



Parent/Student Handbook 2023-2024

Revised August 15, 2023



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Dr. Susan Ejma, Director of Teaching and Learning
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Michelle Kirtley, Data Systems Specialist
Carl Meyer, Maintenance & Facilities
Anne Harris, Administrative Assistant
Sandy Henricksen, Administrative Assistant
Jaisy Geans, Bookkeeper

Contact Information

The District wants to provide parents with quick answers to questions, and the following staff are able to help.

Question or Concern	1st Contact	If not resolved, or more information is needed	If still more info is needed
Regarding student achievement, subject matter or a classroom regulation or practice	Your child's teacher	Your school principal H: Mary Kassir - 630-515-4810 M: Dominic Sepich - 630-515-4820 W: Dr. Allister Scott - 630-515-4830	Dr. Sean Nugent Superintendent (630) 515-4840
Regarding a school or district regulation or practice	Your school principal H: Mary Kassir - 630-515-4810 M: Dominic Sepich - 630-515-4820 W: Dr. Allister Scott - 630-515-4830	- Dr. Sean Nugent Superintendent 630-515-4840	The Board of Education 630-515-4840
Regarding Special Education services and referrals	Your school principal H: Mary Kassir - 630-515-4810 M: Dominic Sepich - 630-515-4820 W: Dr. Allister Scott - 630-515-4830	Maureen Kidd Dir. of Student Services 630-515-4840	Dr. Sean Nugent Superintendent 630-515-4840
Regarding the District 60 curriculum	Your school principal H: Mary Kassir - 630-515-4810 M: Dominic Sepich - 630-515-4820 W: Dr. Allister Scott - 630-515-4830	Dr. Susan Ejma Dir. of Teaching & Learning 630-515-4840	Dr. Sean Nugent Superintendent 630-515-4840
Regarding school registration, activity fees, or general school questions	Your school office secretary H: Rose Ortiz - 630-515-4810 M: Joanne Van Hoegarden 630-515-4820 W: Dennis Colon - 630-515-4830	Patrick King CSBO 630-515-4850	Patrick King CSBO 630-515-4850
Regarding the hot lunch program	Suela Maldonado Arbor Food Mgmt. 630-515-4820	Patrick King CSBO 630-515-4850	Patrick King CSBO 630-515-4850
Regarding student transportation	Patrick King CSBO 630-515-4850	Patrick King CSBO 630-515-4850	Dr. Sean Nugent Superintendent 630-515-4840
Regarding District 60 business operations (including budgets, buildings, maintenance)	Patrick King CSBO 630-515-4850	Dr. Sean Nugent Superintendent 630-515-4840	The Board of Education 630-515-4840
Regarding items not listed above	Anne Harris Administrative Assistant to Supt. 630-515-4840		

5 Communities - 3 Schools - 1 District Vision: "Educating for tomorrow's world."



BOARD INFORMATION/ADMINISTRATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION

NAME	POSITION	TERM EXPIRES
Michael Jones, Jr.	President	2027
Mary Satchwell	Vice President	2025
Lesley Wright	Secretary	2025
Lisa Bishop	Member	2027
Drew Sikula	Member	2025
Rob Schaefer	Member	2027
Amy Sullivan	Member	2025

The board of education generally meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are primarily held at Westview Hills Middle School at 630 W 65th Street, Willowbrook. Please check our district website at www.maercker.org to view the agenda and confirm time and meeting location. You may contact the board at boardofeducation@maercker.org.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Board of Education Meetings are meetings **in** public and are not meetings **with** the public. They are not open-forum town-hall meetings. At each meeting there is an opportunity for the audience to address the Board. There is an opportunity to express a comment or feedback; however, they are not opportunities for a dialogue with the Board. Board Policy 2:230 outlines public comment procedures.

The Board of Education recognizes that all persons are entitled to request information regarding the official acts, decisions, procedures and policies of the school district. All requests for records shall be made in writing and submitted via the link on our website.

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Chapter 1 – Introductory Information and General Notices

1.00 School Operations During a Pandemic or Other Health Emergency

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

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

Additionally, please note the following:

1. All decisions regarding changes to the school environment and schedule, including a possible interruption of in-person learning, will be made by the superintendent in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Governor, Illinois Department of Public Health, local health department, emergency management agencies, and/or Regional Office of Education.
2. Available learning opportunities may include remote and/or blended learning. Blended learning may require your child to attend school on a modified schedule.
3. Students will be expected to participate in blended and remote instruction as required by the school and district. Parents are responsible for assuring the participation of their child. Students who do not participate in blended or remote learning will be considered truant.
4. All school disciplinary rules remain in effect during the interruption of in-person learning. Students are subject to discipline for disrupting the remote learning environment to the same extent that discipline would be imposed for disruption of the traditional classroom.
5. Students and parents will be required to observe all public health and safety measures implemented by the school and district in conjunction with state and local requirements.
6. During a pandemic or other health emergency, the school and district will ensure that educational opportunities are available to all students.
7. School personnel will work closely with students with disabilities and other vulnerable student populations to minimize the impact of any educational disruption.
8. Students who have a compromised immune system, live with an individual with a compromised immune system, or have a medical condition that may impact their ability to attend school during a pandemic or other public health emergency should contact school officials.
9. During a pandemic or other health emergency, teachers and school staff will receive additional training on health and safety measures.
10. In accordance with school district or state mandates, the school may need to conduct a daily health assessment of your child. Parents and students will be notified of the exact assessment procedures if this becomes necessary.
11. Parents should not send their child to school if their child exhibits any symptoms consistent with the pandemic or other health emergency.

Please do not hesitate to contact school or district officials if you have any concerns regarding your child's education, health or safety.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:180, Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery

1.10 General School Information

This handbook is a summary of the school's rules and expectations and is not a comprehensive statement of school procedures. The Board's comprehensive policy manual is available for public inspection through the district's website (www.maercker.org) or at the Board office, located at: 1 S. Cass Avenue, Suite 202, Westmont, IL. 60559.

The Board of Education or its delegated authority may, within the bounds of state and federal statutes, expand or restrict any of the rights or responsibilities included in this handbook if an emergency, change in applicable law or regulation, or an unusual situation warrants such action. School authorities may at times set such other rules and procedures as necessary to maintain orderly management of the educational program and school activities in general. Classroom teachers may set such procedural rules as necessary for the efficient management of classroom functions. Discipline procedures are reviewed annually by a district-parent advisory committee. If you have any suggestions, please submit them to the building principal for consideration.

1.12 Equal Educational Opportunities

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, order of protection status, actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. Further, the district will not knowingly enter into agreements with any entity or any individual that discriminates against students on the basis of sex or any other protected status, except that the district remains viewpoint neutral when granting access to school facilities under School Board policy 8:20, *Community Use of School Facilities*. Any student may file a discrimination grievance by using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*.

Sex Equity

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

Any student may file a sex equity complaint by using Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. A student may appeal the Board's resolution of the complaint to the Regional Superintendent (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/3-10) and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.8).

Administrative Implementation

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator. The Superintendent and Building Principal shall use reasonable measures to inform staff members and students of this policy and grievance procedure.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:10

1.14 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

Age

To be eligible for admission, a child must be 5 years old on or before September 1 of that school term. Children who enter first grade must be 6 years of age on or before September 1 of that school year. A child with exceptional needs who qualifies for special education services is eligible for admission at 3 years of age.

Admission Procedure

All students must register for school each year on the dates and at the place designated by the Superintendent. Parents/guardians of students enrolling in the district for the first time must present:

1. A certified copy of a birth certificate. Upon the failure of a person enrolling a student to provide a copy of the student's birth certificate, the Building Principal shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency and shall also notify the person enrolling the student in writing that, unless he or she complies within 10 days, the case shall be referred to the local law enforcement authority for investigation. If compliance is not obtained within that 10-day period, the Principal shall so refer the case. The Principal shall immediately report to the local law enforcement authority any material received pursuant to this paragraph that appears inaccurate or suspicious in form or content.
2. Proof of residence, as required by Board policy.
3. Proof of disease immunization or detection and the required physical examination, as required by State law and Board policy.

Homeless Children

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment. Board policy and its implementing administrative procedure govern the enrollment of homeless children.

Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

A student may transfer into or out of the district according to State law and procedures developed by the Superintendent. A student seeking to transfer into the district must serve the entire term of any suspension or expulsion, imposed for any reason by any public or private school, in this or any other state, before being admitted into the school district.

Physicals and Immunizations

Physicals and immunizations are due by the first day of school for all returning students and students transferring in from another Illinois school. Students transferring in during the school year from an out-of-state school will have 30 days to complete physical examinations and the schedule of immunizations required. For detailed information on these requirements, please refer to Board Policy 7:100 which can be found on our website for further information.

Students Moving During the School Year

A student whose family moves out of the District during the school year will be permitted to attend school for the remainder of the year without payment of tuition. The district, however, will not be responsible for transportation.

When a student's change of residence is due to the military service obligation of the student's legal custodian, the student's residence is deemed to be unchanged for the duration of the custodian's military service obligation if the student's custodian made a written request.

The District, however, is not responsible for the student's transportation to or from school. If, at the time of enrollment, a dependent child of military personnel is housed in temporary housing located outside of the District but will be living within the District within 6 months after the time of initial enrollment, the child is allowed to enroll, subject to the requirements of State law, and must not be charged tuition.

1.40 Visitors

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross-reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*

1.50 Equal Educational Opportunities and Sex Equity

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

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

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact: Susan Ejma at sejma@maercker.org

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities; 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure

1.60 Animals on School Property

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

1.70 School Volunteers

All school volunteers must complete the “Volunteer Information Form” and be approved by the school principal prior to assisting at the school. Forms are available in the school office. Some teachers utilize parent volunteers in the classroom. The individual teachers make this decision. Teachers who desire parent volunteers will notify parents. For school-wide volunteer opportunities, please contact the building principal. Volunteers are required to check in and out at the main office and receive a visitor badge before going to their destination.

Cross-Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:250, *Community Resource Persons and Volunteers*

1.80 Invitations & Gifts

Party invitations or gifts for classmates should not be brought to school to be distributed. Items such as these are of a personal nature and should be mailed home using the list in the school directory. The office is unable to release addresses and phone numbers of students who are not listed in the school directory.

1.85 Treats, Snacks & Celebrations

Due to health concerns and scheduling, treats and snacks for any occasion must be arranged in advance with the classroom teacher. All treats and snacks must be store bought and prepackaged in sealed individual servings. No homemade treats or snacks are allowed at school. Treats and snacks may not require refrigeration and must have a clearly printed list of ingredients on the packaging. Food must be peanut/tree-nut free and must be produced in a peanut/tree-nut free facility. We strongly encourage you to select a treat or snack with nutritional value. In conjunction with the Maercker PTA, schools will plan celebrations throughout the year to reinforce positive student behavior.

1.90 Emergency School Closings

In cases of bad weather and other local emergencies, families will receive an automated phone message and email from the superintendent with school closing information.

If bad weather or other emergency occurs during the day, you will receive an automated phone message and email from the Superintendent with school closing information. For your child’s safety, make certain your child knows ahead of time where to go in case of an early dismissal. If we dismiss early for an emergency, all after-school functions are automatically canceled.

Cross-Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:170, *Safety*

1.100 Video & Audio Monitoring Systems

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

Electronic visual and audio recordings may be used on school buses to monitor conduct and to promote and maintain a safe environment for students and employees when transportation is provided for any school related activity. Notice of electronic recordings shall be displayed on the exterior of the vehicle’s entrance door and front interior bulkhead in compliance with state law and the rules of the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Traffic Safety.

Students are prohibited from tampering with electronic recording devices. Students who violate this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with the Board’s discipline policy and shall reimburse the school district for any necessary repairs or replacement.

The content of the electronic recordings are student records and are subject to district policy and procedure concerning school student records; such recordings are exempt from the Eavesdropping Act. Only those people with a legitimate educational or administrative purpose may view and/or listen to the electronic video and/or audio recordings. If the content of electronic recording becomes the subject of a student disciplinary hearing, it will be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

Cross-Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:110, *Transportation*

1.110 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8:70, *Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities*

1.120 Students with Food Allergies

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

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the building principal.

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

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:285, *Food Allergy Management Program*

1.130 Care of Students with Diabetes

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

- a. Inform the school in a timely manner of any change which needs to be made to the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school for their child.
- b. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.
- c. Sign the Diabetes Care Plan.
- d. Grant consent for and authorize designated school district representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the Diabetes Care Plan.

For further information, please contact the building principal. Cross Reference: Public Act 96-1485 (effective December 2010)

1.132 Bicycles, Skateboards, and Roller Blades

Bicycles, roller blades, and skateboards are not permitted at Holmes School. Bicycles are allowed at Maercker School and Westview Hills with restrictions as listed below in item 1.134.

1.134 Articles Brought to School (Westview Hills)

Anything brought to school must be locked in the hall or gym locker. Bicycles may be brought to school and must be locked at the school bike racks. Bicycles must be walked on the sidewalks on school grounds and around the buses. Students may not bring roller blades or skateboards to school. Any personal item must have permanent marking identifying owner. Occasionally, the principal will ban certain games, cards, toys, etc. when they become distractions from the learning environment.

1.136 Lost and Found

The “Lost and Found” is located in the office at each school and also in the gym locker rooms at Westview Hills. If students lose something, they should check their desks, classrooms, etc. If they cannot find it, they may ask the office for permission to look through the “lost and found” articles. If a student finds something that does not belong to him/her, it should be turned in to the office.

1.140 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

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

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

Cross-Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:290, *Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention*

1.160 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

Parent organizations and booster clubs are invaluable resources to the District’s schools. While parent organizations and booster clubs have no administrative authority and cannot determine District policy, the School Board welcomes their suggestions and assistance.

Parent organizations and booster clubs may be recognized by the Board and permitted to use the District’s name, a District school’s name, or a District school’s team name, or any logo attributable to the District provided they first receive the Superintendent or designee’s express written consent. Consent to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos will generally be granted if the organization or club has by-laws containing the following:

1. The organization’s or club’s name and purpose, such as, to enhance students’ educational experiences, to help meet educational needs of students, to provide extra athletic benefits to students, to assist specific sports teams or academic clubs through financial support, or to enrich extracurricular activities.
2. The rules and procedures under which it operates.
3. An agreement to adhere to all Board policies and administrative procedures.
4. A statement that membership is open and unrestricted, meaning that membership is open to all parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school, District staff, and community members.
5. A statement that the District is not, and will not be, responsible for the organization’s or club’s business or the conduct of its members, including on any organization or club websites or social media accounts.
6. An agreement to maintain and protect its own finances.
7. A recognition that money given to a school cannot be earmarked for any particular expense. Booster clubs may make recommendations, but cash or other valuable consideration must be given to the District to use at its discretion. The Board’s legal obligation to comply with Title IX by providing equal athletic opportunity for members of both genders will supersede an organization or club’s recommendation.

Permission to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos may be rescinded at any time and does not constitute permission to act as the District’s representative. At no time does the District accept responsibility for the actions of any parent organization or booster club regardless of whether it was recognized and/or permitted to use any of the above-mentioned names or logos. The Superintendent shall designate an administrative staff member to serve as the recognized liaison to parent organizations or booster clubs. The liaison will serve as a resource person and provide information about school programs, resources, policies, problems, concerns, and emerging issues. Building staff will be encouraged to participate in the organizations.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8:90, Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

1.170 Student Appearance

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:160, Student Appearance

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

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

Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse

Warning signs of child sexual abuse include the following.

Physical signs:

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or other genital infections
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing
- Unusual weight gain or loss

Behavioral Signs:

- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or being afraid to be away from primary caregivers
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors that the child had grown out of, such as thumb sucking or bedwetting
- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

Emotional Signs

- Change in eating habits or unhealthy eating patterns, like loss of appetite or excessive eating
- Signs of depression, such as persistent sadness, lack of energy, changes in sleep or appetite, withdrawing from normal activities, or feeling "down"
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Anxiety, excessive worry, or fearfulness
- Increase in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headaches

- Loss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors or expressing thoughts of suicide or suicidal behavior
- Failing grades
- Drug or alcohol use

Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors

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

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

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

Warning Signs of Boundary Violations

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

- Favoring a certain student by inviting the student to "hang out" or by granting special privileges
- Engaging in peer-like behavior with a student
- Discussing personal issues with a student

- Meeting with a student off-campus without parent/guardian knowledge and/or permission
- Dating, requesting, or participating in a private meeting with a student (in person or virtually) outside of a professional role
- Transporting a student in a school or private vehicle without administrative authorization
- Giving gifts, money, or treats to an individual student
- Sending a student on personal errands
- Intervening in a serious student problem instead of referring the student to an appropriately trained professional
- Sexual or romantic invitations toward or from a student
- Taking and using photos/videos of students for non-educational purposes
- Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day in a one-on-one or non-group setting
- Inviting a student to an employee's home
- Adding a student on personal social networking sites as contacts when unrelated to a legitimate educational purpose
- Privately messaging a student
- Maintaining intense eye contact with a student
- Making comments about a student's physical attributes, including excessively flattering comments
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog
- Making sexually suggestive comments directed toward or with a student
- Disclosing confidential information
- Self-disclosure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Full frontal hugs
- Invading personal space

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

Additional Resources include:

National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE (4673) National Sexual Abuse Chatline at online.rainn.org

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE (2873)

Cross References:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5:120-AP2, *Employee Conduct Standards*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5:120-AP2,E, *Expectations and Guidelines for Employee-Student Boundaries*

1.185 Faith's Law Notifications

Employee Conduct Standards

School districts are required to include in their student handbook the District's Employee Code of Professional Conduct. These standards, in part, define appropriate conduct between school employees and students. These standards are outline in [Policy 5:120](#).

Cross Reference:

BOARD OF EDUCATION Policy 5:120 Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest BOARD OF EDUCATION Policy 5:120-AP2, Employee Conduct Standards

1.190 Prevention of Anaphylaxis

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

Cross Reference:

BOARD OF EDUCATION 7:285, Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program

BOARD OF EDUCATION 7:285-AP, Administrative Procedure – Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program

1.200 Sexual Abuse Response and Prevention Resource Guide

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

Chapter 2 – Attendance, Curriculum and Promotion

2.10 Attendance

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

If a student is late for school in the morning, he/she must report to the office for a pass. Students will not be admitted late to class without a pass. If the student arrives late without notification from a parent or guardian, or if the student often arrives late, appropriate school action will be taken.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*

2.20 Student Absences

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day, and (6) any child 16 years of age or older who is employed and is enrolled in a graduation incentives program.

For students who are required to attend school there are two types of absences: excused and unexcused. Excused absences include: illness (including up to 5 days per school year for mental or behavioral health of the student), observance of a religious holiday or event, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the school board, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety, attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS (grades 6-12), attend a civic event (grades 6-12), or other reason as approved by the building principal.

Additionally, a student will be excused for up to 5 days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active-duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. The Board of Education, in its discretion, may excuse a student for additional days relative to such leave or deployment. A student and the student's parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student's teachers prior to any excused absences and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student prior to his or her return to school.

Students who are excused from school will be given a reasonable timeframe to make up missed homework and classwork assignments. All other absences are considered unexcused. Pre-arranged excused absences must be approved by the building principal. The school may require documentation explaining the reason for the student's absence.

In the event of any absence, the student's parent/guardian is required to call the school (Holmes 630-515-4810; Maercker 630-515-4820; Westview 630-515-4830) before 8:00 a.m. to explain the reason for the absence. If a call has not been made to the school by 10:00 a.m. on the day of a student's absence, a school official will call the home to inquire why the student is not at school. If the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, the student will be required to submit a signed note from the parent/guardian explaining the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence. Upon request of the parent/guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

Diagnostic Procedures for Identifying Student Absences and Support Services to Truant or Chronically Truant Students

State law requires every school district to collect and review its chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families to encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success. This review must include an analysis of chronic absence data from each attendance center.

Furthermore, State law provides that school districts are encouraged to provide a system of support to students who are at risk of reaching or exceeding chronic absence levels with strategies and are also encouraged to make resources available to families such as those available through the State Board of Education's Family Engagement Framework to support and engage students and their families to encourage heightened school engagement and improved daily school attendance.

"Chronic absence" means absences that total 10% or more of school days of the most recent academic school year, including absences with and without valid cause, and out-of-school suspensions.

The School and District use the following diagnostic procedures for identifying the causes of unexcused student absences: Interviews with the student, his or her parent/guardian and any school officials who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problems.

Supportive services to truant or chronically truant students include: parent conferences, student counseling, family counseling, and information about existing community services.

Cross-reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*

2.22 Arrival and Dismissal

Following are the arrival and dismissal times and procedures for all three of our schools. For the safety and well-being of each student, please adhere to the scheduled drop-off and pick-up times listed below. Please note that school personnel are assigned supervisory duties only during these times. Your cooperation is greatly needed and appreciated.

Holmes	<p>Students are to arrive at school between 8:00 a.m. and 8:15 a.m., with drop-off at the <u>front entrance</u>. Bus lanes are to be used for buses only. Classes begin promptly at 8:15 a.m.</p> <p>Students not riding the bus must be picked up promptly at 3:00 p.m. at the front entrance</p> <p>Every Wednesday, Holmes students in grades K, 1 and 2 dismiss one hour early at 2:00 p.m. for teacher collaboration.</p> <p>Preschool</p> <p>Morning Preschool: 8:30 – 10:50 a.m. Afternoon Preschool: 11:45 a.m. – 2:05 p.m. Wednesday Morning Preschool: 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Afternoon Preschool: 11:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.</p>
Maercker	<p>Students are to arrive at school between 8:30 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. Classes begin promptly at 8:45 a.m. All students are to leave the school grounds promptly at 3:30 p.m. unless they are staying later for a teacher or for a scheduled activity. The late bus is only for students who remain after school at a teacher's request or for an activity. Students shall not be allowed to ride the late bus once they have left school grounds for other than approved school activities. Every Wednesday, Maercker students dismiss one hour early at 2:30 p.m. for teacher collaboration.</p>
Westview Hills	<p>Students are to arrive at school between 7:30 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. School begins promptly at 7:45 a.m. and regular dismissal is at 2:30 p.m. Entering and leaving the building should be done in an orderly manner. Students may not enter the building until the first bus arrives. Unless students are remaining after school for a teacher or special activity, all are expected to leave the building by 2:35 p.m. The late bus is only for students who remain after school at a teacher's request or for an activity. Students shall not be allowed to ride the late bus once they have left school grounds for other than approved school activities. Every Wednesday, Westview students dismiss one hour early at 1:30 p.m. for teacher collaboration.</p>

2.30 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

A student will be released from school, as an excused absence, to observe a religious holiday or for religious instruction. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the building principal at least 5 calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s). Students excused for religious reasons will be given an opportunity to make up all missed work, including homework and tests, for equivalent academic credit. The student will be considered present for perfect attendance awards.

2.40 Make-Up Work

If a student's absence is excused, or if a student is suspended from school, he/she will be permitted to make up any missed work, including homework and tests. The student will be permitted the same number of days as he/she was absent or suspended to turn in the make-up work. The student is responsible for obtaining assignments from his/her teachers. Students who are unexcused from school will not be allowed to make up missed work.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*

2.50 Truancy

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district.

Students who miss more than 1% but less than 5% of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are truant. Students are considered truant from school if they are absent from school without parent written authorization or if the absence is not for a valid cause as outlined in Board Policy 7:70 Attendance and Truancy. (Please refer to the previous section 2.20 Student Absences of this Handbook for description of valid cause for a student absence.) Please be reminded that a vacation is not considered a valid cause for a student absence and will be treated as an unexcused absence. Students who are chronic truants will be

offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action, including:

- Referral to the truancy officer
- Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act
- Referral to the State's Attorney
- Appropriate school discipline

A student who misses 15 consecutive days of school without valid cause and who cannot be located or, after exhausting all available support services, cannot be compelled to return to school is subject to expulsion from school. A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

Regular student attendance is vital to the success of every student.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:70, *Attendance and Truancy*

2.60 Grading & Promotion

School report cards are issued every trimester. For questions regarding grades, please contact the classroom teacher.

The decision to promote a student to the next grade level is based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on standardized tests and other testing. A student will not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

Participation in the 8th grade promotion ceremony is a privilege. At the discretion of the school administration, students may be excluded from participating in the ceremony due to attendance, academic and/or behavioral issues.

2.63 Explanation of Grading

Grades are symbols that represent the level of mastery of skills or content learned. Grading procedures, approved by the principal, shall be explained by the teacher in writing to the students at the beginning of each year and should reflect as fair and as comprehensive a picture of the student's school performance as possible. Grades should reflect a mixture of both summative and formative evaluative criteria such as: classroom performance, effort, tests, quizzes, journals, classroom assignments, essays, homework, and other projects as appropriate to the specific subject area.

A plus (+) or minus (–) may be used along with each grade to indicate high and low scores in each of the above ranges. Grades are generally given only if the student has been in attendance for at least 20 school days.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:280, *Grading & Promotion*

2.65 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Formal conferences are scheduled; however, conferences are encouraged anytime a parent or teacher deems it necessary. If you would like to talk with your child's teacher, please call the school office so that an appointment or a phone conference can be arranged.

2.67 Administrative Review of Student Achievement

Whenever a student's academic progress is of concern, a carefully considered evaluation of his/her scholastic program will take place. Each school has procedures in place to address specific concerns for individual student progress.

2.69 Remediation

- Remediation, defined as the re-teaching or reinforcement of a skill or concept that gets the student closer to grade level performance, can take place either in or out of the regular classroom.
- Remediation may be provided by an instructional aide but must be under the direction and within eyesight of a certified teacher.
- Students should not be pulled from the same subject in which they need the remedial instruction. This practice does not provide the students with the "extra" help that is needed, plus the student misses the very information he/she needs to be successful.

2.70 Homework

Homework is used as a way for students to practice what they have learned in the classroom. The time requirements and the frequency of homework will vary depending on a student's teacher, ability and grade level. Students who are absent from school for a valid cause (an excused absence) may make up missed homework in a reasonable timeframe.

2.74 Physical Education

All students in grades K through 8 have physical education classes. Each child is to have gym shoes at school separate from the shoes that are worn during the day. Although no gym uniform is required at Holmes and Maercker, it is suggested that students keep a sweatshirt at school. Girls may wish to have slacks or shorts in addition to a sweatshirt. Westview students are required to wear physical education uniforms.

2.80 Exemption from Physical Education Requirement (K-8)

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request. Upon written notice from a student's parent/guardian, a student will be excused from engaging in the physical activity components of physical education during a period of religious fasting.

A student in grades 7-8 may submit a written request to the building principal requesting to be excused from physical education courses because of the student's ongoing participation in an interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program. The building principal will evaluate requests on a case-by-case basis.

Students with an Individualized Education Program may also be excused from physical education courses for reasons stated in Handbook Procedure 10.30.

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

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

Students who have been excused from physical education shall return to the course as soon as practical. The following considerations will be used to determine when a student shall return to a physical education course:

1. The time of year when the student's participation ceases; and
2. The student's class schedule.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:260, Exemption from Physical Education

2.90 Accelerated Placement

Accelerated Placement

The District provides for an Accelerated Placement Program (APP) for qualified students. It provides students with an educational setting with curriculum options that are usually reserved for students who are older or in higher grades than the student. Accelerated placement includes but may not be limited to early entrance to kindergarten or first grade, accelerating a student in a single subject and grade acceleration. Participation is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It is not limited to students who have been identified as gifted or talented. Please contact the building principal for additional information.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6.135, Accelerated Placement Program

2.100 Home and Hospital Instruction

A student who is absent or whose physician, physician assistant or advance practice registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction before (1) the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to 3 months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

For information on home or hospital instruction, contact the school principal.

Cross-reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:150, Home and Hospital Instruction

2.130 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

Parents or guardians have the right to inspect all instructional materials used as a part of their child's education. If you believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy, you may file a complaint under the District's uniform grievance policy.

Parents or guardians with other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a Curriculum Objection Form, which is available from the school office. A parent or guardian may also request that their child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a Curriculum Objection Form.

Cross-reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

2.150 How to Help Your Child in School

Frequently, parent(s)/guardian(s) ask, "*What can I do to help my child in school?*" Perhaps some of these suggestions might prove useful to you.

- Talk with your child each day about his/her school activities and see that the work is brought home for you to see. If papers are not coming home, call your child's teacher.
- Attend school programs and parent conferences. If you have a question, or if you think something is wrong, don't hesitate to call or send a note to the teacher or principal.
- Arrange for a regular time and place for doing homework assignments and provide supervision and support. It is our policy that homework in the lower grades be minimal in amount and should stress reading for pleasure. In the fourth and fifth grades the development of proper study habits is encouraged through short assignments in all areas of the curriculum. Talk with the teacher if your child tells you that he/she never has homework or if you feel that assignments have been excessive.
- Understand and comply with the rules of the school concerning student conduct and cooperate with the teacher and/or principal in carrying out any disciplinary action that might be taken by the school.
- Do not criticize the teacher or school in the presence of your child. If a problem exists, it is best to speak privately with the teacher or principal.
- See that your child comes to school after having ample sleep and a nourishing breakfast.
- Encourage wholesome interests, friendships and activities. Be discriminating in the movies and television programs your child is allowed to watch.
- Take your child to the library often, and let your child get a library card and choose his/her own books.
- Read to your children often. Short, exciting stories and children's poetry are very good. Your child is more apt to get "hooked" on reading if he/she sees you reading books, magazines, and periodicals.
- For a present, get your child a subscription to a children's magazine or membership in a bookclub.
- Have a family bulletin board where you can display schoolwork and art creations as well as cartoons and short stories.
- If you have been weak or "turned off" to a certain school subject, don't pass off your feelings to your child.
- Visit airports, museums, nearby construction sites, historic landmarks, the Arboretum, and whatever else is available in the area that might widen your child's horizons.
- At gift time, consider toys and games that have educational value.

Let your child use the math and writing skills he learns at school in "real life" situations whenever possible. Making shopping lists and checking the grocery tapes, making purchases and counting change, sending for brochures and advertising offers, and writing letters and "thank you" notes are all good practices.

Chapter 3 – Student Fees and Meal Costs

3.10 Fines, Fees, and Charges; Waiver of Student Fees

The school establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Students will not be denied the opportunity to participate in curricular and extracurricular programs of the school district due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. Students whose parent or guardian is unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver applies to all fees related to school, instruction, and extracurricular activities. The district does not withhold a student's grades, transcripts, or diploma because of an unpaid balance on the student's school account.

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

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

2023-24 FEE SCHEDULE

ITEM	2023-24	
	Prior to 4/16	After 4/16
Tuition PreK	\$360.00	\$360.00
Early Childhood and 1/2 Day K	\$110.00	\$135.00
K-8	\$165.00	\$190.00
Recorders	\$6.00	\$6.00
PE Shorts	\$11.00	\$11.00
PE Shirts	\$5.25	\$5.25
Promotion Materials	\$35.00	\$35.00
Extra-curricular, Athletics	\$60.00	\$60.00
Extra-curricular, Clubs	\$45.00	\$45.00
Band, 6th-8th grade	\$90.00	\$90.00
Band, 5th Grade	\$45.00	\$45.00

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

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

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

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

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

Cross-references:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:110, Transportation

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:140, Waiver of Student Fees

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:140-AP, Fines, Fees, and Charges – Waiver of Student Fees

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:140-E1, Application for Fee Waivers

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:140-E2, Response to Application for Fee Waiver, Appeal, and Response to Appeal

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:340, Student Records

3.15 Lost and Damaged Materials

Each student is responsible for the texts, library books, and other materials assigned and/or checked out in his/her name.

Parent(s)/Guardians(s) of students are expected to pay for any of these items that become lost or damaged.

1. Workbooks or consumables: Actual price of replacement.
2. Textbooks with a copyright date of 2004 or newer:
 - Year 1 of the adoption: 100% actual price of replacement.
 - Year 2-4 of the adoption: 75% of the replacement cost.
 - Year 5 of the adoption: 50% of the replacement cost.
 - Year 6 of the adoption and beyond: 25% of the replacement cost.

3.20 School Breakfast/Lunch Program

Breakfast and lunch are served every school day, except for lunch when there is an early release day.

A student may bring a sack lunch from home or may purchase a school lunch. Lunches delivered by parents shall be only for their child. This policy will be strictly enforced.

When your balance goes below \$15.00, you will receive an automated email notification. This notice will be sent typically on Sundays and Wednesdays. Please note, when your child's meal account reaches \$0, the computer will cut off all purchases. Payment on a monthly or trimester basis is encouraged, a payment chart has been provided below for your convenience. Please note, each meal includes one milk. The district offers the option of purchasing an extra milk on a daily basis for \$0.60, and ala-cart items for grades 3 through 8. If your child purchases extra items, they will be charged at the time of purchase.

	BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Cost per DAY	\$ 1.70	\$ 3.20

Your child(ren)'s meal purchases and payments can be viewed through Family Access by selecting Food Service. Any remaining balance will be credited to the next year's account or refunded upon the parent's request.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:130, *Free and Reduced-Price Food Services*

Chapter 4 – Transportation and Parking

4.10 Bus Transportation

The board of education has established a standardized “Walk Radius” for each school. Students who live within the walk radius of the school in which they attend will not be eligible for transportation provided by the district. Some exceptions may exist based on the Maercker School District 60 [Transportation Decision Tree](#) which can be found on our website at www.maercker.org or available through the school office.

Students who live outside of the “Walk Radius” of the school in which they attend will be eligible for fee-based district provided transportation. Fees for transportation services are as follows:

ITEM	2023-24	
	Prior to 4/16	After 4/16
Transportation, Single Rider	\$235.00	\$260.00
Transportation, Family	\$445.00	\$465.00
Transportation, Fee waiver	\$40.00	\$65.00
Transportation, Fee waiver Family	\$105.00	\$130.00

Unpaid fees for transportation services may result in suspension of transportation services.

Bus stop locations for these students will be established to ensure that the walk from home to the bus stop will not exceed our school based “Walk Radius” distances. Some exceptions may exist based on the Maercker School District 60 [Transportation Decision Tree](#) located on the website under Departments-Transportation-Transportation Documents.

Maercker School District 60 Walk Radius Distances:

Holmes School:	0.0 to 0.20 Miles
Maercker School:	0.0 to 0.35 Miles
Westview Hills:	0.0 to 0.50 Miles

Parent/Guardian State Pupil Transportation Reimbursement Information

Parents and/or guardians of pupils that qualify may be eligible for pupil transportation reimbursement. If you provide transportation to or from school because free transportation is not available for your child, you may be eligible to apply to the state for partial reimbursement. Please contact our district office for an application and instructions.

General Bus Instructions

Students are to ride their assigned bus unless given written permission by the principal to do otherwise. Students must have a valid school identification card (ID) that indicates eligibility for district transportation. Buses are not to be used to transport children to a destination other than the regular one. Students may ride to another student’s home only in case of an emergency with a parent note signed by the principal.

Bus Drop-Off Procedures

The bus routes are set up to accommodate where the children live, not where they will be going after school to play, birthday parties, etc. Student capacity on the buses will remain consistent; overcrowding will not become a problem if students return to assigned stop. Students are to ride their assigned bus and get off at their assigned stop, unless there is an emergency situation that has been approved by the principal. If you know ahead of time that you will be picking your child up after school, please write a note to your child’s teacher and send it with him/her in the morning. *Except in emergencies, buses are not to be used to transport children to a destination other than the regular one.* If you need for your child to leave school via a different route or destination, a note from the child’s parent/guardian is required. Because young children tend to confuse directions, we do not honor a child’s verbal request. If it is necessary for you to pick your child up during the school day, please send a note to the teacher in the morning, and your child will be sent to the office at the time you specify. Please come to the office to meet your child.

Early Dismissals Winter Weather

On days of bad weather, school buses may leave school early at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. This allows extra time so that the buses will not be excessively late when taking students home.

School Bus Safety Guidelines

Parental Responsibilities - Parent(s)/guardian(s) are responsible for the supervision of their children to and from the school bus and particularly while waiting for the bus. This is unstructured time so parent supervision is critical.

Student Responsibilities

1. Students should be at the designated bus stop at least five minutes ahead of the scheduled pick-up time.
2. Students are to stay out of the street and line up when the bus stops. There is to be no pushing or shoving.
3. Remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop. Then depart promptly and orderly.
4. Unless directed to do otherwise by the driver, go 10 feet or more from the bus and wait for the bus to depart. Never walk behind the bus. Cross in front of the bus only with the driver's knowledge and when the bus arm is out.

Electronic Recordings on School Buses

Electronic visual and audio recordings may be used on school buses to monitor conduct and to promote and maintain a safe environment for students and employees when transportation is provided for any school related activity. Notice of electronic recordings shall be displayed on the exterior of the vehicle's entrance door and front interior bulkhead in compliance with state law and the rules of the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Traffic Safety.

Students are prohibited from tampering with electronic recording devices. Students who violate this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with the Board's discipline policy and shall reimburse the school district for any necessary repairs or replacement.

The content of the electronic recordings are student records and are subject to district policy and procedure concerning school student records; such recordings are exempt from the Eavesdropping Act. Only those people with a legitimate educational or administrative purpose may view and/or listen to the electronic video and/or audio recordings. If the content of electronic recording becomes the subject of a student disciplinary hearing, it will be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

Cross Reference:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:110, *Transportation*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:220, *Bus Conduct*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:170-AP3, *School Bus Safety Rules*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:220, *Bus Conduct*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:220-AP, *Electronic Recordings on School Buses*

4.15 Bus Conduct

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:110, Transportation, and 7:220, Bus Conduct

4.20 Parking

Each school has several parking spots labeled for school visitor parking.

Those dropping off and picking up children at Westview Hills may do so in the drop off zone between 7:30 – 7:45.

Those dropping off and picking up children at Maercker may do so in the drop off zone between 8:30 – 8:45. Students will enter the building in the morning at the west door, but are dismissed in the afternoon at the main entrance.

Those dropping off and picking up children at Holmes may do so in the drop off zone between 8:00 – 8:15.

Vehicles **MAY NOT** be parked or located in the bus lanes or fire lanes at **ANY TIME**. Bus lanes and fire lanes are clearly marked. Vehicles located in these locations may be ticketed and/or towed by the police.

Please be aware of the traffic signs indicating entrance and exit regulations as they are enforced by the police department. Vehicles may not pass a school bus with the stop arm extended.

Chapter 5 – Health and Safety

5.10 Immunization, Health, Eye and Dental Examinations

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

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

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam. Students between the age of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, an age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening. Students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

Eye Examination

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

Dental Examination

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

Exemptions

In accordance with rules adopted by the IDPH, a student will be exempted from this the requirements listed above for:

1. Religious or medical grounds, if the student's parents/guardians present the IDPH's Certificate of Religious Exemption form to the Superintendent or designee. When a Certificate of Religious Exemption form is presented, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately inform the parents/guardians of exclusion procedures pursuant to Board policy 7:280, Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease and State rules if there is an outbreak of one or more diseases from which the student is not protected.
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds, if a physician provides written verification.
3. Eye examination requirement, if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist.
4. Dental examination requirement, if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Cross Reference:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:100, *Health, Eye and, Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students*

5.12 Homeless Child

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment. School Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, governs the enrollment of homeless children.

5.14 Vision and Hearing Screening

Vision Screening will be conducted annually for all school age children who are in preschool, kindergarten, second and eighth grades; in all special education classes; referred by teachers; and transfer students. Vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor. Your child is not required to undergo this vision screening **IF** an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report form indicating that an examination has been administered within the previous 12 months and that evaluation is on file at the school. This notice is not asking for permission to test. Vision screening is **NOT** an option. A parent may ask not to have a child test **only** if a completed vision exam is on file at the school as stated above, or there is a religious objection and he/she notifies the school in writing of such.

Hearing Screening will be conducted annually for all school children who are in grades preschool, kindergarten, first, second and third; are in any special education class; have been referred by a teacher; or are transfer students. In lieu of the screening services required, a completed and signed report form, indicating that the child has had an ear examination by a physician and an audiological evaluation completed by an audiologist within the previous 12 months is acceptable. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must notify the school in writing that the above form is on file or that there is a religious objection to the screening.

5.20 Student Medication

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

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

Self-Administration of Medication

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

Students who are diabetic may possess and self-administer diabetic testing supplies and insulin if authorized by the student's diabetes care plan, which must be on file with the school. Students with epilepsy may possess and self-administer supplies, equipment and medication, if authorized by the student's seizure action plan, which must be on file with the school. Students may self-administer (but not possess on their person) other medications required under a qualified plan, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

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

Administration of Medical Cannabis

In accordance with the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program, qualifying students are allowed to utilize medical cannabis infused products while at school and school events. Please contact the building principal for additional information. Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver pursuant to this procedure is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

Undesignated Medications

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

Emergency Aid to Students

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

Cross-References:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:270, *Administering Medicines to Students*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:270-AP1, *Dispensing Medication*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:270-AP2, *Checklist for District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:270-E, *School Medication Authorization*

5.24 Health Concerns

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of children with special health concerns should contact the school nurse to determine any special precautions and to develop an Individual Health Care Plan as needed.

5.30 Pupil Personnel Services

School support services for students in need of additional assistance include the employment of a school nurse, social worker, psychologist, and speech pathologist.

5.40 Safety Drill Procedures and Conduct

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

Cross-References: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:170, *Safety*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:170-AP1, *Comprehensive Safety and Crisis Program*

5.50 Communicable Diseases

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

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

Cross-References:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:280, *Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:280-AP, *Managing Students with Communicable or Infectious Diseases*

5.60 Head Lice

The school will observe the following procedures regarding head lice.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has head lice.
2. Infested students will be sent home following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the infestation.
4. A student excluded because of head lice will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings the student to school to be checked by the school nurse and the child is determined to be free of the head lice and eggs(nits). Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

Cross-References: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:250 AP1, *Measures to Control the Spread of Head Lice at School*

5.62 Illness or Accident at School

If a student feels ill or becomes sick or injured at school, he/she should let the teacher know and be excused to the office. The principal, secretary, office clerk or nurse will talk with the student and determine if a call to parent(s)/guardian(s) is necessary. Depending on the circumstances, a student may be sent home or will remain in school.

Reasons your child will be sent home:

- If your child vomits at school.
- If your child has a temperature over 100.0 degrees.
- If your child has head lice.
- If your child has a communicable disease or is suspected of having a communicable disease, such as chicken pox or pinkeye.

5.64 Student Insurance

Student Accident Insurance, at no cost to the parent(s)/guardian(s), is provided to cover medical costs for Maercker District 60 students injured while attending regular school sessions, while directly traveling to and from school, and while participating in many school- sanctioned activities. Additional optional coverage is available for purchase. An information brochure is available at each school office.

5.66 Cold Weather Policy Regarding Recess (Holmes and Maercker)

When the temperature and/or wind chill is below 13 degrees F, or when it is raining or wet, students will remain indoors for recess. The children will be supervised and will be allowed quiet activities.

5.68 Crossing Cass Avenue

If you live west of Cass Avenue and your child walks to school, please caution him/her to cross only at the stoplight at 59th Street (Maercker) and 65th Street (Westview). An adult crossing guard is present both in the morning and after school.

5.69 Telephone Usage (Westview Hills)

Only with permission of the school staff shall a student use the office phone. Use of office phones is limited to calls to parent(s)/guardian(s) informing them of the need to stay after school for detention, schoolwork assistance, or changes in after-school activities that were made that day. It is the student's responsibility to notify parent(s)/guardian(s) of impending late arrivals home. If a teacher has assigned an after-school work period or detention, the student is expected to phone home. The school office phone is available for such calls.

5.70 Request for Asthma Action Plans

If your child has asthma, the district requests that you provide an Asthma Action Plan to the school office. The Asthma Action Plan is a written plan, developed by the individual student's medical provider. The plan is to provide directions for the care of the student with asthma and to be referenced in the event of an asthma episode. Copies of the Asthma Action Plan may be distributed to appropriate school staff. Please call the school nurse if you have any questions or concerns.

Chapter 6 – Discipline and Conduct

6.20 School Dress Code

Students are expected to wear clothing in a neat, clean, and well-fitting manner while on school property and/or in attendance at school sponsored activities. Students have the right to attend class dressed in clothes that suit their needs as long as their choice of dress does not cause a substantial disruption in the school environment. The following guidelines shall govern student dress:

- Students should maintain a level of modesty in the clothing they wear to school. Students are to wear garments with appropriate coverage mid-thigh to shoulder, with some shoulder coverage. Coverage should be maintained during all activities for example stretching, walking and sitting.
- Accessories or clothing that displays or promotes violence, sex, tobacco, alcohol, gang membership, offensive language, or illegal drugs and other inappropriate activities is prohibited.
- Hats, hoods, head coverings, coats, and sunglasses may not be worn in the building unless for religious reasons. During the school day hats, coats and sunglasses should be stored in the locker.
- Footwear must be worn in the school building.
- If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the school administration will make the final decision.

Cross-references: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:160, *Student Appearance*

6.30 Student Behavior

Prohibited Student Conduct

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

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens or other vaping related products.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering for sale:
 - a. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*).
 - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*.
 - e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
 - f. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
 - g. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
 - h. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in a tablet or powdered form.

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

4. Using, possessing, controlling or transferring a “weapon” or violating the procedures listed below under the Weapons Prohibition section of this handbook procedure.
5. Using or possessing an electronic paging device.
6. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or similar electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device or cellular telephone, commonly known as “sexting.” Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the building principal, all cellular phones, smartphones and other electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student’s individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student’s lunch period; or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals..
7. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member’s direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
8. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a staff member’s request to stop, present school identification or submit to a search.
9. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
10. Engaging in bullying, hazing or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student or encouraging other students to engage in such behavior. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network or other comparable conduct.
11. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning) and sexual assault.
12. Engaging in teen dating violence.
13. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, stealing, or attempting to steal, school property or another person’s personal property.
14. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
15. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (calling 9-1-1); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
16. Being absent without a recognized excuse.
17. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society.
18. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
19. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and hazing.
20. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.
21. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
22. Operating an unarmed aircraft system (AUS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the building principal.

For purposes of these rules, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

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

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

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

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

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

Disciplinary Measures

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

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

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

Isolated Time Out, Time Out and Physical Restraint

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

Corporal Punishment

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

Weapons Prohibition

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

(1) A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961. The expulsion period may be modified by the superintendent, and the superintendent's determination may be modified by the board on a case-by-case basis.

(2) A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including "look alikes" of any firearm as defined above.

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

Gang & Gang Activity Prohibited

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

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

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

6.32 Suspension Procedures

The following suspension procedures shall provide, at a minimum, for the following:

1. Before a student may be suspended, the student shall be provided a conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges.
2. A pre-suspension conference is not required and the student can be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practicable.
3. Any suspension shall be reported immediately to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). A written notice of the suspension shall state the reasons for the suspension, including any school rule which was violated, and a notice to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their right to a review of the suspension. A copy of a notice shall be given to the School Board.
4. Upon request of the parent(s)/guardian(s), a review of the suspension shall be conducted by the School Board or a hearing officer appointed by the Board. At the review, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may appear and discuss the suspension with the Board or its hearing officer and may be represented by counsel. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall take such action as it finds appropriate.
5. Homework completion during suspensions will be expected but may not be counted for credit. Tests shall be made up upon a student's return to school.

6.34 Expulsion Procedures

The following are expulsion procedures:

1. Before a student may be expelled, the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be provided written notice of the time, place, and purpose of a hearing by registered or certified mail requesting the appearance of the parent(s)/guardian(s). If requested, the student shall have a hearing, at the time and place designated in the notice, conducted by the Board or a hearing officer appointed by it. If a hearing officer is appointed by the Board, he or she shall report to the Board the evidence presented at the hearing and the Board shall take such final action as it finds appropriate.
2. During the expulsion hearing, the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) may be represented by counsel, present witnesses, and other evidence and cross-examine witnesses. At the expulsion hearing, the Board or hearing officer shall hear evidence of whether the student is guilty of the gross disobedience or misconduct as charged. After presentation of the evidence or receipt of the hearing officer's report, the Board shall decide the issue of guilt and take such action as it finds appropriate.

The basic differences between a suspension and an expulsion are as follows:

1. A suspension is for a period up to and including ten school days; an expulsion is for a period longer than ten days.
2. The principal, assistant principal and superintendent are authorized by the School Board to suspend a student; only the Board of Education may expel a student.
3. A student may be suspended prior to a hearing; a student may not be expelled until after a hearing.

6.40 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

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

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

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

Bullying includes cyber-bullying and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. Cyberbullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyberbullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

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

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

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Name: Patrick King

Address: Maercker District 60 Administrative Center 1 S. Cass Ave., Suite 202, Westmont, IL 60559

Telephone: (630) 515-4840 [Email: pking@maercker.org](mailto:pking@maercker.org)

Compliant Mangers:

Name: Susan Ejma

Address: Maercker District 60 Administrative Center 1 S. Cass Ave, Suite 202, Westmont, IL 60559

Telephone: 630-515-4840 Email: sejma@maercker.org

Name: Allister Scott

Address: Westview Hills Middle School, 630 65th Street, Willowbrook, IL 60527

Telephone: 630-515-4830 Email: ascott@maercker.org

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

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

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

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

Cross-References:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:180, *Prevention and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:190, *Student Discipline*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*

6.45 Harassment & Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Harassment Prohibited

No person, including a school or school district employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

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

Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

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

Making a Report or Complaint

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

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Name: Patrick King

Address: Maercker District 60 Administrative Center 1 S. Cass Ave., Suite 202
Westmont, IL. 60559

Telephone: (630) 515-4840 [Email: pking@maercker.org](mailto:pking@maercker.org)

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Telephone: 630-515-4840 Email: sejma@maercker.org

Name: Allister Scott

Address: Westview Hills Middle School, 630 65th Street, IL 60527

Telephone: 630-515-4830 Email: ascott@maercker.org

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

Cross-references: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited; 7.185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

6.50 Cafeteria Rules

The following rules apply in the cafeteria:

1. Students shall not save seats for other students.
2. Students shall sit only at their designated table.
3. Students shall walk to lunch and shall be orderly and quiet during lunch.
4. Loud talking, yelling, screaming, and other disruptions are prohibited.
5. Students shall not throw food, milk cartons or other items.
6. Students shall not trade or give away food.
7. Students shall follow the instructions of the lunchroom aides and show proper respect toward all cafeteria personnel.
8. Students shall remain seated while in the cafeteria except to return to the lunch line or return trays.
9. Students shall immediately become silent when staff or presenters make announcements in the cafeteria.
10. Students shall report spills and broken containers to cafeteria staff immediately.
11. Students who have eaten peanut butter are required to wash their hands thoroughly.
12. No food shall leave the cafeteria.
13. Students shall be dismissed from the cafeteria by the lunch room supervisor.

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

6.60 Field Trips

Field trips are a privilege for students. Students must abide by all school policies during transportation and during field-trip activities, and shall treat all field trip locations as though they are school grounds. Failure to abide by school rules and/or location rules during a field trip may subject the student to discipline. All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons:

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

6.62 Toys and Games

We ask that your child not bring toys, games, personal electronics and other articles unrelated to learning to school.

6.64 Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support

PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. Rather than a prescribed program, PBIS provides systems for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom, non-classroom, and student specific plans. PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safe and productive learning environment where teachers can teach and all students can learn. Each of our schools has implemented the PBIS model to identify and articulate behavior expectations for all students. These expectations are posted throughout our schools, and students learn about them during their first days of school and throughout the year. Details regarding each school's expectations and practices will be provided by each principal.

6.70 Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites

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

Cross-references: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:140, *Search and Seizure*

6.80 Student Use of Electronic Devices

The use of electronic devices and other technology at school is a privilege, not a right. Students are prohibited from using electronic devices, except as provided herein. An electronic device includes, but is not limited to, the following: cell phone, smart phone, audio or video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), ipod®, ipad®, laptop computer, tablet computer or other similar electronic device. Pocket pagers and other paging devices are not allowed on school property at any time, except with the express permission of the building principal.

During instructional time, which includes class periods and passing periods, electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight unless: (a) permission is granted by an administrator, teacher or school staff member; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Students are allowed to use electronic devices during non-instructional time, which is defined as before and after school and during the student's lunch period.

Electronic devices may never be used in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, violates student conduct rules or violates the rights of others. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: (1) using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms; (2) cheating; and (3) creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction or non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images (i.e., sexting).

The school and school district are not responsible for the loss, theft or damage to any electronic device brought to school.

Students in violation of this procedure are subject to the following consequences:

1. First offense – The device will be confiscated by school personnel. A verbal warning will be assigned. The student will receive the device back at the end of the day in the school office.
2. Second offense – The device will be confiscated. A detention will be assigned. The student's parent/guardian will be notified and required to pick up the device in the school office.
3. Third offense – The device will be confiscated. A detention will be assigned. The student's parent/guardian will be notified and required to pick up the device in the school office. Additionally, the student will be prohibited from bringing the device to school for the next 10 school days. If the student is found in possession of the device during this 10-day period, the student will be prohibited from bringing the device to school for the remainder of the school year. The student will also face consequences for insubordination.
4. Fourth and subsequent offense – The device will be confiscated. The student will be assigned a detention and will be prohibited from bringing the device to school for the remainder of the school year. The student's parent/guardian will be notified and required to pick up the device in the school office. The student will also face consequences for insubordination.

School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination

Cross-references: BOARD OF EDUCATION 7:190-AP5, Student Handbook, Electronic Devices

Chapter 7 – Internet, Technology and Publications

7.10 Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks

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

Terms and Conditions

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

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

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

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

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

- a. Using the electronic networks for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other intellectual property rights or contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
- b. Using the electronic networks to engage in conduct prohibited by board policy;
- c. Unauthorized downloading of software or other files, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or scanned formal ware;
- d. Unauthorized use of personal removable media devices (such as flash or thumb drives);
- e. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
- f. Using the electronic networks for private financial or commercial gain;
- g. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;
- h. Hacking or attempting to hack or gain unauthorized access to files, accounts, resources, or entities by any means;
- i. Invading the privacy of individuals, including the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature, such as a photograph or video;
- j. Using another user's account or password;
- k. Disclosing any network or account password (including your own) to any other person, unless requested by the system administrator;
- l. Posting or sending material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
- m. Posting or sending anonymous messages;

- n. Creating or forwarding chain letters, spam, or other unsolicited messages;
- o. Using the electronic networks for commercial or private advertising;
- p. Accessing, sending, posting, publishing, or displaying any abusive, obscene, profane, sexual, threatening, harassing, illegal, or knowingly false material;
- q. Misrepresenting the user's identity or the identity of others; and
- r. Using the electronic networks while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- a. For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.
- b. Students engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of *public domain* documents must be provided.
- c. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.
- d. The *fair use* rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
- e. Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and student.

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

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

Internet Safety

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

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

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

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

Cross reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:235 Access To Electronic Networks

7.20 Guidelines for Student Distribution of Non-School-Sponsored Publications

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

1. The student(s) must notify the Building Principal of the intent to distribute, in writing, at least 24 hours before distributing the material. No prior approval of the material is required.
2. The material may be distributed at times and locations selected by the Building Principal, e.g., before the beginning or ending of classes at a central location inside the building.
3. The Building Principal may impose additional requirements whenever necessary to prevent disruption, congestion, or the perception that the material is school-endorsed.
4. Distribution must be done in an orderly and peaceful manner, and may not be coercive.
5. The distribution must be conducted in a manner that does not cause additional work for school personnel. Students who distribute material are responsible for cleaning up any materials left on school grounds.
6. Students must not distribute material that:
 - a. Will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or activities.
 - b. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to, material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
 - c. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the students' maturity level, including but not limited to, material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or sexting as defined by School Board policy and Student Handbook,;
 - d. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
 - e. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. However, material from outside sources or the citation to such sources may be allowed, as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students; or
 - f. Incites students to violate any Board policy.
7. A student may use the School District's Uniform Grievance Procedure to resolve a complaint.
8. Whenever these guidelines require written notification, the appropriate administrator may assist the student in preparing such notification.

A student or group of students seeking to distribute 10 or fewer copies of the same publication on one or more days to students must distribute such material at times and places and in a manner that will not cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities and in compliance with paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:310, AP, Guidelines for Student Distribution of Non- School Sponsored Publications, Elementary Schools

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7.50 Use of Artificial Intelligence

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

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

In certain situations, AI may be used as a learning tool or a study aid. Students who wish to use AI for legitimate educational purposes must have permission from a teacher or an administrator. Students may use AI as authorized in their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Students may not use AI, including AI image or voice generator technology, to violate school rules or school district policies.

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

Cross-reference: None

8.10 Search and Seizure

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

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

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

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

Student Searches

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

School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student’s account on a social networking website that violates the school’s disciplinary rules or school district policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination.

School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to the student’s account or profile on a social networking website.

Seizure of Property

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

Questioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity

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

Cross-reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:140, *Search and Seizure*

Chapter 9 – Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities

9.10 Extracurricular and Athletic Activities Code of Conduct

This Extracurricular and Athletic Activities Code of Conduct applies, where applicable, to all school-sponsored athletic and extracurricular activities that are not part of an academic class nor otherwise carry credit for a grade.

Requirements for Participation in Athletic Activities

A student must meet all academic eligibility requirements and have the following fully executed documents on file in the school office before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity:

1. A current certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse or physician assistant. The preferred certificate of physical fitness is the Illinois Elementary Association's "Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form."
2. A permission slip to participate in the specific athletic activity signed by the student's parent/guardian.
3. Proof the student is covered by medical insurance.
4. Signed documentation agreeing to comply with the School District's policies and procedures on student athletic concussions and head injuries.

Illinois Elementary School Association

Eligibility for most athletics is also governed by the rules of the Illinois Elementary School Association and, if applicable, these rules will apply in addition to this Extracurricular and Athletic Activities Code of Conduct. In the case of a conflict between IESA and this Code, the most stringent rule will be enforced.

Academic Eligibility

Selection of members or participants in extracurricular and athletic activities is at the discretion of the designated teachers, sponsors, and coaches.

In order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular and athletic activities, a student must be passing all classes. Eligibility is assessed weekly during the season. Any student failing to meet academic requirements will be suspended from the sport or activity for one week or until all academic requirements are met, whichever is longer.

Absence from School on Day of Extracurricular or Athletic Activity

A student who is absent from school after noon is ineligible for any extracurricular or athletic activity on that day unless the absence has been approved in writing by the principal. Exceptions may be made by the designated teacher, sponsor or coach for justifiable reasons, including: 1) a pre-arranged medical absence; 2) a death in the student's family; or 3) a religious ceremony or event.

A student who has been suspended from school is also suspended from participation in all extracurricular and athletic activities for the duration of the suspension.

A student who is absent from school on a Friday before a Saturday event may be withheld from Saturday extracurricular or athletic activities at the sole discretion of the designated teacher, sponsor or coach.

Travel

All students must travel to extracurricular and athletic activities and return home from such activities with his or her team by use of school approved transportation. A written waiver of this rule may be issued by the teacher, sponsor or coach in charge of the extracurricular or athletic activity upon advance written request of a student's parent/guardian and provided the parent/guardian appears and accepts custody of the student. Oral requests will not be honored and oral permissions are not valid.

Code of Conduct

This Code does not contain a complete list of inappropriate behaviors. Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations. A student may be excluded from extracurricular or athletic activities while the school is conducting an investigation into the student's conduct.

The student shall not:

1. Violate the school rules and School District policies on student discipline including policies and procedures on student behavior;
2. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute a beverage containing alcohol (except for religious purposes);
3. Ingest or otherwise use possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute tobacco or nicotine in any form;
4. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any product composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form or any illegal substance (including mood-altering and performance enhancing drugs or chemicals) or paraphernalia;
5. Use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is a look alike weapon. This prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in athletics, such as archery, martial arts practice, target shooting, hunting, and skeet;
6. Attend a party or other gathering and/or ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors;
7. Act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
8. Violate any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and reckless driving;
9. Haze or bully other students;
10. Violate the written rules for the extracurricular or athletic activity;
11. Behave in a manner that disrupts or adversely affects the group or school;
12. Be insubordinate or disrespectful toward the activity's sponsors or team's coaching staff; or
13. Falsify any information contained on any permit or permission form required by the extracurricular or athletic activity.

Hazing is any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a team or group, regardless of his or her willingness to participate. *Bullying* includes cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
- 2. Causing a detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
- 3. Interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

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

Due Process Procedures

Students who are accused of violating the Code of Conduct are entitled to the following due process:

1. The student should be advised of the disciplinary infraction with which he or she is being charged.
2. The student shall be entitled to a hearing before an appropriate administrator.
3. The student will be able to respond to any charges leveled against him or her.
4. The student may provide any additional information he or she wishes for the administrator to consider.

5. The administrator, with the help of other staff members if needed, may interview material witnesses or others with evidence concerning the case.
6. If the administrator finds, after reviewing the evidence, that the violation occurred, he or she will impose sanctions on the student, as follows:
 1. Sanctions for violations other than drug and alcohol will be based on the nature of the offense and the number of offenses, and may include suspension from all extracurricular or athletic activities for one of the time periods described below:
 - A specified period of time or percentage of performances, activities or competitions;
 - The remainder of the season or for the next season; or
 - The remainder of the student's school career.
 2. Sanctions for alcohol and other drug violations, including tobacco, nicotine in any form, mood-altering or performance enhancing drugs, products composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form, paraphernalia or any other illegal substance, will be based on the following:

First violation

 - Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one sixth of the total number of performances, activities or competitions, or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter.
 - The student will be required to practice with the group, regardless of the violation (unless suspended or expelled from school).

Second violation

 - Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one third of the season and all extracurricular group performances, activities, or competitions during this period.
 - The student may be required to practice with the group (unless suspended or expelled from school).

Third violation

 - Use, ingestion, possession, buying, selling, offering to sell, bartering, or distributing: A suspension from extracurricular or athletic activities for the remainder of the student's school career.
 - Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one calendar year from the date of the suspension, including all extracurricular and athletic activities during this period.
7. The appropriate administrator will make a written report of his or her decision and rationale. The student may appeal the decision to the Principal or Principal's designee.

All students remain subject to all the School District's policies and the school's student/parent handbook.

Modification of Athletic or Team Uniform

Students may modify their athletic or team uniform for the purpose of modesty in clothing or attire that is in accordance with the requirements of the student's religion or the student's cultural values or modesty preferences.

Cross-References:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY

6:190, *Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities*

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:190-AP, *Eligibility for Participation in Extracurricular Activities* BOARD OF
EDUCATION POLICY 7:240, *Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities* BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:240
AP1, *Code of Conduct for Extracurricular Activities* BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY

7:300, *Extracurricular Athletics*

9.20 Attendance at School-Sponsored Dances

Attendance at school-sponsored dances or activities is a privilege. Only students who attend the school may attend school-sponsored dances. All school rules, including the school's discipline code and dress code are in effect during school-sponsored dances and activities. Students who violate the school's discipline code will be required to leave the dance immediately and the student's parent/guardian will be contacted. The school may also impose other discipline as outlined in the school's discipline code.

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:190, *Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities*

9.30 Student Athlete Concussion and Head Injuries

Student athletes must comply with Illinois' Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act and all protocols, policies and bylaws of the Illinois Elementary School Association before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity, including practice or competition.

A student who was removed from practice or competition because of a suspected concussion shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the School District's return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols.

Cross-References:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:305, *Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries*

Chapter 10 – Special Education

10.10 Education of Children with Disabilities

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

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

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

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

For further information, please contact:

Maureen Kidd
630-515-4840
1 S Cass Avenue, Suite 202
Westmont, IL 60559

Cross Reference:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:120, *Education of Children with Disabilities*

BOARD OF EDUCATION 6:120-AP1, E1 Exhibit – Notice to Parents/Guardians Regarding Section 504 Rights

10.20 Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Behavioral Interventions

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

Discipline of Special Education Students

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

Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY

7:190-AP4, Administrative Procedure – Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:230, Misconduct by Students with Disabilities

10.30 Exemption from Physical Education Requirement

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

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

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6:310, Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitution

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

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

10.60 Related Service Logs

Related Service Logs

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION 7:340-AP1, *School Student Records*

Chapter 11 – Student Records and Privacy

11.10 Privacy Protections

Surveys

All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the District's educational objectives, or assist students' career choices. This applies to all surveys, regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified or who created the survey.

Surveys by Third Parties

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.

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

Surveys Requesting Personal Information

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

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

The student's parent/guardian may: (1) inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and/or (2) refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

Instructional Material

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

The term "instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Prohibition on Selling or Marketing Students' Personal Information

No school official or staff member may market or sell personal information concerning students (or otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose). The term *personal information* means individually identifiable information including: (1) a student or parent's first and last name, (2) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), (3) a telephone number, (4) a Social Security identification number or (5) driver's license number or State identification card.

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the above paragraph does not apply: (1) if the student's parent/guardian have consented; or (2) to the collection, disclosure or, use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

1. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment.
2. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products.
3. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools.
4. Tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments.
5. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities.
6. Student recognition programs.

Under no circumstances may a school official or staff member provide a student's personal information to a business organization or financial institution that issues credit or debit cards

A parent/guardian who desires to opt their child out of participation in activities provided herein or who desires a copy or access to a survey or any other material described herein may contact the Building Principal.

Cross-References:

Board of Education 7:15, *Student and Family Privacy Rights*

Board of Education 7:15-E, *Notification to Parents of Family Privacy Rights*

11.20 Student Records

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

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

The right to inspect and copy the student's education records within 10 business days of the day the District receives a request for access.

The degree of access a student has to his or her records depends on the student's age. Students less than 18 years of age have the right to inspect and copy only their permanent record. Students 18 years of age or older have access and copy rights to both permanent and temporary records. A parent/guardian or student should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) he or she wishes to inspect. Within 10 business days, the building principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent/guardian or student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. In certain circumstances, the District may request an additional 5 business days in which to grant access. The District charges \$.35 per page for copying but no one will be denied their right to copies of their records for inability to pay this cost.

These rights are denied to any person against whom an order of protection has been entered concerning the student.

The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/ guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper.

A parent/guardian or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that is believed to be inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper. Requests should be sent to the building principal and should clearly identify the record the parent/guardian or eligible student wants changed and the specific reason a change is being sought.

If the District decides not to amend the record, the District will notify the parent/guardian or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent/guardian or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to permit disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the FERPA or Illinois School Student Records Act authorizes disclosure without consent.

Disclosure without consent is permitted to school officials with legitimate educational or administrative interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board. A school official may also include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or educational technology vendor); or any parent/guardian or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility or contractual obligation with the district.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any person as specifically required by State or federal law. Before information is released to these individuals, the parents/guardians or eligible student will receive prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information, and an opportunity to inspect, copy, and challenge such records.

Academic grades and references to expulsions or out-of-school suspensions cannot be challenged at the time a student's records are being forwarded to another school to which the student is transferring.

Disclosure is also permitted without consent to: any person for research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified; to another school district that overlaps attendance boundaries with the District, if the District has entered into an intergovernmental agreement that allows for sharing of student records and information with the other district, any person named in a court order; appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons; and juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties who request information before adjudication of the student.

The right to a copy of any school student record proposed to be destroyed or deleted.

The permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. The temporary record is maintained for at least 5 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. Temporary records that may be of assistance to a student with a disability who graduates or permanently withdraws, may, after 5 years, be transferred to the parent/guardian or to the student, if the student has succeeded to the rights of the parent/guardian. Student temporary records are reviewed every 4 years or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first.

The right to prohibit the release of directory information.

Throughout the school year, the District may release directory information regarding students, limited to:

- Name
- Address
- Grade level
- Birth date and place
- Parent/guardian names, addresses, electronic mail addresses, and telephone numbers
- Photographs, videos, or digital images used for informational or news-related purposes (whether by a media outlet or by the school) of a student participating in school or school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics that have appeared in school publications, such as yearbooks, newspapers, or sporting or fine arts programs
- Academic awards, degrees, and honors
- Information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics
- Major field of study
- Period of attendance in school

Any parent/guardian or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all of the above information by delivering a written objection to the building principal within 30 days of the date of this notice.

The right contained in this statement: No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege or benefits or make as a condition of employment, credit, or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record which such individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under State law.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

U.S. Department of Education
Student Privacy Policy Office
400 Maryland Ave, SW
Washington DC 20202-8520

**School Student Records
Destruction Schedule**

Destruction Schedule Based on the Student's Anticipated Promotion from Maercker School District 60		
Student Grade Level 2023-2024	Permanent Record	Temporary Record
K	July 1, 2091	July 1, 2037
1	July 1, 2090	July 1, 2036
2	July 1, 2089	July 1, 2035
3	July 1, 2088	July 1, 2034
4	July 1, 2087	July 1, 2033
5	July 1, 2086	July 1, 2032
6	July 1, 2085	July 1, 2031
7	July 1, 2084	July 1, 2030
8	July 1, 2083	July 1, 2029

Cross-References:
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 7:340, *Student Records*

11.30 Biometric Information Collection

The District collects biometric information from its students only for identification and/or fraud prevention purposes. Biometric information includes any information collected through an identification process for individuals based on their unique characteristics, including fingerprint, hand geometry, voice, or facial recognition. The School Code requires written permission from the individual who has legal custody of the student before the District may collect biometric information from students.

When collecting biometric information, the School Code also requires the District to:

1. Store, transmit, and protect all biometric information from disclosure.
2. Prohibit the sale, lease, or other disclosure of biometric information to another person or entity unless: (a) prior written permission by you is granted, or (b) the disclosure is required by court order.
3. Discontinue the use of a student's biometric information under either of the following conditions:
 - (a) Upon the student's promotion or withdrawal from the school district; or
 - (b) Upon receipt in writing of a request for discontinuation by the individual having legal custody of the student.
4. Destroy all of a student's biometric information within 30 days after the occurrence of either conditions 3(a) or 3(b) above.

Chapter 12 – Parental Rights and Notifications

12.10 Teacher Qualifications

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

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

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

12.20 Standardized Testing

Students and parents/guardians should be aware that all students will take standardized tests throughout the school year. Parents are encouraged to cooperate in preparing students for the standardized testing, because the quality of the education the school can provide is partially dependent upon the school's ability to continue to prove its success in the state's standardized tests. Parents can assist their students achieve their best performance by doing the following:

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

12.22 District Assessment Plan

The Maercker School District 60 Balanced Assessment Plan is designed to provide teachers and parent(s)/guardian(s) with both formative and summative student data to inform instructional decisions. Following is a chart reflecting the types of assessments to be administered during the school year.

Assessment	Description	Grade Levels
AIMSweb	A scientifically based, formative assessment system that 'informs' the teaching and learning process by providing continuous student performance data in reading, early literacy, early numeracy, mathematics, and social emotional learning.	Grades K - 8
Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)	A state-aligned computerized adaptive assessment program that provides educators with the information they need to improve teaching and learning in the areas of reading, and math.	Grades K - 8
Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Assessment	One-on-one assessment that aligns to the Phonological Awareness standards for Kindergarten and 1 st Grade	Grade K-1
Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment	One-on-one assessment which matches student's instructional and independent reading abilities to the Fountas & Pinnell Text Level Gradient.	Grades 2-5 6-8 Special Education
Illinois Assessment of Readiness	The annual state assessment to identify student progress in relation to standards in English language arts and math.	Grades 3-8 ELA & Math
Illinois Science Assessment	The annual state assessment used to identify student progress in relation to state standards in science.	To be determined by the IL Board of Education

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternative Assessment	The annual state assessment for students with significant disabilities.	Grades 3-8, ELA & Math Grades 3 and 5, Science
ACCESS for ELs	State required screening assessment to identify English language proficiency for students with second language backgrounds.	All Grades

12.30 Homeless Child's Right to Education

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

1. continuing the child's education in the school of origin for as long as the child remains homeless or, if the child becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year during which the housing is acquired; or
2. enrolling the child in any school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

The district liaison for homeless children is Mrs. Maureen Kidd, Director of Student Services, who can be reached at (630) 515- 4846.

12.40 Sex Education Instruction

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or course in comprehensive sex education including in grades 6-8, instruction on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; family life instruction, including in grades 6-8, instruction on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS; instruction on diseases; recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse; or instruction on donor programs for organ/tissue, blood donor, and transplantation, if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The district provides 5 days advance notice to parents prior to offering any class or course

in recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse to pupils in grades kindergarten through 8th. The parent or guardian's decision will not be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this Section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene or traditional courses in biology.

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

12.60 English Language Learners

The school offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State standards that all children are expected to meet.

Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children, and (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students; and (3) participate and serve on the District's Transitional Bilingual Education Programs Parent Advisory Committee.

For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Language Learners program, contact Dr. Susan Ejma, _ Director of Teaching and Learning t (630) 515-4840.

12.70 School Visitation Rights

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

Cross-Reference:

BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8:95-E1, *Letter Notifying Parents/Guardians of School Visitation Rights*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 8:95-E2, *Verification of School Visitation*

12.80 Pesticide Application Notice

The district tries to limit its use of pesticides; however, occasionally needs arise where the use of such pesticides cannot be avoided. The district maintains a registry of parents/guardians of students who have registered to receive written or telephone notification prior to the application of pesticides to school grounds. To be added to the list, please contact: Susan Caddy, Business Manager, at (630) 515-4840. Notification will be given before application of the pesticide. Prior notice is not required if there is no imminent threat to health or property.

Cross-Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:160-AP, *Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds*

12.82 Asbestos Notice

Maercker School District 60 maintains an Asbestos Management Plan that is readily available for inspection by parents and staff. Parents and staff will also be notified of any planned asbestos removal projects, if needed.

12.83 Toxic Substances

The school district has taken precautions to ensure that art or craft materials which are toxic substances shall not be ordered or purchased by any school or employee for use by students in grades pre-K through 6th. In grades 7-12 toxic art substances are purchased only when they meet labeling standards.

Cross-Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 4:160, *Hazardous and Infectious Materials*

12.90 Mandated Reporters

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

Cross Reference: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*

12.105 Student Privacy

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

12.110 Sex Offender Notification Law

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

1. To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of their child.
2. To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to their child's special education services.
3. To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning their child, such as retention or promotion.

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

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

A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

12.120 Violent Offender Community Notification

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

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

12.122 District Leadership Team

The District Leadership Team establishes, actively promotes and monitors the progress district's vision, values and goals to ensure accountability. The team is comprised of representatives from all stakeholder groups.

12.124 Safe and Drug Free Schools

Maercker School District 60 participates in a federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) grant program entitled Title IVA, Drug Free Schools. The purpose of this grant is to support programs that prevent violence in and around schools; that prevent the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs; that involve parent(s)/guardian(s) and communities; and that are coordinated with related federal, state, school, and community efforts and resources to foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports student academic achievement. During the 2010-2011 school year, Maercker School District 60 will utilize these funds to continue staff training in Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) as well as to support our middle school's participation in the high school Snowflake Program.

12.126 Sales of Student or Group Property

Students are prohibited from selling any goods or services for personal gain on school grounds. School groups may sell property or services only if approved by the sponsor and principal. Gambling in any form is prohibited.

12.128 Parent Notices Required by the Every Student Succeeds Act

I. Teacher Qualifications

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

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

II. Testing Transparency

The State and District requires students to take certain standardized tests. For additional information, see handbook procedure 12:20

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

III. Annual Report Card

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

IV. Parent & Family Engagement Compact

V. Student Privacy

Students have certain privacy protections under federal law. For additional information, see handbook procedure 12.105.

VI. English Learners

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

VII. Homeless Students

For information on supports and services available to homeless students, see handbook procedure 12:30.

12.130 Uniform Grievance Procedure

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any District Complaint Manager if he or she believe that the School Board, its employees, or agents have violated his or her rights guaranteed by the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, or Board policy, or have a complaint regarding:

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972;
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
4. Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.;
5. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.;
6. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.;
7. Sexual harassment (Illinois Human Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972);
8. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children;
9. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs;
10. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180;
11. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112; or
12. Provision of services to homeless students.
13. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/1 et seq.
14. Misuse of genetic information (Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act (GIPA), 410 ILCS 513/and Titles I and II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), 42 U.S.C. § 2000ff et seq.)

The Complaint Manager will attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure and, if a complaint is filed, to address the complaint promptly and equitably. The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies. Use of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies and use of this grievance procedure does not extend any filing deadline related to the pursuit of other remedies. All deadlines may be extended by the Complaint Manager, as he or she deems appropriate. As used in this policy, "school business days" means days on which the district's main office is open.

Filing a Complaint

A person (hereinafter Complainant) who wishes to avail him or herself of this grievance procedure may do so by filing a complaint with any District Complaint Manager. The Complainant shall not be required to file a complaint with a particular Complaint Manager and may request a Complaint Manager of the same gender. The Complaint Manager may request the Complainant to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint or require a meeting with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Complaint Manager shall assist the Complainant as needed.

Investigation

The Complaint Manager will investigate the complaint or appoint a qualified person to undertake the investigation on his or her behalf. If the complainant is a student, the Complaint Manager will notify his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) that they may attend any investigatory meetings in which their child is involved. The complaint and identity of the Complainant will not be disclosed except (1) as required by law, this policy, or (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the Complainant.

The identity of any student witnesses will not be disclosed except: (1) as required by law or any collective bargaining agreement, or (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint, or (3) as authorized by the parent/ guardian of the student witness.

Within 30 school business days of the date the complaint was filed, the Complaint Manager shall file a written report of his or her findings with the Superintendent. The Complaint Manager may request an extension of time. If a complaint of sexual harassment contains allegations involving the Superintendent, the written report shall be filed with the School Board, which will make a decision in accordance with Section 3 of this policy. The Superintendent will keep the Board informed of all complaints.

Decision and Appeal

Within 5 school business days after receiving the Complaint Manager's report, the Superintendent shall mail his or her written decision to the Complainant by U.S. mail, first class, as well as the Complaint Manager.

Within 10 school business days after receiving the Superintendent's decision, the Complainant may appeal the decision to the School Board by making a written request to the Complaint Manager. The Complaint Manager shall promptly forward all materials relative to the complaint and appeal to the School Board. Within 30 school business days, the School Board shall affirm, reverse, or amend the Superintendent's decision or direct the Superintendent to gather additional information. Within 5 school business days of the Board's decision, the Superintendent shall inform the Complainant of the Board's action.

This grievance procedure shall not be construed to create an independent right to a School Board hearing. The failure to strictly follow the timelines in this grievance procedure shall not prejudice any party.

Appointing Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Complaint Managers

The Superintendent shall appoint a Nondiscrimination Coordinator to manage the district's efforts to provide equal opportunity employment and educational opportunities and prohibit the harassment of employees, students, and others.

The Superintendent shall appoint at least two Complaint Managers, one of each gender. The district's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, if any, may be appointed a Complaint Manager. The Superintendent shall insert into this policy the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of current Complaint Managers.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Name	Patrick King
Address	1 S. Cass Ave., Suite202
	Westmont, IL 60559
Telephone No.	630.515.4840

Complaint Managers:

Name:	Susan Ejma
Address	1 S. Cass Ave., Suite202
	Westmont, IL 60559
Telephone No.	630.515.4840

Name	Allister Scott
Address	630 65 th Street
	Willowbrook, IL 60527
Telephone No.	630.515.4830