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to a district education program or activity.

☐ Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking.

**Dating violence** means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors:

- Length of relationship.
- Type of relationship.
- Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

**Domestic violence** includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

**Sexual assault** means a sexual offense under a state or federal law that is classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**Stalking** means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means to engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either:

1. Fear for their safety or the safety of others.
2. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

## **IX. Recommended Course of Action**

After consultation with the complainant and consideration of the reported information, the Title IX Coordinator directs the report to proceed under the provisions of (check all that apply):

- ☐ No further action at this time. Reason:
- ☐ Policy 103.00 Equal Educational Opportunity
- ☐ Policy 501.00 Equal Opportunity
- ☐ Policy 504.14 Hazing and Initiation
- ☐ Policy 504.18 Harassment (Students)
- ☐ Policy 504.24 Title IX Sexual Harassment
- ☐ Policy 504.20 Bullying
- ☐ Policy 504.21 Dating Violence
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **X. Title IX Information to Complainant**

What supportive measures were discussed with the complainant, and what were the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures?

Upon designating a course of action under Title IX sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly:

1. Explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.
2. Inform the complainant of the continued availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint.
3. The Title IX Coordinator shall contact a student complainant's parents/guardians and provide them with information regarding the report and Title IX sexual harassment procedures and grievance process for formal complaints.

If the complainant/reporter, school staff or others with professional knowledge relating to the complainant's health and well-being indicate that notifying the parents/guardians could cause serious harm to the health or well-being of the complainant or other person(s), the Title IX Coordinator will determine, in consultation with such individuals and upon advice of legal counsel, whether to withhold or delay notification of the report from the complainant's parents/guardians.

4. Determine what supportive measures may be offered to the respondent.
5. Determine whether the complainant wishes this report to be treated as a formal complaint.

**XI. Title IX Coordinator Signature**

I recommend the above course of action based on my consultation with the complainant and the information available at this time.

Title IX Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**XII. Title IX Formal Complaint Action**

The Title IX Coordinator shall have the complainant check the appropriate box and sign and date below to indicate whether or not the complainant wishes to have this form serve as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX.

I would like my report to be treated as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Complainant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If the complainant does not wish this report to be treated as a formal complaint pursuant to Title IX, the Title IX Coordinator must assess whether actions limited to supportive measures are a sufficient response to alleged behavior, or whether a formal complaint process is necessary to investigate and address the situation adequately. For example, if disciplinary action would be warranted if allegations are true, if the respondent is an employee, or if further investigation is needed to assess the extent of the behavior and impact on others, it may be clearly unreasonable not to initiate the formal complaint process. The Title IX Coordinator may consult with the school solicitor and other district officials in making this decision.

As Title IX Coordinator, I have determined that, notwithstanding the complainant's preference, it is necessary to proceed with the Title IX Sexual Harassment Formal Complaint for the following reasons:

Therefore, I am signing this form for the purpose of serving as the formal complaint initiating that process:

Title IX Coordinator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT PROCEDURES

The Board requires the following procedures to be followed for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that would be prohibited as sexual harassment by Title IX. The Board directs the process to be published in accordance with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

### Definitions

The following definitions apply for Title IX policies and procedures:

“Actual knowledge:” notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to the District’s Title IX Coordinator or any official of the District who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the District, or to any employee of an elementary or secondary school.

“Education program or activity:” includes locations, events or circumstances over which the District exercised substantial control over both the individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment, and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs.

“Complainant:” an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

“Respondent:” an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

“Formal complaint:” a document filed by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a Respondent and requesting that the District investigate the allegation of sexual harassment.

“Supportive measures:” non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available and without fee or charge to the Complainant or Respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed.

For purposes of this policy and the grievance process, “Title IX sexual harassment” means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A District employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual’s participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District’s education program or activity; or

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3. "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 USC 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(8) or "stalking" as defined in 34 USC 12291(a)(30). These definitions are included in the procedures to this policy.

A. "Dating violence" means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship is determined by the following factors:

i. Length of relationship.

ii. Type of relationship.

iii. Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

B. "Domestic violence" includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving federal funding, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

C. "Sexual assault" means a sexual offense under state or federal law that is classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

D. "Stalking," under Title IX means stalking on the basis of sex, for example when the stalker desires to date a victim. Stalking means to engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to either:

i. Fear for their safety or the safety of others.

ii. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

#### District Requirements

When the District has actual knowledge of sexual harassment in an education program or activity of the District, the District will respond promptly in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent. When the harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex does not meet the definition of sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator will direct the individual to the applicable sex discrimination process for investigation.

The District treats individuals who are alleged to be the victim (Complainant) and perpetrator (Respondent) of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment equitably by offering supportive

measures. Supportive measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the District's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include counseling or employee assistance program, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the District's property, campus escort services, assistance from domestic violence or rape crisis programs, assistance from community health resources, changes in work locations and other similar measures.

For students, supportive measures may also include assessments or evaluations to determine eligibility for special education or related services, or the need to review an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Service Agreement based on a student's behavior. This could include, but is not limited to, a manifestation determination or functional behavioral assessment (FBA), in accordance with applicable law, regulations or Board policy.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures. Upon the receipt of a complaint, the Title IX Coordinator must promptly contact the Complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the Complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the Complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explain to the Complainant the process for filing a formal complaint. If the District does not provide the Complainant with supportive measures, then the District must document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

### Timelines

The District has established reasonably prompt time frames for the conclusion of the grievance process, including time frames for filing and resolving appeals and informal resolution processes. The grievance process may be temporarily delayed or extended for good cause. Good cause may include considerations such as the absence of a party, a party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities. In the event the grievance process is temporarily delayed for good cause, the District will provide written notice to the Complainant and the Respondent of the delay or extension and the reasons for the action.

### Response to a Formal Complaint

At the time of filing a formal complaint, a Complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the District with which the formal complaint is filed. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, by electronic mail, or other means designated by the District. The District must follow the formal complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures.

Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the District must provide written notice to the known parties including:

1. Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment, including information about the identities of the parties involved in the incident, the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment, the date and location of the alleged incident, and any sufficient details known at the time. Such notice must be provided with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview;
2. An explanation of the District's investigation procedures, including any informal resolution process;
3. A statement that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility will be made by the decision-maker at the conclusion of the investigation;
4. Notice to the parties that they may have an advisor of their choice who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and may inspect and review any evidence and
5. Notice to the parties of any provision in the District's code of conduct or policy that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information.

If, in the course of an investigation, the District decides to investigate allegations about the Complainant or Respondent that are not included in the notice initially provided, notice of the additional allegations must be provided to known parties.

The District may consolidate formal complaints as to allegations of sexual harassment against more than one Respondent, or by more than one Complainant against one or more Respondents, or by one party against the other party, where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances.

#### Emergency Response Measures

Nothing in this policy precludes the District from removing a Respondent from the District's education program or activity on an emergency basis, provided that the District undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis, determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal, and provides the Respondent with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal. Nor does it preclude the District from placing a non-student employee Respondent on administrative leave while awaiting the determination of the complaint procedures. This provision may not be construed to modify any rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Americans with Disabilities Act.

### Investigation of a Formal Complaint

When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the grievance process, the District must:

1. Ensure that the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on the District and not the parties;
2. Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses and evidence;
3. Not restrict either party's ability to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;
4. Allow the parties to be accompanied with an advisor of the party's choice who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney. The District may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties;
5. Provide written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of any interview or meeting at which a party is expected to participate, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate;
6. Provide the parties equal access to review all the evidence collected which is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint and comply with the review periods outlined in this process;
7. Objectively evaluate all relevant evidence without relying on sex stereotypes;
8. Ensure that Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and individuals who facilitate an informal resolution process, do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent;
9. Not make credibility determinations based on the individual's status as Complainant, Respondent or witness;
10. Not use questions or evidence that constitute or seek disclosure of privileged information unless waived.

### Dismissal of Formal Complaints

If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment even if proved, did not occur in the District's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the District must dismiss the formal complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of sexual harassment under this policy.

The Title IX Coordinator also may dismiss the formal complaint or any allegations therein at any time during the investigation or hearing, if applicable, when any of the following apply:

1. A Complainant provides written notification to the Title IX Coordinator that the Complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein;
2. The Respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the District; or
3. Specific circumstances prevent the District from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

Upon dismissal, the Title IX Coordinator promptly sends written notice of the dismissal and the reasons for dismissal simultaneously to both parties.

#### Evidence Review

The District provides both parties an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation. The evidence provided by the District must include evidence that is directly related to the allegations in the formal complaint, evidence upon which the District does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and any inculpatory or exculpatory evidence whether obtained from a party or other source. Prior to completion of the investigative report, the Title IX Coordinator must send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy. The parties have 10 calendar days to submit a written response to the Title IX Coordinator, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report.

#### Investigative Report

The investigator must prepare an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and send the report to the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator must send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the investigative report in an electronic format or a hard copy, for their review and written response. The parties have 10 calendar days to submit a written response to the Title IX Coordinator.

#### Decision-Maker's Determination

The investigative report is submitted to the decision-maker. The decision-maker cannot be the same person(s) as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator. The decision-maker cannot hold a hearing or make a determination regarding responsibility until 10 calendar days from the date the Complainant and Respondent receive the investigator's report.

Prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the decision-maker must afford each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness, provide each party with the answers, and allow for additional, limited follow-up

questions from each party. Questions and evidence about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the Complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent. Questions must be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator within three calendar days from the date the Complainant and Respondent receive the investigator's report.

The decision-maker must issue a written determination regarding responsibility based on a preponderance of the evidence standard. The decision-maker's written determination must:

1. Identify the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
2. Describe the procedural steps taken, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
3. Include the findings of fact supporting the determination;
4. Draw conclusions regarding the application of any District policies and/or code of conduct rules to the facts;
5. Address each allegation and a resolution of the complaint including a determination regarding responsibility, the rationale therefor, any recommended disciplinary sanction(s) imposed on the Respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve access to the educational program or activity will be provided by the District to the Complainant and
6. The procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant and/or Respondent to appeal the determination.

A copy of the written determination must be provided to both parties simultaneously, and generally will be provided within 60 calendar days from the District's receipt of a formal complaint.

The determination regarding responsibility becomes final either on the date that the District provides the parties with the written determination of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed, or if an appeal is not filed, the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely.

Where a determination of responsibility for sexual harassment has been made against the Respondent, the District will provide remedies to the Complainant that are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity. Such remedies may include supportive measures; however, remedies need not be non-disciplinary or non-punitive and need not avoid burdening the Respondent. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any remedies. Following any determination of responsibility, the District may

implement disciplinary sanctions in accordance with State or Federal law and or/the negotiated agreement.

A student who is determined to be responsible for violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with school policies and regulations, which may include but is not limited to loss of school privileges, permanent transfer to another school building, classroom or school bus, exclusion from school-sponsored activities, detention, suspension, expulsion, or referral to law enforcement officials.

An employee who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the applicable Board policy, collective bargaining agreement and individual contract, up to and including dismissal and/or referral to law enforcement officials.

### Appeals

Either the Complainant or Respondent may appeal the decision-maker's determination regarding responsibility or a dismissal of a formal complaint, on the following bases:

1. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
2. New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time that could affect the outcome; and
3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decision-maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome.

The request to appeal must be made in writing to the Title IX Coordinator within seven calendar days after the date of the written determination. The appeal decision-maker must not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent and cannot be the Title IX Coordinator, the investigator, or the decision-maker from the original determination.

The appeal decision-maker must notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed and give both parties a reasonable equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome. After reviewing the evidence, the appeal decision-maker must issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result. The decision must be provided to both parties simultaneously, and generally will be provided within 10 calendar days from the date the appeal is filed.

### Informal resolution process

Except when concerning allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student, at any time during the formal complaint process and prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility, the District may facilitate an informal resolution process, such as mediation, that

does not involve a full investigation and determination of responsibility, provided that the District:

1. Provides to the parties a written notice disclosing:
  - A. The allegations;
  - B. The requirements of the informal resolution process including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the Title IX formal complaint process with respect to the formal complaint and
  - C. Any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared.
2. Obtains the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process.

The informal resolution process generally will be completed within 30 calendar days unless the parties and the Title IX Coordinator mutually agree to temporarily delay or extend the process. The formal grievance process timelines are stayed during the parties' participation in the informal resolution process. If the parties do not reach resolution through the informal resolution process, the parties will resume the formal complaint grievance process, including timelines for resolution, at the point they left off.

#### Recordkeeping

The District must maintain for a period of seven years records of:

1. Each sexual harassment investigation, including any determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the Respondent, and any remedies provided to the Complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity;
2. Any appeal and its result;
3. Any informal resolution and its result; and
4. All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process. The District must make these training materials publicly available on its website.

The District must create, and maintain for a period of seven years, records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment. In each instance, the District must document the basis for its conclusion that its



response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity.

## DETENTION OF STUDENTS

The provisions of detention or an in-school suspension program for student violations of policies, rules and procedures shall provide principals with an additional alternative for dealing with disciplinary problems that occur in the schools. When this alternative is appropriate, students will be assigned to serve a specified time period in the in-school suspension program. These assignments, and the determination of the time period for them, shall be determined by the principal, or his or her designee.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-254 et seq. (Student Discipline Act)

Cross Reference: 504.01 Student Due Process Rights

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## SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION OF STUDENTS

The authority to suspend for a "short term" and to propose an "extended term" suspension and/or expulsion is delegated to the principal or his or her designee. A short-term suspension shall mean the exclusion of a student from school attendance for a period not to exceed five school days. A long-term suspension means the exclusion of a student from school attendance for a period exceeding five school days but less than twenty school days.

The provisions of this section apply to all pupils enrolled in the school district. When considering possible courses of action for special education students in regard to alleged violations of school rules, policies, and regulations, procedural due process rights guaranteed under applicable Federal and State statutes are applicable. The school district is obligated to see that every special education student is provided an appropriate educational program without cost to the parent. Conversely, schools are not required to maintain pupils who are a danger to themselves or others in regular attendance centers.

Suspension from classes or school will not be carried out unless the student while subject to school authority:

1. uses violence, force, threat or intimidation in a manner causing substantial interference with school purposes; or
2. causes or attempts to cause substantial damage to school or private property or steals or attempts to steal school or private property of substantial value; or
3. causes or attempts to cause physical injury to another person except in selfdefense; or threatens or intimidates any student for the purpose or intent of obtaining something of value from the student; or
4. possesses or transmits any firearm, knife, explosive or other dangerous object that is ordinarily considered a weapon; or
5. engages in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in section 28-401, a substance represented to be a controlled substance, or alcoholic liquor as defined in section 53-103 or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor; or
6. commits public indecency as defined in Nebraska statute 28-806 if that student is at least twelve years of age but less than nineteen years of age; or
7. commits or attempts to commit sexual assault against any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor alleging the incident as required in Nebraska statute 79-267.8; or
8. engages in bullying as defined in section 79-2,137; or
9. engages in any other illegal activity which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes; or
10. repeatedly violates the policies, rules and standards of student conduct established by the district.

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A given suspension will be for a period of time not to exceed 5 school days. A student will be informed of the charges against him or her and, if the student denies them, an explanation of the evidence will be given and the student will be given an opportunity to refute the charges. No time delay is necessary between the time a pupil is notified of the charges and the time of the hearing before the principal.

Guidelines to ensure that students are afforded due process during a suspension or proposed suspension from school will be developed. The procedural rules, regulations and guidelines will be approved by the Board of Education and made known to students, parents and school staff.

Every report of alleged violations of student conduct policies that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the protections of laws against discrimination shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of an ongoing student conduct investigation, potential issues of discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged violations of student conduct policies.

Administrative procedures complying with the Student Discipline Act shall also be in place to ensure due process to the student should the principal decide to administer a long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment.

Emergency Exclusion: Any student may be excluded from school in the following circumstances:

- 1) If the student has a dangerous communicable disease transmissible through normal school contacts and poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of the school community; or
- 2) If the student's conduct presents a clear threat to the physical safety of himself, herself, or others, or is so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education.

Such an emergency exclusion shall be based upon a clear factual situation warranting it and shall last not longer than is necessary to avoid the dangers described above.

If the emergency exclusion will be for five days or less, the procedures for a short-term suspension shall be followed. If the superintendent or his or her designee determines that such emergency exclusion shall extend beyond five days, a hearing will be held and a final determination made within ten school days after the initial date of exclusion. Such procedure shall substantially comply with the procedures set forth in state statutes 79-266 to 287 for a long-term suspension or expulsion and be modified only to the extent necessary to accomplish the hearing and determination within this shorter time period.

The principal should make a reasonable effort to contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a suspended student by telephone or to communicate to them directly regarding the specific

4. A description of the hearing procedures, along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing;
5. A statement the principal, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's parent or representative or guardian has the right;
  - A. to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct and;
  - B. to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony;
6. A form on which the student or the student's parent/guardian may request a hearing.

#### Violations of Law Relating to Suspensions or Expulsions

1. Student violations or suspected violations of Nebraska law will be reported to law enforcement as soon as possible. Conduct to be reported for law enforcement referral includes conduct that may constitute a felony, conduct which may constitute a threat to the safety or well-being of students or others in school programs and activities, and conduct that the legal system is better equipped to address than school officials. Student violations of school policy that are not apparent violations of law will be addressed by school administrators without reporting them to law enforcement. Administrators should consider the student's maturity, and known behavioral, emotional or mental disorders, if applicable. It will be the responsibility of the referring administrator to contact the student's parent that a referral to legal authorities has been or will be made, if applicable.

On or before August 1 the school board will annually review the reporting guidelines above with the County Attorney. These shall be distributed to all parents and guardians and their students at the beginning of each school year, or at the time of enrollment if during the school year. The guidelines shall also be posted conspicuously in each school during the school year.

2. Except in instances of suspected child abuse, when a principal or designee releases a minor student to a law enforcement officer for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, immediate steps shall be taken to notify the parent, guardian, or other relative having control of the minor about the minor's release to the officer and about the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken. In cases of suspected child abuse, the principal or designee will provide the law enforcement officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.

Supplemental to these procedures, a special education student must be provided with additional procedures. A determination should be made of whether the student is actually guilty of the misconduct. A staffing team should determine whether the student's behavior is caused by the student's disability and whether the conduct is the result of inappropriate placement. Discussions and conclusions of this meeting should be recorded.

If the special education student's conduct is not caused by the disability, the student may be expelled or suspended for a longterm period following written notice to the parent and pursuant to the school district's expulsion hearing procedures. If the misconduct is caused by the disability and a change in placement is recommended, the change must be made pursuant to the placement procedures used by the school district.

Legal Reference:

Neb. Statute 28-1204.04

79-254 et seq. (Student Discipline Act)

20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq. (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

34 C.F.R. §§ 104.1 et seq.

34 C.F.R. §§ 300 et seq.

Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).

Wood v. Strickland, 420 U.S. 308 (1975)

Cross Reference:

504 Student Rights and Responsibilities

505 Student Discipline

## FINES FOR LOST OR DAMAGED ITEMS

The board believes students should respect school district property and assist in its preservation for future use by others. Students may be assessed fines for damage beyond normal wear to the materials needed in a course, for overdue school materials, or for misuse of school property. The charges shall not exceed the actual cost of the materials or equipment incurring damage. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to implement this policy. All fines will be assessed at either market value of the property or repair replacement cost of actual item.

Legal Reference:               Neb. Statute 79-2,127  
  79-734 to 79-737

Cross Reference:             504     Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

***This policy outlines when it may be appropriate for an employee to physically restrain a student.***

Corporal punishment is defined as the intentional physical punishment of a student and is prohibited. It includes the use of unreasonable or unnecessary physical force or physical contact made with the intent to harm or cause pain. An employee may:

1. Use reasonable and necessary force, not designed or intended to cause pain, in order to accomplish any of the following:
  - a) To quell a disturbance or prevent an act that threatens physical harm to any person.
  - b) To obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within a pupil's control.
  - c) For the purposes of self-defense or defense of others as provided for in Nebraska Statute 28-1409 and 1410.
  - d) For the protection of property as provided for in Nebraska Statute 28-1411.
  - e) To remove a disruptive pupil from class or any area of school premises or from school-sponsored activities off school premises.
  - f) To protect a student from the self-infliction of harm.
  - g) To protect the safety of others.
2. Use incidental, minor, or reasonable physical contact to maintain order and control.

Reasonable physical force should be commensurate with the circumstances of the situation. The following factors should be considered in using reasonable physical force for the reasons stated in this policy:

1. The size and physical, mental, and psychological condition of the student;
2. The nature of the student's behavior or misconduct provoking the use of physical force;
3. The method used in applying the physical force.
4. The extent and nature of resulting injury to the student, if any;
5. The motivation of the school employee using physical force.

Upon request, the student's parents shall be given an explanation of the reasons for physical force.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy.



Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 28-1409 and 1410  
28-1413  
79-295  
Ingraham v. Wright, 430 U.S. 651 (1977).  
Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).

Cross Reference: 403.03 Abuse of Students by School District Employees  
504 Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION

The board prohibits the use of seclusion and restraint by school personnel except as implemented consistent with this policy. Restraint or seclusion of students will not be used solely as a disciplinary consequence or when a known medical or psychological condition makes its use inadvisable. The superintendent will ensure that district guidelines relating to restraint and seclusion are communicated to school personnel and parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year.

Except in the case of an emergency, only school personnel who have received systematic training in the use of restraint and seclusion in accordance with the district's policy will implement physical restraint or seclusion with a student. In an emergency, a district employee may use physical restraint or seclusion as necessary to maintain order or to prevent a student from causing physical harm to self, other students, and school staff or property. School personnel will continuously monitor a student's status during any physical restraint or seclusion.

### 1. PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Physical restraint means the use of physical force to restrict the free movement of all or a part of a student's body.

Physical restraint will be considered to be a reasonable use of force when used in the following circumstances:

- A. as reasonably needed to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects on the person or within the control of a student;
- B. as reasonably needed to maintain order or to prevent or break up a fight;
- C. as reasonably needed for self-defense;
- D. as reasonably needed to ensure the safety of any student, employee, volunteer, or other person present;
- E. as reasonably needed to teach a skill, to calm or comfort a student, or to prevent self-injurious behavior;
- F. as reasonably needed to escort a student safely from one area to another;
- G. if used as provided for in an IEP, Section 504, or behavior intervention plan; or
- H. as reasonably needed to prevent imminent destruction to school or another person's property.

## **2. MECHANICAL RESTRAINT**

Mechanical restraint means the use of any device or material attached or adjacent to a student's body that restricts freedom of movement or normal access to any portion of the student's body and that the student cannot easily remove. Mechanical restraint includes the tying down, taping, or strapping down of a student.

Mechanical restraint of a student by school personnel is permissible only in the following circumstances:

- A. when properly used as an assistive technology device included in the student's IEP, Section 504, or behavior intervention plan or as otherwise prescribed by a medical or related service provider;
- B. when using seat belts or other safety restraints to secure a student during transportation;
- C. as reasonably needed to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects on the person or within the control of a student;
- D. as reasonably needed for self-defense;
- E. as reasonably needed to ensure the safety of any student, employee, volunteer, or other person.

## **3. SECLUSION**

Seclusion means the confinement of a student alone in an enclosed space from which the student is (a) physically prevented from leaving or (b) incapable of leaving due to physical or intellectual capacity. Seclusion is different than in-school suspension in which other students or adults may be present but in which students are not physically prevented from leaving.

Seclusion of a student by school personnel may be used in the following circumstances:

- A. as reasonably needed to respond to a person in control of a weapon or other dangerous object;
- B. as reasonably needed to maintain order or prevent or break up a fight;
- C. as reasonably needed for self-defense;
- D. as reasonably needed when a student's behavior poses a threat of imminent physical harm to self or others or imminent substantial destruction of school or another person's property; or

- E. when used as specified in the student's IEP, Section 504, or behavior intervention plan; and
- 1) the student is constantly monitored by an adult in close proximity who is able to see and hear the student at all times;
  - 2) the student is released from seclusion upon cessation of the behaviors that led to the seclusion or as otherwise specified in the student's IEP, Section 504, or behavior intervention plan;
  - 3) the confining space has been approved for such use by the local education agency;
  - 4) the space is appropriately lighted, ventilated, and heated or cooled; and
  - 5) the space is free from objects that unreasonably expose the student or others to harm.

#### **4. ISOLATION**

Isolation means a behavior management technique in which a student is placed alone in an enclosed space from which the student is not prevented from leaving. Isolation is different than seclusion.

Isolation is permitted as a behavior management technique provided that:

- A. the isolation space is appropriately lighted, ventilated and heated or cooled;
- B. the duration of the isolation is reasonable in light of the purpose for the isolation;
- C. the student is reasonably monitored; and
- D. the isolation space is free from objects that unreasonably expose the student or others to harm.

#### **5. TIME-OUT**

Time-out means a behavior management technique in which a student is separated from other students for a limited period of time in a monitored setting. Teachers are authorized to use time-out to regulate behavior within their classrooms.

#### **6. NOTICE, REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION**

- A. A district Restraint or Seclusion Report must be completed for each incident of restraint or seclusion other than normal use of mechanical restraint for transportation safety. Each record shall include:

- Name of the student
- Name of the staff member(s) administering the physical restraint or seclusion;
- Date of the incident and the time the restraint or seclusion began and ended;
- Location of the restraint or seclusion;
- A description of the restraint or seclusion;
- A description of the student's activity immediately preceding the behavior that prompted the use of restraint or seclusion;
- A description of the behavior that prompted the use of restraint or seclusion;
- Efforts to de-escalate the situation and alternatives to restraint or seclusion that were attempted; and
- Information documenting parent contact and notification

B. Notice to Administrators

The principal or designee shall be notified of the incident as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the same school day.

C. Notice to Parents

When a principal or designee has personal or actual knowledge of any of the events listed above, he or she shall attempt to promptly notify the student's parent or guardian and shall provide the name of the school employee whom the parent or guardian may contact regarding the incident.

D. Written Report to Parents

Within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 30 days after the incident, the principal or designee shall also provide the parent or guardian with a written incident report. This report must include the following:

- 1) the date, time of day, location, duration, and description of the incident and interventions;
- 2) the events or events that led up to the incident;
- 3) the nature and extent of any injury to the student; and
- 4) the name of a school employee the parent or guardian can contact regarding the incident.

Cross Reference: 403.03 Abuse of Students by School District Employees  
504 Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

505.07F

## RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION FORM

---

Student's Last Name, First Name

---

Teacher's Name

---

Location of Restraint

---

Date of Restraint

---

Time Began

---

Time Ended

---

Staff present during Restraint:  

---

Description of antecedent and behavior leading to restraint:

Description of hold(s) – include 1) specific Safety Care holds used and how long each lasted 2) the staff who participated in each hold(s) and 3) the lead staff member during the hold(s):

Parent Notification: Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Documentation sent home: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Building Principal Signature

---

Date

---

Superintendent Signature

---

Date

## STUDENT ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY

Participation in school activities is a privilege. School activities provide the benefits of promoting additional interests and ability in the students during their school years and for their lifetime.

However, students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school district throughout the calendar year, whether away from school or at school. Students wanting to participate in school activities must meet the requirements set out by the school district for participation in the activity and must conduct themselves in accordance with student conduct policies.

Student activity events must be approved by the superintendent unless they involve unusual travel expense, in which case the board will take action. The events must not disrupt the education program or other school district operations.

Eligibility requirements as published by the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) shall be observed by all students. Additional eligibility requirements may be imposed by the school district at the board's discretion.

Such eligibility requirements shall include good citizenship, acceptable academic standing, parental permission and good health (sports only). All eligibility requirements shall be published in applicable student/parent handbooks.

*The student must maintain satisfactory conduct, as determined by the building principal. (In any event, if the student is convicted of, or is found to have committed, a felony or a delinquent act which would have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether actual court judgment is withheld, the student may be disqualified from participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities.*

Any student who is sanctioned or is found by the school district or NSAA to be ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity may appeal the sanction or finding in accordance with the student due process policy.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for student eligibility.

Legal Reference:           20 U.S.C. Sect.1681-1683; 1685-1686 (1994).  
                                  34 C.F.R. Pt. 106.41 (1993)  
                                  Neb Statute 79-296  
  79-443

Cross Reference:           502    Student Attendance  
                                  504    Student Rights and Responsibilities  
                                  505    Student Discipline  
                                  508    Student Health and Well-Being

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Secondary school student-initiated, noncurriculum-related groups and student curriculum-related groups, upon receiving permission from the principal, may use school facilities for group meetings during non-instructional time.

Non-instructional time shall mean any time before the first period of the day and after the last period of the day in which any student attends class. Meetings shall not interfere with the orderly conduct of the education program or other school district operations. It shall be within the discretion of the principal to determine whether the meetings will interfere with the orderly conduct of the education program or other school district operations. Activities relating to and part of the education program shall have priority over the activities of another organization.

### Curriculum-Related Organizations

It shall also be the responsibility of the principal to determine whether a student group is curriculum-related. One or more of the following questions will be answered affirmatively if the group is curriculum-related:

- Is the subject matter of the group actually taught in a regularly offered course?
- Will the subject matter of the group soon be taught in a regularly offered course?
- Does the subject matter of the group concern the body of courses as a whole?
- Is participation in the group required for a particular course?
- Does participation in the group result in academic credit?

Secondary school curriculum-related student organizations may use the school district facilities for meetings and other purposes before and after the instructional school day. Employees shall be assigned to monitor approved meetings and may interact with curriculum-related organizations.

### Noncurriculum-Related Organizations

Student-initiated, noncurriculum-related organizations shall be provided access to meeting space and school district facilities.

Only students may attend and participate in meetings of noncurriculum-related groups. Such attendance shall be strictly voluntary and student-initiated. As a means of



determining whether a student's attendance is voluntary, the principal may require parental consent for the student to attend the meetings.

Legal Reference: Westside Community Board of Education v Mergens, 496  
U.S. 226 (1990).  
Neb. Statute 79-297 et seq.

Cross Reference: 504 Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The student council provides for student activities, serves as a training experience for student leaders, promotes the common good, gives students a share in the management of the school, develops high ideals of personal conduct, acts as a clearinghouse for student activities, seeks to interest students in school district affairs and helps solve problems that may arise. Members of the council are student representatives who have direct access to the administration.

*Student council membership is available to all students who volunteer to serve in the organization. Council officers may be elected by a vote of the council members.*

The principal, in conjunction with the students and certified employees, shall set forth the guidelines for the student government's elections, operations, and other elements of the government.

Cross Reference:                      504    Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

In lieu of, or in addition to, the Student Council, the board may on occasion appoint Student Advisory Councils to provide information and suggestions to the board from the students' point of view regarding specific areas of school operations directly affecting the student body. These councils shall continue for a duration determined by the board and shall be composed of such students as recommended by the superintendent or principals.

Cross Reference: 504.02 Student Involvement in Decision Making

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

Students may produce official school publications as part of the curriculum under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the principal. Official school publications such as newspapers, yearbooks or magazines form a part of the journalism curriculum and are produced primarily for the educational value gained in the process of their creation. As such, these publications shall conform to the same community and educational standards required of other student conduct in the school.

Prior to publication of these materials, the faculty advisor, principal or designee shall review them to determine their acceptability for publication. Publications may be restricted, edited or prohibited when, after considering the maturity level of the students, any portion of the publication is determined to be discriminatory, a substantial interference to the educational process or learning environment, harassment, vulgar or obscene, defamatory, an invasion of privacy, or highly controversial.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principals, to implement this policy.

Cross Reference: 301.04 Communication Channels  
504 Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT PERFORMANCES

Students, as part of the education program, may participate in contests or other public and private events approved by the superintendent that will be of benefit to the student and the education program. Performance at such events is a privilege.

Students, who perform at such events, serve as ambassadors of the school district and must conduct themselves in the same manner as required in the regular school day. Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be subject to disciplinary measures.

Students will be allowed to perform in these events only with proper permission and supervision and when the events do not disrupt the education program or other school district operations. The events must be approved by the superintendent, unless it involves unusual travel and expense, in which case the board must approve of the performance.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy. In developing the administrative regulations, these guidelines should be followed:

- Performances by student groups below the high school level should be allowed on a limited basis;
- All groups of students should have an opportunity to participate; and,
- Extensive travel by one group of students should be discouraged.
- Students will not accept payment for public performances when they represent their schools, either as individuals or as members of some school group.

It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to determine whether the event will benefit the education program and the participating students. Contests or other performances by students unapproved by the superintendent shall be the responsibility of the parent and the student.

Legal Reference: Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).

Cross Reference: 504 Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT FUND RAISING

Students may raise funds for school-sponsored events with the permission of the principal. Collection boxes for school fund raising must have prior approval from the principal before being placed on school property.

The main emphasis of any fund-raising campaign should be on the educational aspects of the program. Contests between rooms and schools will not be used as a promotional device.

No tickets for any purpose except for school activities authorized under Board policies or otherwise expressly permitted by the Board will be sold on school premises.

No contribution of money for any purposes will be collected from or by school children except as authorized by the administration.

*Fund raising by students for events other than school-sponsored events is not allowed]*

*Fund-raising campaigns for charitable purposes will be restricted to those approved by the Board of Education; but activities that generate donations can be run by the students with administrative approval.*

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to implement this policy.

Cross Reference:	504	Student Rights and Responsibilities
	505	Student Discipline
	506	Student Activities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUNDS

The Student Activities Funds of each school will include athletic and student organization funds and any other funds belonging to any student or class group or activity.

Student Activity Funds are those funds raised or collected by and/or for school-approved student groups, and may include gate receipts and student activity card fees. Student activity funds will be collected and expended for the purpose of supporting the school's extracurricular activities program. Student body representation should be encouraged whenever possible.

Monies raised by students through student body organizations, receipts from activity tickets and gate receipts, are subject to the control and management by the school board.

The principal of each junior high and high school is responsible for all school/student accounts and accommodation funds. The principal will assign one or more school staff member(s) who are designated as an assistant treasurer by the school board to share the responsibility for assuring that accounting records are maintained in accordance with district guidelines.

The principal will be responsible for supervising the accounting functions to be performed at the building level. The building level accounting procedures will be consistent with the accounting functions performed at the district office level.

Secondary schools may establish bank demand and savings accounts in institutions that have been designated as depositories of school district funds by the school board. Materials and equipment purchased by student activity funds become district property. Projects for raising student activity funds should in general contribute to the educational experience of students and should not conflict with, but add to the instructional program and comply with district guidelines.

Any unencumbered class or activity funds will automatically revert to the general activity fund of the school when a class graduates or an activity is discontinued.

The district treasurer, or designee, may request all necessary financial information needed for review or required by the school board. These funds shall be examined annually as part of the district audit.

Cross Reference: 704.04 Audits

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT PHYSICALS FOR ATHLETICS

All boys or girls that participate in any athletics or practices must have a physical examination signed by a physician. The results of the examination and the physician's signature must appear on all local and state forms where it is required. All such examination results must be on file in the school where the student is to participate in athletics. In all cases, these forms should be signed by parents and the physician. Only proper forms are to be used in all cases.

Legal Reference: NSAA Athletic Bylaws sect. 3.4

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## ADDING STUDENT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The district strives to provide activities outside of the regular school day to assist in meeting its mission and goals and recognizes the value of extracurricular activities in the overall scope of a student's education. Therefore, whenever possible, a wide variety of such activities will be provided, and students will be encouraged to participate.

The addition of activities will be carefully examined for its benefits to students within the resource limitations of the district. The following items will be considered prior to the recommendation to the board for the addition of an interscholastic activity:

1. Activity must be a sanctioned NSAA event and culminate in a state contest.
2. Interest and numbers must be shown for development of a full varsity team (interest in participation must be expressed by a minimum of two times the number of players on each team).
3. Appropriate facilities exist for competition and practice, taking into consideration the needs for supervision, accessibility, safety, and scheduling.
4. Geographic proximity of contests, comparable school participation, and quality of scheduling will be a consideration.
5. A qualified coach, who meets NSAA coaching requirements and who will be under the guidance of district personnel policies, will be in charge of the program.
6. Budget of activity must come from district, with consideration of outside funds through fund raising. If the proposed activity requires frequent or large expenses for specialized equipment or quantities of consumable items, the long-term availability and reliability of outside funding assistance for new activities should be considered.
7. Proposals of new activities submitted to High School Administration prior to March 1st and reviewed by Principal/Activities Director/Superintendent.
8. The completed proposal for the initiation of the activity must be approved by the Board of Education by the December Board meeting in the school year preceding the start of the activity. This will allow for proper planning and scheduling for successful initiation of the activity.
9. Eligibility requirements as published by the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) shall be observed by all student participants. Additional eligibility requirements for all activities may be imposed by the school district at the board's discretion. All eligibility requirements shall be published in applicable student/parent handbooks prior to the school year.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT RECORDS ACCESS

The board recognizes the importance of maintaining student records and preserving their confidentiality. Student records shall be maintained so as to separate academic and disciplinary matters. Student records may be maintained in the central administration office or administrative office of the student's attendance center. This policy does not apply to student directory information.

The following records shall be maintained as permanent records of the student:

- The student's social security number;
- The record of dates of attendance;
- Highest grade level completed;
- A transcript of classes taken with grades and credits received;
- The records of inoculations and health examinations which are given to the class or student body as a whole;
- The record of participation in extracurricular school activities and sports;
- The signatures of people who are required to sign for access to student records and the statement of purpose for such access;
- The student's or student's parents' written consent of release of student records.

All other student records shall be removed and destroyed after a student's continuous absence from the school for three years.

Any student, his or her parents/guardians, teachers, counselors or school administrators shall have access to the student's records during the regular business hours of the district. Student information may also be disclosed without written consent of the parent or eligible student (a student who has reached the age of 18) to persons or entities with whom the district has contracted to provide services related to the district's educational program in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). In addition, authorized representatives of the State or Federal government, and state educational authorities connected with the enforcement of requirements of certain educational programs as prescribed by law shall have access to student records within the limitations of state statutes. No one else shall have access to the records and the records shall not be divulged to any person without prior consent of the parent or eligible student.

A student's records, including academic material and any disciplinary material relating to any suspension or expulsion, shall be provided at no charge, upon request, to any public or private school to which the student transfers.

The superintendent shall establish reasonable fees for providing copies of the student's records to a parent or guardian. No fees shall be charged for the right to inspect and review the records.

Legal Reference:           20 U.S.C. § 1232g (FERPA)  
                                  34 C.F.R. Pt. 99, (Privacy Rights of Parents and Students)  
                                  Neb Statute 79-2,104 and 2,105  
  79-539  
  79-4,157 and 4,158  
  84-1,212.01 et seq. (Records Management  
  Act)

Cross Reference:           503    Student Attendance  
                                  508    Student Health and Well-Being  
                                  611    Academic Achievement  
                                  612.10 Procedural Safeguards and Confidentiality  
                                  804.02 Data or Records Retention  
                                  1003   Public Examination of District Records

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Student directory information shall be defined in the annual notice. It may include the student's name, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, honors and awards received, photograph and other likeness, and other similar information.

Prior to developing a student directory or to giving general information to the public, parents will be given notice annually of the intent to develop a directory or to give out general information and can submit a written request for the exclusion of their child's information from the directory or in the general information about the students.

The district is required to supply class lists including name, address and phone number to college and military recruiters upon their request. Military recruiters will also be provided the same access to a student in a high school grade as is provided to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

A parent or guardian of a student in a high school grade may submit a written request to the district that the name, address and phone number for that student shall not be released without prior written consent of the parent or guardian. Upon receiving this request, a district shall not release that information without the prior written consent of the parent or guardian. Within thirty days prior to or following the beginning of each school year and, for a new student who enrolls after the beginning of a school year, within thirty days following such enrollment, the district shall notify the parents and guardians of each student in the high school of the option to opt out of directory information release.

When a student reaches eighteen years of age, the permission given to the parents or guardians to opt out of the information release shall only be given to the student. Within thirty days prior to or following the beginning of each school year and, for a new student who enrolls after the beginning of a school year, within thirty days following such enrollment, the district shall notify each student who is at least eighteen years of age or who will reach eighteen years of age during the school year of the option to opt out of the information release and that any such request made previously by a parent or guardian for the student expires upon the student reaching eighteen years of age.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to provide notice and to determine the method of notice that will inform parents. Nothing in this policy shall limit the applicability of federal FERPA laws.

Legal Reference:	20 U.S.C. § 1232g (1994).
	34 C.F.R. Pt. 99, 300.560 - .574 (1996).
Cross Reference:	506 Student Activities
	1003 Public Examination of District Records

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## **AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASING STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

The \_\_\_\_\_ Public School District has adopted a policy designed to assure parents and students the full implementation, protection and enjoyment of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. A copy of the school district's policy is available for review in the office of the principal of all of our schools.

This law requires the school district to designate as "directory information" any personally identifiable information taken from a student's educational records prior to making such information available to the public.

Even though student addresses and telephone numbers are not considered directory information, military recruiters and post-secondary educational institutions may legally access this information without prior parental consent. Parents not wanting military recruiters and post-secondary institutions to access the information must ask the school district to withhold the information.

The school district has designated the following information as directory information: (The only items left out of this list are address and telephone numbers. Boards need to amend the form to reflect their practice.) student's name; date and place of birth; email address, grade level, enrollment status, major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; degrees and awards received; and the most recent previous educational institution attended by the student; photograph and other likeness and other similar information. You have the right to refuse the designation of any or all of the categories of personally identifiable information as directory information with respect to your student provided that you notify the school district in writing not later than \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ of this school year. If you desire to make such a refusal, please complete and return the slip attached to this notice.

If you have no objection to the use of student information, you do not need to take any action.

**RETURN THIS FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_ School District

Parental Directions to Withhold Student/Directory Information, for 20\_\_ - 20\_\_ school year.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian/Custodian of Child) (Date)

This form must be returned to your child's school no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ .  
Additional forms are available at your child's school.

Parental Directions to Withhold Student Names, Addresses and Phone Numbers from Military Recruiters and Post-Secondary Educational Institutions, for 20\_\_ - 20\_\_ school year.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian/Custodian of Child) (Date)

This form must be returned to your child's school no later than \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ .  
Additional forms are available at your child's school.

## STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS

The board will permit student "portrait" photographs to be taken on school premises by a commercial photographer as a service to the students and their families.

Parents will be notified prior to the taking of pictures by a commercial photographer for student "portraits." In no case will students be required to have their picture taken or be pressured to purchase pictures.

Students or commercial photographers may take pictures of students upon consent for such things as the yearbook or student newspaper.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop rules as necessary to implement this policy.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT LIBRARY CIRCULATION RECORDS

Student library circulation records are designed to be used internally to assist in the orderly administration of the school district libraries and media center. As a general rule, student library circulation records are considered confidential records and will not be released without parental consent. Individuals who may access such records include a student's parents, the student, authorized licensed employees, authorized government officials from the U.S. Comptroller General, the Secretary of Education, the Commissioner and Director of the National Institute of Education, and the Assistant Secretary for Education and State Education Department. Appropriate authorities in a health or safety emergency may access the student's library circulation records without the approval or the notification of the student's parents.

It shall be the school librarian's responsibility, as the person maintaining the student library circulation records, to approve requests for access to student library circulation records. Students' library circulation records may be accessed during the regular business hours of the school district. If copies of documents are requested, a fee for such copying shall be charged.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the school librarian, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (1994).  
34 C.F.R. Pt. 99 (1996).

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## STUDENT HEALTH AND IMMUNIZATION CHECKUPS

### **Physical examinations & immunizations**

Students enrolling in kindergarten (or the beginning grade), students entering the seventh grade or students transferring to any grade in the district from out of state shall have a physical examination by a licensed physician within six months prior to entrance and provide proof of such an examination to the school district.

A certificate of health stating the results of a physical examination and signed by a physician, physician assistant, or an advance practice registered nurse shall be on file at the attendance center.

Students enrolling in the school district shall also submit proof of immunizations as required by law. The student may be admitted conditionally to the attendance center if the student has not yet completed the immunization process but is in the process of doing so. Failure to meet the immunization requirement will be grounds for suspension, expulsion or denial of admission.

The superintendent or his designee shall annually file a report on behalf of the board by November 15 to the Department of Health and Human Services summarizing the immunization status of the district's students as required.

### **Visual evaluation**

Students enrolling in kindergarten (or the beginning grade) or students transferring to any grade in the district from out of state shall also have a visual examination that includes completion of the state required form. The visual evaluation must be completed within six months prior to entrance and proof of such evaluation shall be provided to the school district.

A certificate of health, or other form, stating the results of the visual evaluation and signed by a physician, optometrist, physician assistant, or advance practice registered nurse shall be on file at the attendance center.

### **Notifications to parents**

The student's parent or guardian shall be notified in writing of their right to submit a written statement refusing such physical or visual examinations or immunizations for the student and shall be provided with a telephone number or other contact information to assist the parent or guardian in receiving information regarding free or reduced-cost visual evaluations for low-income families who qualify.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

### Other health inspections

Any student enrolling during the school year after these inspections will have such an inspection made immediately upon entrance. Any student showing symptoms of any contagious or infectious disease shall be sent home as soon as practicable and the principal notified of the circumstances.

Cross Reference: 403.02 Child Abuse Reporting  
503 Student Attendance  
506.10 Student Physicals for Athletics

## SCHOOL VISION EVALUATION Report Form

**A School Vision Evaluation is required** for all children **within six months prior to entering** Nebraska schools for the first time *(includes beginner grades including Kindergarteners, transfers, and other students new to Nebraska)*  
[Nebraska Revised Statute 79-214]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Status (check one): ☐ Beginner Grade ☐ Transfer Student from Out of State

REQUIRED TESTS*	Pass	Fail	Recommend Further Evaluation <i>(comments noted below)</i>
Amblyopia	_____	_____	_____
Strabismus	_____	_____	_____
Internal Eye Health	_____	_____	_____
External Eye Health	_____	_____	_____
Visual Acuity			
Right eye @ distance (20 ft.):		20/_____	aided/unaided
Left eye @ distance (20 ft.):		20/_____	aided/unaided
Right eye @ near (16 in.):		20/_____	aided/unaided
Left eye @ near (16 in.):		20/_____	aided/unaided
<i>*A vision evaluation consisting of these required tests meets the legal requirements for the State of Nebraska but is not a complete eye examination such as most eye doctors perform.</i>			

ADDITIONAL TESTS	Pass	Fail	Recommend Further Evaluation
Eye Alignment at Distance	_____	_____	_____
Eye Alignment at Near	_____	_____	_____
Depth Perception	_____	_____	_____
Color Vision	_____	_____	_____
Focusing Amount	_____	_____	_____
Focusing Flexibility	_____	_____	_____
Focusing Lag (Accuracy)	_____	_____	_____
Convergence (Crossing) Ability	_____	_____	_____
Saccade (Rapid) Eye Movement	_____	_____	_____
Pursuit (Tracking) Eye Movement	_____	_____	_____
Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

**COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Evaluation performed by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(signature)*

\_\_\_\_ O.D. \_\_\_\_ M.D. \_\_\_\_ P.A. \_\_\_\_ A.P.R.N.

**RESOURCES FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES  
WHO MAY QUALIFY FOR FREE OR REDUCED-COST  
VISION EVALUATIONS**

1. Insurance coverages  
Many insurance companies cover the cost of an eye exam (Blue Cross/Blue Shield, United Health Care, Coventry, Vision Service Plan, Spectera, etc.). Check with the company as to details of vision care coverage.
2. Employer-based options  
Parents with cafeteria plans, Medical Savings Accounts, Health Savings Accounts, or other flexible spending plans through employers can typically use these accounts to pay for vision exams.
3. Medicaid and Kids Connection  
Office visits, eye exams and glasses are covered. Local social service offices have details as to eligibility.
4. SIGHT FOR STUDENTS  
Provides free exam, discounted eyewear for eligible students from participating optometrists. Check website for details: [www.sightforstudents.org](http://www.sightforstudents.org)
5. Lions Clubs of Nebraska  
Clubs located throughout the state provide vision care assistance for needy families. Usually involves referral by teacher, clergy or health professional. Contact local clubs for details.
6. Community health centers and services  
Community health centers and community-based health services throughout the state can provide free eye exams for low income families that qualify, or coordinate the availability of reduced-cost services. Check with local social service agencies for options near you.
7. Discount plans from health care providers  
Many optometrists and other health care providers offer family discounts, package pricing on children's eyewear, and other in-office discounts.
8. Vision USA  
Low income families with working parent and no vision insurance may qualify for free exams from participating optometrists. Call 1-800-766-4466 or check the American Optometric Association website ([www.aoa.org](http://www.aoa.org)) for eligibility guidelines and information about scheduling appointments.

**PARENT OBJECTION TO  
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OR VISUAL EVALUATION  
(For School Admission)**

I am the parent or guardian of the following children who are enrolling in the beginner grade or seventh grade in \_\_\_\_\_ Public Schools, or who are transferring from out of state into any grade in \_\_\_\_\_ Public Schools:

Child No. 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Child No. 2: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that state law requires that the school be provided with: (1) evidence of a physical examination by a physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner and (2) for school year 2006-07 and each school year thereafter, a visual evaluation by a physician, a physician assistant, an advanced practice registered nurse, or an optometrist. The physical examination and visual evaluation is required to be completed within six months prior to the entrance of the child into the beginner grade and the seventh grade or, in the case of a transfer from out of state, to any other grade. The visual evaluation is to consist of testing for amblyopia, strabismus, and internal and external eye health, with testing sufficient to determine visual acuity. No such physical examination or visual evaluation shall be required of any child whose parent or guardian objects in writing.

I hereby object in writing to the:

\_\_\_\_\_ physical examination

\_\_\_\_\_ visual evaluation

(check one or both)

for the above named child(ren). I will not hold \_\_\_\_\_ Public Schools responsible for any injury or harm caused by or relating to such refusal to obtain a physical examination or visual evaluation for the above named child(ren).

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian

## Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations 2017-2018

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider	<p>4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine</p> <p>3 doses of Polio vaccine</p> <p>3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age</p> <p>3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine</p> <p>1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age</p> <p>1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted.</p> <p>4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age</p>
Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade depending on the school district's entering grade)	<p>3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday</p> <p>3 doses of Polio vaccine</p> <p>3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age</p> <p>2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month</p> <p>2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.</p>
Students entering 7 <sup>th</sup> grade	<p>Must be current with the above vaccinations</p> <p>AND receive</p> <p>1 dose of Tdap (contain Pertussis booster)</p>
Students transferring from outside the state at any grade	Must be immunized appropriately according to the grade entered.

Source: Nebraska Immunization Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. . For additional information, call 402-471-6423.

The School Rules & Regulations are available on the internet: <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/reg/t173.htm> (Title 173: Control of Communicable Diseases - Chapter 3; revised and implemented 2011)  
Updated 1/25/2017

## ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

Students may be required to take medication during the school day. The district shall establish procedures which may allow students to self-administer medications for diabetes and asthma/anaphylaxis. Other medications shall be administered by the school nurse, a registered Medication Aide, or other school staff member meeting the minimum competency standards for the Medication Aide Act.

### Self-Management of Diabetes and Asthma/Anaphylaxis

Upon completion of required procedures, the district and parent or guardian, in consultation with the student's physician, will develop a diabetes or asthma/anaphylaxis medical management plan for the current school year. The plan shall:

1. Identify the health care services the student may receive at the school relating to the condition;
2. Evaluate the student's understanding of and ability to self-manage his/her condition;
3. Permit regular monitoring of the student's self-management of his/her condition by an appropriately credentialed health care professional; and
4. Be signed by the student's parent or guardian and the physician responsible for treatment of the student's condition.

For asthma/anaphylaxis the plan will also:

1. Include the name, purpose, and dosage of the prescription medication prescribed for such student; and
2. Include procedures for storage and access to backup supplies of such prescription medication.

The parent or guardian shall sign a statement that:

1. The district and its employees and agents are not liable for any injury or death arising from a student's self-management of his/her condition; and
2. Shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees and agents against a claim arising from a student's self-management of his/her condition.
3. Any injury to others as a result of the student's self-medication shall be the parents' responsibility

The student shall promptly notify the person designated in the student's self-management plan when the student has self-medicated.

The superintendent shall develop all necessary procedures and forms to implement the self-management plans and student disciplinary procedures regarding the misuse or threatened misuse of medications and supplies. The school will promptly notify the parent/guardian of such disciplinary action.

Medication for Conditions other than Diabetes or Asthma/Anaphylaxis

Medication will not be administered without written authorization that is signed and dated from the parent and physician, and the medication must be in the original container which is labeled by the pharmacy or the manufacturer with the name of the child, name of the medication, the time of the day which it is to be given, the dosage and the duration.

Written authorization will also be secured when the parent requests student co-administration of medication for other than diabetes or asthma/anaphylaxis when competency is demonstrated. When administration of the medication requires ongoing professional health judgment, an individual health plan will be developed by the licensed health personnel with the student and the student's parents.

A written record of the administration of medication procedure must be kept for each child receiving any medication including the date; student's name; prescriber or person authorizing the administration; the medication and its dosage; the name, signature and title of the person administering the medication; and the time and method of administration and any unusual circumstances, actions or omissions. Administration of medication records shall be kept confidential.

Records shall be available to the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the State Department of Education for inspection and copying.

Medication will be kept in a secured area. Students may carry medication only with the approval of the parents and building principal of the student's attendance center. Emergency protocol for medication-related reactions will be in place.

The superintendent shall be responsible, in conjunction with the school nurse or Medication Aide, for developing rules and regulations governing the administration of prescription and nonprescription medication to students, including emergency protocols, and for ensuring persons administering medication have met the requirement of state statutes. Annually, each student shall be provided with the requirements for administration of medication at school.

Legal Reference:           34 C.F.R. §99.1 to 99.67 (1994)  
                                  Neb. Statute 71-6718 (Medication Aide Act)  
  79-249  
                                  173 N.A.C. ch. 3, sect. 001-009.04

Cross Reference:           507    Student Records  
                                  604.03 Special Education  
                                  608.02 Student Health Services

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_



PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FORM FOR THE  
ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

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

School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Medication \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage \_\_\_\_\_

Starting Date \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time of day medication is to be given \_\_\_\_\_

Other Instructions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby request the \_\_\_\_\_ Public School District, or its authorized representative, to administer the above-named medication to my child named above and agree to:

1. Submit this request to the principal or school nurse;
2. Personally ensure that the medication is received by the principal or school nurse administering it in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescribing physician or licensed pharmacist or is in the manufacturer's container;
3. Personally ensure that the container in which the medication is dispensed is marked with the medication name, dosage, interval dosage, and date after which no administration should be given.

OR

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby authorize my child to self-administer his/her medication as he/she has shown the competency to do so. I hereby agree to:

1. Submit this request to the principal or school nurse
2. Personally ensure that
  - a. the medication is received by the principal or school nurse administering it in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescribing physician or licensed pharmacist or is in the manufacturer's container; or
  - b. the medication will be kept in the student's possession but only with prior written permission from the parent and principal.
3. Personally ensure that the container in which the medication is dispensed is marked with the medication name, dosage, interval dosage, and date after which no administration should be given.

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNICABLE OR INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Students with a communicable disease will be allowed to attend school provided their presence does not create a substantial risk of illness or transmission to other students or employees. The term "communicable disease" shall mean an infectious or contagious disease spread from person to person, or animal to person, or as defined by law.

Prevention and control of communicable diseases shall be included in the school district's bloodborne pathogens exposure control plan. The procedures shall include scope and application, definitions, exposure control, methods of compliance, universal precautions, vaccination, post-exposure evaluation, follow-up, communication of hazards to employees and record keeping. This plan shall be reviewed annually by the superintendent and school nurse.

Their personal physician shall determine the health risk to immunosuppressed students. The health risk to others in the school district environment from the presence of a student with a communicable disease shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the student's personal physician, a physician chosen by the school district or public health officials.

A student who is at school and who has a communicable disease that creates a substantial risk of harm to other students, employees, or others at school shall report the condition to the Superintendent any time the student is aware that the disease actively creates such risk.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the school nurse, to develop administrative regulations stating the procedures for dealing with students with a communicable disease.

Legal Reference:               Neb. Statute 79-248 et seq.  
  79-264  
  29 U.S.C. §§ 701 et seq. (1994).  
  45 C.F.R. Pt. 84.3 (1990).

Cross Reference:               404.04 Communicable Diseases - Employees  
  507     Student Records

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT ILLNESS OR INJURY AT SCHOOL

When a student becomes ill or is injured at school, the school district shall attempt to notify the student's parents as soon as possible.

The school district, while not responsible for medical treatment of an ill or injured student, will have employees present administer emergency or minor first aid if possible. An ill or injured child will be turned over to the care of the parents or qualified medical employees as quickly as possible.

It shall be the responsibility of the *employee in charge* to file an accident report with the superintendent within one business day after the student is injured.

Annually, parents shall be required to complete a medical emergency authorization form indicating the procedures to be followed, if possible, in an emergency involving their child. The authorization form will also include the phone numbers of the parents and alternative numbers to call in case of an injury or illness.

The superintendent shall be responsible, in conjunction with the school nurse, to develop rules and regulations governing the procedure in the event a student should become ill or be injured at school.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EMERGENCY PLANS AND DRILLS

Students will be informed of the appropriate action to take in an emergency. Emergency drills for fire, weather, and other disasters shall be conducted each school year. At least 10 fire drills shall be conducted each year, including at least 2 drills during the first two weeks of the school term. At least 2 tornado drills shall be conducted.

Each attendance center shall develop and maintain a written plan containing emergency and disaster procedures. The plan will be communicated to and reviewed with employees. The emergency plan shall include:

- assignment of employees to specific tasks and responsibilities;
- instructions relating to the use of alarm systems and signals. If combination visual and auditory warning devices do not exist, the plan shall include specific provisions for warning individuals with hearing impairments;
- information concerning methods of fire containment;
- systems for notification of appropriate persons and agencies;
- information concerning the location and use of fire fighting equipment;
- specification of evacuation routes and procedures;
- posting of plans and procedures at suitable locations throughout the facility;
- evacuation drills which include the actual evacuation of individuals to safe areas;
- an evaluation for each evacuation drill.

Employees shall participate in emergency drills. Certified employees shall be responsible for instructing the proper techniques to be followed in the drill.

Legal Reference:           Neb. Statute 79-609  
                                      79-705 and 706  
                                      Neb. Fire Safety Code section 31-3

Cross Reference:           801.04 Bus Safety Program  
                                      905    Safety Program

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised 9-10-14

## STUDENT INSURANCE

Students shall have the opportunity to participate in the health and accident insurance plan selected by the school district. The cost of the health and accident insurance program shall be borne by the student. Participation in the insurance health and accident plan is not a contract with the school district, but rather, a contract between the insurance company and the student.

Legal Reference:               Neb. Statute 44-762  
  79-526

Cross Reference:             506    Student Activities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT INSURANCE

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Legal Reference:               Neb. Statute 44-762  
  79-526

Cross Reference:             506     Student Activities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CUSTODY AND PARENTAL RIGHTS

Students being released before the end of the school day will only be released to immediate family members or individuals authorized by parents or legal guardians, and identification is required when an adult picking up the student is unfamiliar to staff or volunteers.

Disagreements between family members are not the responsibility of the school district. The school district will not take the "side" of one family member over another in a disagreement about custody or parental rights. Court orders that have been issued shall be followed by the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the person requesting an action by the school district to inform and provide the school district the court order allowing such action.

This policy does not prohibit an employee from listening to a student's problems and concerns.

It shall be the responsibility of the employees to remain neutral in a disagreement about custody and parental rights.

Legal Reference:           34 C.F.R. §99.4 (1995)  
                                  Neb. Statute 42-364  
  42-381  
  43-2,902

Cross Reference:           507    Student Records

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES

The board recognizes that some special education students need special health services during the school day. These students shall receive special health services in conjunction with their individualized education program.

The superintendent, in conjunction with licensed health personnel, shall establish administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq. (1994).  
34 C.F.R. Pt. 300 et seq. (1996).

Cross Reference: 504 Student Rights and Responsibilities  
507 Student Records  
604.03 Special Education

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

The board recognizes that students may require guidance and counseling services to assist them in reaching their educational potential. Students may be referred to the counseling program under provisions of Policies in the 600's.

The student's guidance program may include individual or group activities to help the student develop positive relationships with others, to develop appropriate behaviors for various educational and social settings, to develop effective study habits, improve their understanding of self in terms of interests, abilities, achievements and values, and formulate educational and career plans.

Cross Reference:	102	Educational Philosophy of the School District
	604	Instructional Curriculum
	605	Alternative Programs
	608.01	Student Guidance and Counseling Program

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## REFERRAL OF STUDENTS TO OTHER AGENCIES

School employees having knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused or neglected will report the circumstances to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services or a local law enforcement agency according to the child abuse reporting procedures of Policy 403.02.

In the case of a suspected violation of law, any questioning and apprehension of students by law enforcement authorities will be conducted according to Policy 504.17.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 28-711

Cross Reference:                403.02 Child Abuse Reporting  
                                      504.17 Questioning of Students by Outside Agencies

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## DEFIBRILLATORS

The board recognizes that from time to time emergencies may arise that justify the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The district will maintain an automatic external defibrillator. The AED shall be used in emergency situations warranting its use by individuals specifically trained in application of the device through a program meeting the standards of the American Heart Association. The device will not be administered by anyone without training.

The defibrillator shall be maintained and tested in accordance with operational guidelines of the manufacturer and monitored by the *school nurse*.

The automatic external defibrillator will be kept on school property and will not accompany EMS personnel to a hospital emergency room.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the building principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## ASTHMA AND ALLERGIC REACTION PROTOCOL

The district will adopt and implement the Emergency Response to Life-Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis) Protocol as required by the Nebraska Department of Education. The school shall allow a student with asthma or anaphylaxis to self- manage his or her asthma or anaphylaxis condition upon written request of the student's parent or guardian and authorization of the student's physician or other health care professional who prescribed the medication for treatment of the student's condition.

The superintendent, in conjunction with licensed health personnel, shall establish administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy during regular hours while school classes are in session. The regulations established shall comply with NDE rules regarding the protocol to follow in case of a life-threatening asthma or systemic allergic reaction and use of an EpiPen and albuterol. Also, these shall ensure that each school building will procure and maintain the equipment and medication necessary under the protocol in the case of any student or school staff emergency. Staff training in using the protocol shall occur periodically. Records of such training and occurrences of administering medication under the protocol shall be maintained.

The parent or guardian of a student of minority age may sign a waiver requesting that their student not receive emergency treatment under this protocol. Information about the waiver shall be provided to parents in the student handbook.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 59.006

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO LIFE THREATENING ASTHMA OR  
SYSTEMIC ALLERGIC REACTIONS PROTOCOL**

\_\_\_\_\_ School District

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

I am aware of the school policy that provides a protocol to follow by school personnel to administer EpiPen/albuterol to a student when it is determined that the student is suffering a life-threatening asthma or systemic allergic reaction while school is in session.

After considering the school policy and the best interests of my child, \_\_\_\_\_, I do not wish to have him/her administered albuterol or medication from an Epi-Pen by school personnel under any circumstances for the 20\_\_\_\_ - 20\_\_\_\_ school year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian/Custodian of Child)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## ASTHMA AND ALLERGIC REACTION PROTOCOL

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO LIFE-THREATENING ASTHMA OR SYSTEMIC ALLERGIC REACTIONS (ANAPHYLAXIS)

**DEFINITION:** Life-threatening asthma consists of an *acute episode of worsening airflow obstruction. Immediate action and monitoring are necessary.*

A systemic allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) is a severe response resulting in cardiovascular collapse (shock) after the injection of an antigen (e.g. bee or other insect sting), ingestion of a food or medication, or exposure to other allergens, such as animal fur, chemical irritants, pollens or molds, among others. The blood pressure falls, the pulse becomes weak, **AND DEATH CAN OCCUR**. Immediate allergic reactions may require emergency treatment and medications.

**LIFE-THREATENING ASTHMA SYMPTOMS:** Any of these symptoms may occur:

Chest tightness  
Wheezing  
Severe shortness of breath  
Retractions (chest or neck "sucked in")  
Cyanosis (lips and nail beds exhibit a grayish or bluish color)  
Change in mental status, such as agitation, anxiety, or lethargy  
A hunched-over position  
Breathlessness causing speech in one-to-two word phrases or complete inability to speak

**ANAPHYLACTIC SYMPTOMS OF BODY SYSTEM:** Any of the symptoms may occur within seconds. The more immediate the reactions, the more severe the reaction may become. Any of the symptoms present requires several hours of monitoring.

Skin: warmth, itching, and/or tingling of underarms/groin, flushing, hives  
Abdominal: pain, nausea and vomiting, diarrhea  
Oral/Respiratory: sneezing, swelling of face (lips, mouth, tongue, throat), lump or tightness in the throat, hoarseness, difficulty inhaling, shortness of breath, decrease in peak flow meter reading, wheezing reaction  
Cardiovascular: headache, low blood pressure (shock), lightheadedness, fainting, loss of consciousness, rapid heart rate, ventricular fibrillation (no pulse)  
Mental status: apprehension, anxiety, restlessness, irritability

### EMERGENCY PROTOCOL:

1. **CALL 911**
2. Summon school nurse if available. If not, summon designated trained, non-medical staff to implement emergency protocol
3. Check airway patency, breathing, respiratory rate, and pulse
4. Administer medications (EpiPen and albuterol) per standing order
5. Determine cause as quickly as possible
6. Monitor vital signs (pulse, respiration, etc.)
7. Contact parents immediately and physician as soon as possible
8. Any individual treated for symptoms with epinephrine at school will be transferred to medical facility

### STANDING ORDERS FOR RESPONSE TO LIFE-THREATENING ASTHMA OR ANAPHYLAXIS:

Administer an IM EpiPen-Jr. for a child less than 50 pounds or an adult EpiPen for any individual over 50 pounds  
Follow with nebulized albuterol (premixed) while awaiting EMS. If not better, may repeat times two, back-to-back  
Administer CPR, if indicated

**The district shall have at least one physician authorize this protocol by signing below:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PHYSICIAN)                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PHYSICIAN)                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PHYSICIAN)                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PHYSICIAN)                      Date

## **School Wellness Policy - 508.13**

The school district is committed to providing a school environment that enhances learning and the development of lifelong wellness. The goals outlined in this policy were determined and selected after reviewing and considering evidence-based strategies.

### **1. Goals for Nutrition Promotion and Education**

- a. The school district will promote healthy food and beverage choices for all students, as well as encourage participation in school meal programs by such methods as implementing evidence-based healthy food promotion techniques through the school meal programs and promoting foods and beverages that meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.
- b. The health curriculum will include information on good nutrition and healthy living habits.
- c. Teachers will incorporate information on nutrition and wellness into the classroom curriculum as appropriate.
- d. The district will collaborate with public and private entities to promote student wellness.
- e. Water will be made available to students throughout the school day.
- f. School Staff are encouraged to model healthy eating behaviors.
- g. The School District will provide School Food Service Staff Continuing Education on Nutrition, Food Safety.

### **2. Goals for Physical Activity**

- a. The school district's curriculums shall include instruction on physical activity and habits for healthy living.
- b. Physical education classes and physical activity opportunities will be available for all students daily throughout the school year during school or after school. All physical education will be taught by a certified physical education teacher. Students will spend at least 50 percent of physical education class time participating in moderate to vigorous physical activity.
- c. All elementary students will have daily supervised recess, preferably outdoor, during which school should encourage moderate to vigorous physical activity verbally and through the provision of space and equipment.
- d. Students will be encouraged to engage in physical activities throughout the school day and will be provided with opportunities to do so.
- e. The district will discourage extended periods (i.e. periods of two or more hours) of inactivity. When activities, such as mandatory school-wide testing, make it necessary for students to remain indoors for long periods of time, students should have periodic breaks during which they should be encouraged to stand and be moderately active.
- f. The district encourages parents and guardians to support their children's participation in physical activity, to be physically active role models, and to include physical activity in family events.

- g. The physical activity and education program should expose students to a wide variety of physical activities, teach physical skills to help maintain health and fitness, and individualize the intensity of activities as needed.

### **3. Goals for Other School-Based Activities Designed to Promote Student Wellness**

#### **A. Dining Environment**

- a. The school district's lunchroom will be attractive, clean, and well lighted enjoyable meal environment for students.
- b. The school district will have drinking fountains or other accommodations available so that students can get water at meals and throughout the day.
- c. The school district will encourage all students to participate in school meal programs.
- d. The school district will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals.
- e. Students will be encouraged to wash and/or sanitize their hands before they eat meals or snacks.

#### **B. Mealtimes**

- a. The school district will ensure an adequate time for students to eat meals and socialize with friends by providing at least 10 minutes after being seated to eat breakfast and 20 minutes after being seated to eat lunch.
- b. Tutoring and club or organizational meetings or activities should not be scheduled during mealtimes unless students may eat during such activities.

#### **C. Other**

- a. The district will participate in state and federal child nutrition programs as appropriate.
- b. The district will provide professional development, support, and resources for staff about student wellness.
- c. The district will allow other health-related entities to use school facilities for activities such as health clinics and screenings so long as the activities meet the district's requirements and criteria for the use of facilities.
- d. The district may partner with other individuals or entities in the community to support the implementation of this policy.
- e. The district will strive to provide physical activity breaks for all students, recess for elementary students, and before and after school activities, as well as encourage students to use active transport (walking, biking, etc.)
- f. The district will use evidence-based strategies to develop, structure, and support student wellness.

### **4. Standards and Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods and Beverages Sold to Students on the School Campus and During the School Day**

- a. The district will ensure that student access to foods and beverages meet federal, state and local laws and guidelines including, but not limited to:



- i. USDA National School Lunch and School Breakfast nutrition standards
  - ii. USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.
- b. The district will offer students a variety of age-appropriate, healthy food and beverage selections with plenty of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains aimed at meeting the nutrition needs of students within their calorie requirements in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity.
- c. Foods and beverages that have one of the following listed as the first ingredient should not be sold to students during the lunch meal hours: sugar, corn syrup, or their equivalent.

## **5. Standards for All Foods and Beverages Provided, But Not Sold to Students During the School Day**

The school district may provide a list of healthy party ideas or food and beverage alternatives to parents, teachers, and students for classroom parties, rewards and incentives, or classroom snacks. The district discourages the use of food and beverages as a reward or incentive for performance or behavior.

## **6. Food and Beverage Marketing**

Marketing and advertising is only allowed on school grounds or at school activities for foods and beverages that meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, except as follows:

- a. This requirement does not apply to marketing that occurs at events outside of school hours such as after school sporting or any other events, including school fundraising events.
- b. The district will not immediately replace menu boards, coolers, tray liners, beverage cups, and other food service equipment with depictions of noncompliant products or logos to comply with the new USDA Smart Snacks in Schools nutrition requirements. All previously purchased products will be used, and all existing contracts honored.
- c. All equipment that currently displays noncompliant marketing materials will not be removed or replaced (e.g., a score board with a Coca-Cola logo). However, as the district reviews and considers new contracts, and as scoreboards or other such durable equipment are replaced or updated over time, any products that are marketed and advertised will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards

## **7. Public Participation**

Parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers, school health professionals, board members, school administrators, and members of the general public shall be allowed to provide their input to the school district during the wellness policy adoption and review process.

**8. Competitive Foods (Includes Food and Beverages Sold in Vending Machines, School Stores, Fundraisers or in Competition with the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs)**

- a. Except as otherwise allowed by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), all foods and beverages sold during the school day as part of a fundraiser or for any other purpose in competition with the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs must meet the nutrition standards of those programs.
- b. Fundraiser food or beverages are NOT exempt from the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. Therefore, if food is sold as a fundraiser:
  1. It shall not be sold in competition with school meals in the food service area during the meal service.
  2. It shall not be sold or otherwise made available to students anywhere on school premises during the period beginning one half hour prior to the serving period for breakfast and/or lunch and lasting until one half hour after the serving of breakfast and/or lunch.
  3. The sale of food items during the school day shall meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition requirements
  4. This restriction does not apply to food sold during non-school hours, weekends, and off-campus fundraising events such as concessions during after-school sporting events, school plays or concerts; or to bulk food items that are sold for consumption at home. (Ex: frozen pizzas, cookie dough tubs, etc.)

**9. Triennial Assessment**

The school board shall assess and review this policy at least every **three** years to determine:

- a. Compliance with this policy;
- b. How this policy compares to NDE model wellness policies;
- c. Progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

The school board will update or modify this policy as appropriate.

**10. Public Notice**

In addition to identifying the topic on its meeting agenda as required by the Open Meetings Act, the school district will provide notice of this policy every year to the public and other stakeholders identified in this policy by one or more of the following methods: on its webpage, in its newsletter, in the student and employee handbooks, newspaper advertisements, direct mailings, electronic mail, and public postings.

In addition to identifying the topic on its meeting agenda as required by the Open Meetings Act, the school district will provide notice of the Triennial Assessment and progress reports towards meeting the goals in this policy using one or more of those same methods.

## **11. Recordkeeping**

The District will retain records to document compliance with the requirements of the wellness policy at its central office.

## **12. Operational Responsibility**

The superintendent is responsible for coordinating the implementation of this policy and for monitoring the district's progress in meeting the goals established by this policy. The superintendent will yearly report to the board on the district's progress in implementing this policy.

Reference:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/tools-schools-focusing-smart-snacks>

**Adopted on: February 2006**

**Revised on: October 2020**

**Reviewed on:**

## CONCUSSION AWARENESS

Training to recognize the symptoms of concussions and brain injuries and their proper medical treatment shall be made available to coaches of the district's athletic teams.

The district will provide information on concussions and brain injuries to athletes and their parents or guardians prior to the beginning of practice or competition including at least:

1. The signs and symptoms of concussions;
2. The risks posed by sustaining a concussion; and
3. The actions a student should take in response to sustaining a concussion including the notification of coaches.

A student participating on a school athletic team shall be removed from a practice or game when reasonably suspected of having sustained a concussion or brain injury in that activity after observation by a coach or a licensed health care professional who is professionally affiliated with or contracted by the school. Any parent or guardian who suspects a student has sustained a concussion is expected to immediately notify district coaches or administrators of the injury. Students who suspect they have sustained a concussion shall immediately make such notification.

The injured student shall not be permitted to participate in any school supervised team athletic activities involving physical exertion, including, but not limited to, practices or games, until the student;

1. has been evaluated by a licensed health care professional;
2. has received written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities from the licensed health care professional;
3. has submitted the written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities to the school accompanied by written permission to resume participation from the student's parent or guardian.

If a student is reasonably suspected after observation of having sustained a concussion or brain injury and is removed from an athletic activity as required above, the parent or guardian of the student shall be notified by the school of the date and approximate time of the injury suffered by the student, the signs and symptoms of a concussion or brain injury that were observed, and any actions taken to treat the student.

The district shall establish a return to learn protocol for students that have sustained a concussion. The return to learn protocol shall recognize that students who have sustained a concussion and returned to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff until the student is fully recovered. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 71-9104

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

# Post-Concussion Symptom Checklist

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how much each symptom has bothered you over the past 2 days.

	Symptoms	None	Mild		Moderate		Severe	
<b>PHYSICAL</b>	Headache	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Nausea	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Vomiting	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Balance Problem	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Dizziness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Blurry or double vision	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sensitivity to Light	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sensitivity to Noise	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Balance Problems	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Pain other than headache	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>THINKING/COGNITIVE</b>	Feeling "in a fog"	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Feeling Slowed Down	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Difficulty concentrating	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Difficulty Remembering	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>SLEEP ISSUES</b>	Trouble Falling Asleep	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Fatigue or low energy	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Drowsiness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>EMOTIONAL</b>	Feeling more Emotional	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Irritability	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sadness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Nervousness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

Do symptoms worsen with physical activity? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Do symptoms worsen with thinking/cognitive activity? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Activity Level: Over the past two days, compared to what I would typically do, my level of activity has been \_\_\_\_\_% of what it would normally be.

Adapted from Oregon Concussion Awareness and Management Program (OCAMP)

[http://media.cbirt.org/uploads/files/sports\\_concussion\\_management\\_guide.pdf](http://media.cbirt.org/uploads/files/sports_concussion_management_guide.pdf)

## RETURN TO ACADEMICS PROGRESSION

Progression is individual. All concussions are different. Students may start at any of these steps, depending on symptoms, and may remain at a step longer if needed. If symptoms worsen, the CMT should reassess. If symptoms quickly improve, a student may also skip a step or two. Be flexible!

Steps	Progression	Description
1	<b>HOME – Cognitive and physical rest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Stay at home</li> <li>➤ No driving</li> <li>➤ Limited mental exertion – computer, texting, video games, homework</li> </ul>
2	<b>HOME – Light Mental Activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Stay at home</li> <li>➤ No driving</li> <li>➤ Up to 30 minutes mental exertion</li> <li>➤ No prolonged concentration</li> </ul>

**Progress to Step 3 when student handles up to 30 minutes of sustained mental exertion without worsening of symptoms.**

3	<b>SCHOOL – Part Time</b>  Maximum adjustments  Shortened day/schedule  Built-in breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Provide quiet place for scheduled mental rest</li> <li>➤ Lunch in quiet environment</li> <li>➤ No significant classroom or standardized testing</li> <li>➤ Modify rather than postpone academics</li> <li>➤ Provide extra time, help, and adjustment of assignments</li> </ul>
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**Progress to Step 4 when student handles 30-40 minutes of sustained mental exertion without worsening of symptoms.**

4	<b>SCHOOL – Part Time</b>  Maximum adjustments  Shortened day/schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No standardized testing</li> <li>➤ Modified classroom testing</li> <li>➤ Moderate decrease of extra time, help, and modification of assignments</li> </ul>
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**Progress to Step 5 when student handles 60 minutes of mental exertion without worsening of symptoms.**

5	<b>SCHOOL – Part Time</b>  Minimal adjustments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No standardized testing; routine tests are OK</li> <li>➤ Continued decrease of extra time, help, and adjustment of assignments</li> <li>➤ May require more support in academically challenging subjects</li> </ul>
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**Progress to Step 6 when student handles all class periods in succession without worsening of symptoms AND receives medical clearance for full return to academics and athletics.**

6	<b>SCHOOL – Full Time</b>  Full academics  No adjustments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Attends all classes</li> <li>➤ Full homework and testing</li> </ul>
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**When symptoms continue beyond 3-4 weeks, prolonged in-school supports are required. Request a 504 meeting to plan and coordinate student supports.**

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# Concussion Management Team (CMT)

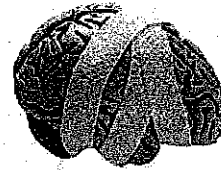
## Sample Return to Learn Protocol

The CMT ensures that every student who suffers a concussion is monitored for a safe return to activity.



<p><b>1. Concussion occurs!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If at school sporting event or other school activity, family is notified of possible concussion</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Encourage parent to obtain medical confirmation of concussion from a licensed health care provider.</b></p>
<p><b>3. Parent signs Release of Information form allowing the school to be notified of concussion by the health care provider and for information sharing.</b></p>
<p><b>4. CMT Contact person notified of concussion by parent, coach, athletic trainer or health care provider.</b></p>
<p><b>5. CMT Contact person informs appropriate school personnel (teachers, school nurse, athletic trainer, coaches, etc.) of concussed student and specifies general accommodations from health care provider, if available.</b></p>
<p><b>6. CMT implements a gradual Return to Learn Protocol based on the individual needs of the student. (Refer to Return to Academics Progression form.)</b></p>
<p><b>7. CMT documents physical, cognitive, behavioral and emotional symptoms of concussed student and assesses the student's needs based on symptoms. (Refer to Post-Concussion Symptom Checklist).</b></p>
<p><b>8. CMT designs individual academic adjustment/accommodation plan with appropriate school staff and works with SAT process to coordinate academic adjustments/accommodations during recovery (about 2-3 weeks) and reviews with student and family.</b></p>
<p><b>9. CMT -Teachers monitor the effectiveness of adjustments, accommodations and symptoms of concussion and report progress/recovery data and results regularly to CMT contact person.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data on progress/recovery shared with family and student.</li> <li>• Family tracks and regularly reports progress on physical, cognitive sleep and emotional symptoms to CMT.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. CMT makes adjustments and readjustments to individual plan until student no longer has special needs in the classroom resulting from the concussion.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student progress and updates are communicated to appropriate school staff, family and student.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. CMT and family agree student is symptom free and function is "back to baseline" in the classroom.</b></p>
<p><b>12. Student returns to classroom full-time with no adjustments or accommodations!</b></p>
<p><b>13. Parents/guardians deliver medical clearance from the healthcare provider to the CMT and parent provides written permission for the Return to Play Progression to begin.</b></p>
<p><b>14. Student begins Return to Play Progression <u>after</u> a successful Return to Learn.</b></p>
<p><b>15. CMT ensures that the concussion date and adjustments for Return to Learn are <u>documented</u> in the student's file.</b></p>

- If symptoms last more than 2-3 weeks, follow up assessment and academic adjustments may need to be strengthened or remain in place longer.
- Student may need to visit physician for further evaluation.
- If problems persist, student supports may be provided through an MTSS/RtI Plan, a Health Plan or a 504 Plan. A small percentage of students may require a referral for special education.
- CMT offers resources on concussion to educators and parents throughout the Return to Learn progression.
- Contact BIRSST team members for information or resources on concussion for educators and parents!





## RETURN FROM PEDIATRIC CANCER

The Board recognizes that students who have been treated for pediatric cancer and are returning to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff.

The district shall establish a return to learn protocol for students returning from the treatment of pediatric cancer. The return to learn protocol shall recognize that these students may need accommodations for specific cognitive, behavioral, physical, developmental, and social impairments.

When appropriate, a section 504 plan may be developed to coordinate and accomplish these accommodations and modifications.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: LB 511 (2015)

Approved 9-9-15 Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## CLASS OR STUDENT GROUP GIFTS

The board welcomes gifts to the school district from a class or student group. Class gifts to the school district require the approval of the superintendent, and the board encourages students to consult with the superintendent or other certificated employees prior to selecting a gift for the school district.

No principal, teacher, or other employee of the district will accept money as a gift from any student. Gifts of appreciation given by a class to a principal, teacher, or other employee of the district will not exceed \$100 in value unless approved by the administration.

Cross Reference: 705.04 Gifts, Grants and Bequests

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_