

# **FLIPPIN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **POLICY MANUAL**

### **SECTION 4**

## **STUDENTS**

LAST UPDATED: 6/25/2018

## **SECTION 4—STUDENTS**

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## **4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

Definitions:

“Reside” means to be physically present and to maintain a permanent place of abode for an average of no fewer than four (4) calendar days and nights per week for a primary purpose other than school attendance.

“Resident” means a student whose parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside in the school district.

“Residential address” means the physical location where the student’s parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside. A student may use the residential address of a legal guardian, person having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or person standing in loco parentis only if the student resides at the same residential address and if the guardianship or other legal authority is not granted solely for educational needs or school attendance purposes.

The schools of the District shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court reside within the District and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the District for educational purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes.

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District’s schools separate and apart from his or her parents, guardians, or other persons having lawful control of him or her under an order of a court, the person must actually reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance. However, a student previously enrolled in the district who is placed under the legal guardianship of a non-custodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools. A foster child who was previously enrolled in a District school and who has had a change in placement to a residence outside the District, may continue to remain enrolled in his/her current school unless the presiding court rules otherwise.<sup>3</sup>

Under instances prescribed in A.C.A. § 6-1-203, a child or ward of an employee of the district or of the education coop to which the district belongs may enroll in the district even though the employee and his/her child or ward reside outside the district.

## 4.1– RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

Children whose parent or legal guardian relocates within the state due to a mobilization, deployment, or available military housing while on active duty in or serving in the reserve component of a branch of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard may continue attending school in the school district the children were attending prior to the relocation or attend school in the school district where the children have relocated. A child may complete all remaining school years at the enrolled school district regardless of mobilization, deployment, or military status of the parent or guardian.

**Note:** <sup>1</sup> Residency requirements of homeless students is governed by policy 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS. Residency requirements governing foster children are governed by policy 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

<sup>2</sup> The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children is the source for this sentence. It is codified at A.C.A. § 6-4-302.

<sup>3</sup> This is a provision of A.C.A. § 9-28-113(a) and (b).

<sup>4</sup> Rather than duplicate the law on the attendance of children of employees who reside outside of the district into the policy which would make for a long policy affecting a relatively small number of students, we suggest you consult, A.C.A. § 6-18-203, and have a copy handy for affected employees or potential employees.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-202  
A.C.A. § 6-18-203  
A.C.A. § 6-27-102,112  
This is a provision of A.C.A. § 9-28-113(a) and (b).

Cross References: Policy 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS  
Policy 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 10/27/2008; 11/23/2009; 06/27/2011; 6/17/2013; 5/23/2017

## 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must be a resident of the District as defined in District policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), meet the criteria outlined in policy 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS or in policy 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option.

Students may enter kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before **August 15** of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment. Any student who has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the District.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district and may be placed in the first grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the first grade and the child's parent or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade in a District school if the child will attain the age of six (6) years during the school year in which the child is seeking enrollment and the child has successfully completed a kindergarten program in a public school in Arkansas.

Any child who has been enrolled in the first grade in a state-accredited or state-approved elementary school in another state for a period of at least sixty (60) days, who will become age six (6) years during the school year in which he/she is enrolled in grade one (1), and who meets the basic residency requirements for school attendance may be enrolled in the first grade.

Students who move into the District from an accredited school shall be assigned to the same grade as they were attending in their previous school (mid-year transfers) or as they would have been assigned in their previous school. Private school students shall be evaluated by the District to determine their appropriate grade placement. Home school students enrolling or re-enrolling as a public school student shall be placed in accordance with policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, of any student or his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.<sup>1</sup>

Prior to the child's admission to a District school:<sup>2</sup>



## **2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS (cont.)**

1. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the district will assign the child a nine (9) digit number designated by the department of education
2. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
  - a. A birth certificate;
  - b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
  - c. An attested baptismal certificate;
  - d. A passport;
  - e. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian;
  - f. United States military identification; or
  - g. Previous school records.
3. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding. The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another school district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.<sup>3</sup>
4. In accordance with Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS, the child shall be age appropriately immunized or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health.

### **Uniformed Services Member's Children**

For the purposes of this policy,

"active duty"<sup>4</sup> members of the uniformed services" includes members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211;

"uniformed services"<sup>4</sup> means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services;

"veteran" means: a person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable.

"Eligible child" means the children of:

- active duty members of the uniformed services;
- members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement; and
- members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death.

## 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

1. be allowed to continue his/her enrollment at the grade level commensurate with his/her grade level he/she was in at the time of transition from his/her previous school, regardless of age;
2. be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level, regardless of age if the student has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in his/her previous school;
3. enter the District's school on the validated level from his/her previous accredited school when transferring into the District after the start of the school year;
4. be enrolled in courses and programs the same as or similar to the ones the student was enrolled in his/her previous school to extent that space is available. This does not prohibit the District from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses/and/or programs;
5. be provided services comparable to those the student with disabilities received in his/her previous school based on his/her previous Individualized Education Program (IEP). This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
6. make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of an incoming student with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, necessary to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
7. be enrolled by an individual who has been given the special power of attorney for the student's guardianship. The individual shall have the power to take all other actions requiring parental participation and/or consent;
8. be eligible to continue attending District schools if he/she has been placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty.

**Note:** <sup>1</sup> The US Supreme Court has held that public schools may not use immigration status as a criterion for admitting and educating students.

<sup>2</sup> A.C.A. § 9-28-113 requires schools to “immediately” enroll foster children whether or not they produce “required clothing or required records” noted in #2 and #4. ASBA does not believe this means schools are required to admit students currently under expulsion from their previous school. See policies 4.4 and 4.5.

## 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

<sup>3</sup>The student cannot be enrolled until the board gives the student a hearing to determine whether to enroll the student. Therefore, a prompt hearing is recommended.

<sup>4</sup>A.C.A. § 6-4-302 defines both "uniformed services" and "active duty." Consult the statute to determine if the student wishing to enroll in your district qualifies under the act's definitions.

Cross References:   4.1 – RESIENCE REQUIREMENTS  
                          4.4– STUDENT TRANSFERS  
                          4.5 – SCHOOL CHOICE  
                          4.6—HOME SCHOOLING  
                          4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES  
                          4.40 – HOMELESS STUDENTS

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-4-302  
                          A.C.A. § 6-15-504  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (c);  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-207;  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-208  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-510  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-702;  
                          Plyler v Doe 457US 202,221 (1982);  
                          A.C.A. § 9-28-113;

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 10/27/2008; 11/23/2009; 4/26/2010; 2/25/2011;

06/27/2011; 07/27/2012; 6/17/2013; 3/20/2014; 7/28/2014; 1/26/2015; 5/23/2017

### **4.3—COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Every parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy (4.1--RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the District shall enroll and send the child to a District school with the following exceptions.

1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.
2. The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy (4.6--HOME SCHOOLING) have been met.
3. The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
4. The child has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.
6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (b).

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-201

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 11/23/2009; 06/27/2011

## **4.4—STUDENT TRANSFERS**

The Flippin School District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both into and out of the district, on a case by case basis at the July and December regularly scheduled board meetings. Extraordinary circumstances will be addressed on a case by case situation.

The District may reject a nonresident's application for admission if its acceptance would necessitate the addition of staff or classrooms exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, or cause the District to provide educational services not currently provided in the affected school. The District shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Department of Education to a school in this district shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school. Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities.

Any student transferring from a school that is not accredited by the Department of Education to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff to determine the student's appropriate grade placement. A student transferring from home school will be placed in accordance with Policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING

The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.

Except as otherwise required or permitted by law,<sup>3</sup> the responsibility for transportation of any nonresident student admitted to a school in this District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents. The District and the resident district may enter into a written agreement with the student or student's parents to provide transportation to or from the District, or both.

Notes: <sup>3</sup>A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(4) encourages districts to arrange for transportation for foster children who have had a change in placement to a new school, but have been kept in their previous school by a DHS or court ruling. The statute's language would permit the change in placement to be in a different district and the new policy language would allow the district to arrange for the transportation at district expense.

## **4.4—STUDENT TRANSFERS (cont.)**

Cross Reference: 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-504  
A.C.A. § 6-18-316,  
A.C.A. § 6-18-317  
A.C.A. § 6-18-510,  
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(4)  
A.C.A. § 9-28-205

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 04/07/2008; 6/27/2011; 7/28/2014; 1/26/2015; 1/8/2016;  
5/23/2017; 6/25/2018

## **4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE**

### **Definition**

"Sibling" means each of two (2) or more children having a common parent in common by blood, adoption, marriage, or foster care.

### **Transfers into the District**

#### **Capacity Determination and Public Pronouncement**

The Board of Directors will adopt a resolution containing the capacity standards for the District. The resolution will contain the acceptance determination criteria identified by academic program, class, grade level, and individual school. The school is not obligated to add any teachers, other staff, or classrooms to accommodate choice applications. The District may only deny a Standard School Choice application if the District has a lack of capacity by the District having reached ninety percent (90%) of the maximum student population in a program, class, grade level, or school building authorized by the Standards or other State/Federal law.

The District shall advertise in appropriate broadcast media and either print media or on the Internet to inform students and parents in adjoining districts of the range of possible openings available under the School Choice program. The public pronouncements shall state the application deadline and the requirements and procedures for participation in the program. Such pronouncements shall be made in the spring, but in no case later than March 1.

#### **Application Process**

The student's parent shall submit a school choice application on a form approved by ADE to this district. The transfer application must be postmarked or hand delivered on or before May 1 of the year preceding the fall semester the applicant would begin school in the District. The District shall date and time stamp all applications as they are received in the District's central office. It is the District's responsibility to send a copy of the application that includes the date and time stamp to the student's resident district within ten (10) days of the District receiving the application. Applications postmarked or hand delivered on or after May 2 will not be accepted. Statutorily, preference is required to be given to siblings of students who are already enrolled in the District. Therefore, siblings whose applications fit the capacity standards approved by the Board of Directors may be approved ahead of an otherwise qualified non-sibling applicant who submitted an earlier application as identified by the application's date and time stamp.

The approval of any application for a choice transfer into the District is potentially limited by the applicant's resident district's statutory limitation of losing no more than three percent (3%) of its past year's student enrollment due

## **4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)**

to Standard School Choice. As such, any District approval of a choice application prior to July 1 is provisional pending a determination that the resident district's three percent (3%) cap has not been reached.

The Superintendent will consider all properly submitted applications for School Choice. By July 1, the Superintendent shall notify the parent and the student's resident district, in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application.

### **Accepted Applications**

Applications which fit within the District's stated capacity standards shall be provisionally accepted, in writing, with the notification letter stating a reasonable timeline by which the student shall enroll in the District by taking the steps detailed in the letter, including submission of all required documents. If the student fails to enroll within the stated timeline, or if all necessary steps to complete the enrollment are not taken, or examination of the documentation indicates the applicant does not meet the District's stated capacity standards, the acceptance shall be null and void.

A student, whose application has been accepted and who has enrolled in the District, is eligible to continue enrollment until completing his/her secondary education. Continued enrollment is conditioned upon the student meeting applicable statutory and District policy requirements. Any student who has been accepted under choice and who either fails to initially enroll under the timelines and provisions provided in this policy who chooses to return to his/her resident district; or who enrolls in a home school or private school voids the transfer and must reapply if, in the future, the student seeks another school choice transfer. A subsequent transfer application will be subject to the capacity standards applicable to the year in which the application is considered by the District.

A present or future sibling of a student who continues enrollment in this District may enroll in the District by submitting a Standard School Choice application. Applications of siblings of presently enrolled choice students are subject to the provisions of this policy including the capacity standards applicable to the year in which the sibling's application is considered by the District. A sibling who enrolls in the District through Standard School choice is eligible to remain in the District until completing his/her secondary education.

Students whose applications have been accepted and who have enrolled in the district shall not be discriminated against on the basis of gender, national origin, race, ethnicity, religion, or disability.

### **Rejected Applications**

The District may reject an application for a transfer into the District under Standard School Choice due to a lack of capacity. However, the decision to



## **4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)**

accept or reject an application may not be based on the student's previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, English proficiency level, or previous disciplinary proceedings other than a current expulsion.

An application may be provisionally rejected if it is for an opening that was included in the District's capacity resolution, but was provisionally filled by an earlier applicant. If the provisionally approved applicant subsequently does not enroll in the District, the provisionally rejected applicant could be provisionally approved and would have to meet the acceptance requirements to be eligible to enroll in the district.

Rejection of applications shall be in writing and shall state the reason(s) for the rejection. A student whose application was rejected may request a hearing before the State Board of Education to reconsider the application which must be done, in writing to the State Board within ten (10) days of receiving the rejection letter from the District.

Any applications that are denied due to the student's resident district reaching the three percent (3%) limitation cap shall be given priority for a choice transfer the following year in the order that the District received the original applications.

### **Transfers Out of the District**

All Standard School Choice applications shall be granted unless the approval would cause the District to have a net enrollment loss (students transferring out minus those transferring in) of more than three percent (3%) of the average daily membership on October 15 of the immediately preceding year. By December 15 of each year, ADE shall determine and notify the District of the net number of allowable choice transfers. Students are not counted for the purpose of determining the three percent (3%) cap if the student transfers from a school or district in:

- Academic Distress or classified as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support under A.C.A. § 6-18-227
- Facilities Distress under A.C.A. § 6-21-812; or
- Foster Child School Choice under A.C.A. § 6-18-233.

If, prior to July 1, the District receives sufficient copies of requests from other districts for its students to transfer to other districts to trigger the three percent (3%) cap, it shall notify each district the District received Standard School Choice applications from that it has tentatively reached the limitation cap. The District will use confirmations of approved choice applications from receiving districts to make a final determination of which applications it received that exceeded the limitation cap and notify each district that was the recipient of an application to that effect.

## **4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)**

When the last successful application requesting to transfer out of the District before the District's three percent (3%) cap was triggered belonged to an individual who was a member of a group of siblings who applied to transfer out of the District,, the District shall allow all members of the individual's sibling group to transfer out of the District even though these applications are beyond the District's transfer cap.

### **Facilities Distress School Choice Applications**

There are a few exceptions from the provisions of the rest of this policy that govern choice transfers triggered by facilities distress. Any student attending a school district that has been identified as being in facilities distress may transfer under the provisions of this policy, but with the following four (4) differences.

- The receiving district cannot be in facilities distress;
- The transfer is only available for the duration of the time the student's resident district remains in distress;
- The student is not required to meet the June 1 application deadline; and
- The student's resident district is responsible for the cost of transporting the student to this District's school.

### **Opportunity School Choice**

#### **Transfers Into or Within the District**

For the purposes of this section of the policy, a "lack of capacity" is defined as when the receiving school has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal or state law, the ADE Rules for the Standards of Accreditation, or other applicable rules. There is a lack of capacity if, as of the date of the application for Opportunity School Choice, ninety-five percent (90%) or more of the seats at the grade level at the nonresident school are filled.

Unless there is a lack of capacity at the District's school or the transfer conflicts with the provisions of a federal desegregation order applicable to the District, a student who is enrolled in or assigned to a school classified by the ADE to be in academic distress or in a district classified by ADE as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support is eligible to transfer to the school closest to the student's legal residence that is not in academic distress or in a district classified as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support. The student's parent or guardian, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), must successfully complete the necessary application process by July 30 preceding the initial year of desired enrollment.

Within thirty (30) days from receipt of an application from a student seeking admission under this section of the policy, the Superintendent shall notify in

## **4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)**

writing the parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, whether the Opportunity School Choice application has been accepted or rejected. The notification shall be sent via First-Class Mail to the address on the application.

If the application is accepted, the notification letter shall state the deadline by which the student must enroll in the receiving school or the transfer will be null and void.

If the District rejects the application, the District shall state in the notification letter the specific reasons for the rejection. A parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, may appeal the District's decision to deny the application to the State Board of Education. The appeal must be in writing to the State Board of Education via certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than ten (10) calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the notice of rejection was received from the District.

A student's enrollment under Opportunity School Choice is irrevocable for the duration of the school year and is renewable until the student completes high school or is beyond the legal age of enrollment. This provision for continuing eligibility under Opportunity Choice does not negate the student's right to apply for transfer to a district other than the student's assigned school or resident district under the Standard School Choice provisions of this policy.

The District may, but is not obligated to provide transportation to and from the transferring district.

### **Transfers out of, or within, the District**

If a District school has been classified by the ADE as being in academic distress or the District has been classified by ADE as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support, the District shall timely notify the parent, guardian, or student, if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, as soon as practicable after the academic distress or in need of Level 5 Intensive Support designation is made of all options available under Opportunity Choice. The District shall offer the parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, an opportunity to enroll the student in any public school or school district that has not been classified by the ADE as a public school or school district in academic distress or school district in need of Level 5 Intensive Support.

Additionally, the District shall request public service announcements to be made over the broadcast media and in the print media at such times and in such a manner as to inform parents or guardians of students in adjoining districts of the availability of the program, the application deadline, and the requirements and procedure for nonresident students to participate in the program.

## 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)

### Unsafe School Choice Program

Any student that becomes the victim of a violent criminal offense while in or on the grounds of a District school or who is attending a school classified by ADE as a persistently dangerous public school shall be allowed to attend a safe public school within the District.

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Select the version of the desegregation order that applies to your district.

<sup>2</sup> A.C.A. § 6-13-113 requires a district under a desegregation court order or court-approved desegregation plan to submit to ADE by January 1, 2016:

- A copy of the desegregation order or desegregation-related order;
- The case heading and case number of each court case in which the order was entered;
- The name and location of each court that maintains jurisdiction over the order; and
- A description of the school choice student transfer desegregation obligations, if any, that the school district is subject to, related to the order.

Should the district be released by the court, the district is responsible to promptly notify ADE. ADE will post all districts who have submitted the proper paperwork on its website.

In addition, A.C.A. § 6-18-1906 requires districts claiming an exemption based on a desegregation order/desegregation plan to submit documentation by January 1 of each year that contains the following:

- Documentation that the desegregation order or court-approved desegregation plan is still active and enforceable; and
- Documentation showing the specific language the school district believes limits its participation in Standard School Choice.

ADE will notify the district within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the submitted documentation whether or not it is required to participate in standard school choice. If ADE does not provide a written exemption to the district, then the district is required to participate in Standard School Choice. The district may submit a written petition to the State Board to review ADE's decision.

<sup>3</sup> If your district doesn't meet the provisions of this paragraph, delete it and, for your master copy of the policy, renumber the remaining footnotes accordingly. While the policy language requiring the district to notify its contiguous districts that it is exempt from the school choice provisions is not statutorily required, it is advocated by Commissioner's Memo Com-13-061 and we believe it is necessary if potential receiving districts are going to be able to intelligently inform parents who have applied to their school.

<sup>4</sup> If the desegregation court order/court-approved desegregation plan your district is under would prohibit standard school choice but would not prohibit Opportunity School Choice, remove the references to Opportunity Choice in this paragraph and add the following sentence:

## 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)

*While the District's desegregation court order/court-approved-desegregation-plan exempts the District from the provisions of Standard School Choice, the District's desegregation court order/court-approved-desegregation-plan does not exempt it from the transfer provisions of the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004 (Opportunity School Choice).*

We advise districts to consult with their attorney about the district's desegregation court order/court-approved-desegregation-plan applicability to the exemption provisions in A.C.A. § 6-18-906 and A.C.A. § 6-18-227 and whether you will need to include both, either, or neither policy provisions on standard School Choice or Opportunity School Choice in your final version of this policy.

<sup>5</sup> For the Resolution, see Form 4.5F. There is no real flexibility in setting capacity as you can no longer take growth into account when setting slots for Standard School Choice. Districts may only deny a transfer if the transfer would place the district above the ninety percent (90%) maximum under law or the student's resident district has reached its three percent (3%) cap. Your application of a lack of capacity must be consistent; you can't choose to add a teacher due to accepting a student, but refuse to add a staff member because the applicant requires special education. Once the resolution has been made, the Board's role in determining acceptance is finished and no further board action is required to accept school choice students.

<sup>6</sup> The statute does not stipulate a date and you can choose your own, but it should give parents a reasonable opportunity to submit their application. While the statute gives districts a choice between advertising in print or on the Internet, it also doesn't prohibit advertising in both. To help inform parents before they try to apply so they will know in advance if it's actually a possibility that their child could be accepted, we suggest either including your capacity resolution in the public announcements or state where the resolution can be picked up.

<sup>7</sup> While A.C.A. § 6-18-1905(a)(1) only requires the non-resident district to notify the resident district of the receipt of an application, any notification without the date and time of the receipt of the application will make it impossible for a resident district that has reached its three percent (3%) cap to know the student who triggered the reaching of the cap. If you do not wish to transmit a copy of the application to the resident district, replace the sentence with the following language:

*It is the District's responsibility to notify the student's resident district of the receipt of the student's application within ten (10) days of the District receiving the application; the notification shall include the student's name and the date and time the District received the application.*

<sup>8</sup> Consider the following about the timing of your acceptance of an application and why it's important to provisionally accept each application until the notification letter is returned to you:

## 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)

The later you accept an application, the more confident you can be about accepting or denying based on capacity. (For example, have as many students as usual moved into your district and were they in the expected grade level patterns?) However, an earlier, **provisional**, acceptance, such as June 1, gives you more time to determine through the use of your acceptance notification letter whether the student's reality matches the information supplied on the application. For example, would the applicant have been held back in 3rd grade in the resident school and the parent is trying to keep that from happening by transferring. While you may have an opening in 4th grade (the grade the parent would have applied for), you may not have an opening in 3rd grade and so would need to deny the application once the paperwork was submitted.

Another example would be an application for a kindergarten choice transfer. When reviewing the completed paperwork, you discover the child is medically fragile and will require additional staff to meet the student's needs. Provisional acceptance gives you the time and opportunity to reconsider your acceptance and still meet the July 1 deadline.

<sup>9</sup> You are required to hold a hearing about the student's expulsion. (See A.C.A. § 6-18-510.) It is possible that the expulsion was for a disciplinary infraction that does not result in expulsion in your district. If this is the case, you have the choice of whether or not to admit the student under school choice due to the resident district's expulsion of the student.

<sup>10</sup> The "shalls" used in this paragraph are not statutorily required (The Public School Choice Act of 2015 simply doesn't address the issue), but without notification to the non-resident district, there is no way for the non-resident district to know when the cap has been reached.

<sup>11</sup> Only include "or within" if your district has more than one school with the same grade(s).

<sup>12</sup> The capacity standards under "Opportunity Choice" are slightly more strict than under "Standard Choice" standards and are limited to what is stated in the policy. Additionally, by Rule, you are required to base your decision on ninety-five (95%) of capacity at the time of the application with no provision for consideration of your district's normal growth. Just as with Standard School Choice, your application of a lack of capacity must be consistent; you can't choose to add a teacher due to accepting a student, but refuse to add a staff member because the applicant requires special education.

<sup>13</sup> The student or his/her parents may appeal to the State Board a decision to deny admission.

<sup>14</sup> Sending districts are required to spend up to four hundred dollars (\$400) per year to transport the student. The statute and the Rules are unclear. They both state that receiving districts **may** transport opportunity choice students, but sending districts **shall** pay up to four hundred dollars (\$400) per year to transport the student.

## 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE (cont.)

The policy's language makes no attempt to settle the discrepancy. The financial responsibility of the transferring district goes away when the school/district is no longer in academic distress. At that time the statute states that the receiving district may choose to pay for the transportation.

<sup>15</sup> Opportunity Choice does not give you the option contained in Standard Choice of advertising on the Internet in place of print media.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-1-106  
A.C.A. § 6-13-113  
A.C.A. § 6-15-2915  
A.C.A. § 6-18-227  
A.C.A. § 6-18-233  
A.C.A. § 6-18-320  
A.C.A. § 6-18-510  
A.C.A. § 6-18-1901 et seq.  
A.C.A. § 6-21-812  
ADE Rules Governing the Guidelines, Procedures and Enforcement of the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 07/24/2006; 04/07/2008; 10/27/2008; 06/12/2011; 07/27/2012;  
01/24/2013; 05/20/13; 06/17/2013; 03/20/2014; 07/28/2014;  
01/26/2015; 4/16/2015; 5/23/2017; 4/4/2018

## Disclaimers and Clarifications

Acts 1227, 1334, and 1508 present quite a policy writing challenge and implementation of the laws and the policy present districts with similar challenges. There are many contradictory and unsettled issues contained in the acts that will need to be dealt with in the 2015 legislative session. The model policy has attempted to resolve, through policy, some of the problematic issues and we have used footnotes to try to better explain district options and requirements. While a lot of time and effort has gone into researching and writing the policy, it is always a possibility that as the realities of implementation occur, changes to the policy will need to be made. In addition to the policy, the following paragraphs discuss some of the issues involved and why we have, or have not, included policy language on them.

Act 1334 of 2013 (page 1, lines 33-35) seems, at least to ASBA, to provide that the choice applications for new student transfers out of the student's resident district which had been submitted and approved by the receiving district prior to April 16 (the date Act 1227 was signed into law) do NOT apply in the 3% cap determination. We have no authority to "authorize" our interpretation and barring ADE clarification of the issue through their emergency rules, we strongly suggest you consult your district's attorney on how to proceed with applications that could fall under the provisions of Act 1334.

There is the question of how comprehensive is a district's declaration of an exemption. Based on the exemption language contained in Act 1227 (Section 6-18-1906), we believe, and have included this position in the language in footnote #1 of the policy, that a district that declares it is exempt and won't participate in school choice cannot lose a student who is a sibling of a previously choiced student. The previously choiced students, however, get to continue their education in the non-resident district they have been attending.

There is the question of who has responsibility for student transportation depending on the trigger for the choice transfer. Page 10, lines 13-15 of Act 1227 put the responsibility on the student's parents. The academic and facilities distress triggers put the responsibility for the cost of the transportation on the resident district. (See A.C.A. 6-15-430(b)(2) and A.C.A. 6-21-812(b) respectively.) The question is whether the language in Act 1227 trumps the language in the distress statutes. We contend, and the policy reflects, that the distress statutes' language is not superseded by Act 1227.

While the resident district is required to approve all applications out of the district until such time as it has reached the 3% cap, the transfer isn't final until the receiving district approves the transfer. Consequently, the resident district's determination can't be "final" until August 1 which is the deadline for receiving districts to approve all applications. To help "firm up" the resident district's cap declaration, we strongly recommend, and have included this position in the policy's fifth footnote, that districts "provisionally" approve by July 1 transfer applications that meet the districts' stated capacity standards. This gives the receiving district time to verify through the applicant's acceptance letter if the applicant truly meets the district's capacity standards.

There is no prohibition against a student applying to transfer to more than one district even though the student can only accept one transfer. There is also no prohibition against the student returning more than one acceptance letter. This complicates the receiving district's ability to determine its evolving capacity and the resident district's ability to know if, or when, it gets to the 3% cap. This is yet another reason for districts to provisionally accept or deny transfer applications.



## 4.5F--SCHOOL CHOICE CAPACITY RESOLUTION

Whereas:

- The Board of Directors of the **Flippin** School District has approved by a vote of the Board, the following capacity resolution for school choice applicants for the \_\_\_\_\_ school-year under the provisions of policy 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE and applicable Arkansas law.
- Applicants, whose applications meet the provisions of policy 4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE, will be sent a provisional acceptance notification letter which will give instructions on the necessary steps and timelines to enroll in the District. Provisional acceptance shall be determined prior to July 1 with a final decision to be made by August 1 based on the district's available capacity for each academic program, class, grade level, and individual school.
- Applications that are not received on or before June 1, are to a student's resident district that has declared itself exempt due to an existing desegregation order, or, the acceptance of which would exceed the applicant's resident district's statutory limitation on student transfers out of its district will not be accepted.
- The district reserves to itself the ability to determine, based on an examination of student records obtained from the prior district, and other information, whether any student would require a different class, course or courses, program of instruction, or special services than originally applied for. If such an examination determines that capacity has been reached in the appropriate class, course or program of instruction, or that additional staff would have to be hired for the applicant, the District shall rescind the original provisional acceptance letter and deny the Choice transfer for that student.
- The district reserves to itself the ability to decline to accept under school choice any student, whose acceptance would require the district to add additional staff, for any reason.

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that these shall constitute the School Choice openings at the beginning of the School Choice enrollment period for the school-year \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## 4.5F2--SCHOOL CHOICE PROVISIONAL ACCEPTANCE LETTER

Dear Parent's name,

The application you submitted for student's name has been provisionally accepted. While the school's name looks forward to welcoming student's name as a student, to further the application process and to better assist the district in determining the proper placement of student's name, please submit the information listed below to district or school's address by enter date. Failure to submit the information requested by the date specified shall void and nullify this letter's provisional acceptance. In addition to the information you submit, records may be requested from the student's current district/school, and final acceptance may depend on the content of those records as to appropriate grade placement, program placement or services required. A student who has not previously attended an Arkansas public school or did not attend an Arkansas public school in the previous academic year may be evaluated by the district prior to final acceptance, and the results of that evaluation could impact final acceptance.

1. For students applying to enroll in first grade or higher: a copy of the student's transcript from the school where the student is currently enrolled. The student's permanent record, including the original transcript, will be requested from the school immediately following the student's actual enrollment in our district.
2. Proof of the student's age; This can be a 1) birth certificate; 2) A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth; 3) An attested baptismal certificate; 4) A passport; 5) An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian; 6) United States military identification; or 7) Previous school records.
3. The student's health care needs at school.
4. Student's name age appropriate immunization record or an exemption granted for the previous school-year and a statement of whether or not the parent is intending to continue the exemption for the upcoming school year.

After reviewing the submitted documentation the District will determine if the applicant meets the District's capacity standards and notify you of its decision by insert date. Please note that the acceptance of an application can be reversed if it is determined that the application is in violation of student's name's resident district's limitation cap for available school choice transfers or if the resident district has reached its statutory cap for transfers out of its district.

Respectfully,

Insert name

Insert position/title

## 4.5F3--SCHOOL CHOICE ACCEPTANCE LETTER

Dear Parent's name,

I am pleased to inform you that the application you submitted for student's name has been accepted pending enrollment of student's name by insert date, however, failure to enroll student's name by this date will render this offer of acceptance null and void.

I look forward to welcoming student's name as part of the school or District's name and/or mascot.

Once your child has enrolled in school with us this coming school-year, student's name will be eligible to continue enrollment in the district until completing high school or is beyond the legal age of enrollment provided the student meets the applicable statutory and District policy requirements all other District students must meet (with the exception of residency in the District) to continue District enrollment. This information is contained in the student handbook.

**Please Note:** The "insert District's name" has no control over when a student's resident district might reach its statutory limit on allowable transfers out of its district. While we consider it unlikely, there is always the possibility that we could be forced to withdraw this acceptance if the resident district determines it reached its statutory cap for transfers out of its district prior to your student's application date to our District. You will be notified immediately should that rescission of acceptance be necessary. We apologize for this unavoidable uncertainty.

Respectfully,

Insert name

Insert position/title

## 4.5F4--SCHOOL CHOICE REJECTION LETTER

Dear Parent's name,

I am sorry, but the application you submitted for student's name has been rejected for the following reason(s).

\_\_\_\_ Your child's resident district has declared itself exempt from the provisions of the School Choice Law due to it being under an enforceable desegregation order.

\_\_\_\_ Your child's resident district has reached its limitation cap for allowable transfers and we cannot accept any additional school choice transfers from that district.

\_\_\_\_ Your child does not meet the openings identified for the coming school-year identified in the Board of Directors Resolution adopted on insert date.

The specific reason for rejection is that acceptance would cause the district to have to add:

\_\_\_\_ Staff

\_\_\_\_ Teachers

\_\_\_\_ classroom(s)

\_\_\_\_ the insert the name of the program, class, grade level, or school building's capacity

As noted in your original application, you have ten (10) days from receipt of this notice in which to submit a written appeal of this decision to the State Board of Education.

Respectfully,

Insert name

Insert position/title

## **4.6—HOME SCHOOLING**

### **Enrollment in Home School**

Parents or legal guardians desiring to provide a home school for their children shall give written notice to the Superintendent of their intent to home school. The notice shall be given:

1. At the beginning of each school year, but no later than August 15;
2. Fourteen (14) calendar days prior to withdrawing the child (provided the student is not currently under disciplinary action for violation of any written school policy, including, but not limited to, excessive absences) and at the beginning of each school year thereafter; or
3. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the parent or legal guardian establishing residency within the district during the school year.

Written notice of the parent or legal guardian's intent to home school shall be delivered to the Superintendent through any of the following methods:

- Electronically, including without limitation by email;
- By mail; or
- In person.

The notice shall include:

- a. The name, sex, date of birth, grade level, and the name and address of the school last attended, if any;
- b. The mailing address and telephone number of the home school;
- c. The name of the parent or legal guardian providing the home school;
- d. Indicate if the home-schooled student intends to participate in extracurricular activities during the school year;
- e. A statement of whether the home-schooled student plans to seek a high school equivalency diploma during the current school year;
- f. A statement if the home-school student plans to seek a driver's license during the current school year;
- g. A statement that the parent or legal guardian agrees that the parent or legal guardian is responsible for the education of their children during the time the parents or legal guardians choose to home school; and
- h. A signature of the parent or legal guardian, which must be notarized if the home-schooled student plans to seek a driver's license during the school year.

To aid the District in providing a free and appropriate public education to students in need of special education services, the parents or legal guardians home-schooling their children shall provide information that might indicate the need for special education services.

### **Enrollment or Re-Enrollment in Public School**

A home-schooled student who wishes to enroll or re-enroll in a District school shall submit:

- A transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades from the home school;

## 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING (cont.)

- Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment taken in the past year; and
- A portfolio of indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress, including without limitation:
- Curricula used in the home school;
- Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled student; and
- Other indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress.

If a home-schooled student is unable to provide a nationally recognized norm-referenced score, the District may either assess the student using a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment or waive the requirement for a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment score.

A home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in the District will be placed at a grade level and academic course level equivalent to or higher than the home-schooled student's grade level and academic course level in the home school:

1. As indicated by the documentation submitted by the home-schooled student;
2. By mutual agreement between the public school and the home-schooled student's parent or legal guardian; or
3. If the home-schooled student fails to provide the documentation required by this policy, with the exception of the nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment score, the District may have sole authority to determine the home-schooled student's grade placement and course credits. The District will determine the home-schooled student's grade placement and course credits in the same manner the District uses when determining grade placement and course credits for students enrolling or re-enrolling in the District who attended another public or private school.

The District shall afford a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in a public school the same rights and privileges enjoyed by the District's other students. The District shall not deny a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in the District any of the following on the basis of the student having attended a home school:

- a. Award of course credits earned in the home school;
- b. Placement in the proper grade level and promotion to the next grade level;
- c. Participation in any academic or extracurricular activity;
- d. Membership in school-sponsored clubs, associations, or organizations;
- e. A diploma or graduation, so long as the student has enrolled or re-enrolled in the District to attend classes for at least the nine (9) months immediately prior to graduation; or
- f. Scholarships.

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-15-503  
                          A.C.A. § 6-15-504  
                          A.C.A. § 6-41-103

Date Adopted: 07/25/05

Last Revised:

## **4.7—ABSENCES**

If any student's Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan conflicts with this policy, the requirements of the student's IEP or 504 Plan take precedence

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

Absences for students enrolled in digital courses shall be determined by the online attendance and time the student is working on the course rather than the student's physical presence at school. Students who are scheduled to have a dedicated period for a digital class shall not be considered absent if the student logs the correct amount of time and completes any required assignments; however, a student who fails to be physically present for an assigned period may be disciplined in accordance with the District's truancy policy.

### **Excused Absences**

Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons and the student brings a written statement to the principal or designee upon his/her return to school from the parent or legal guardian stating such reason.

1. The student's illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of six (6) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal. <sup>1</sup>
2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family; <sup>2</sup>
3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by their faith;
4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency;
5. Attendance at a medical appointment;
6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal; or
7. Participation in an FFA, FCCLA, or 4-H sanctioned activity.
8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.

## **4.7—ABSENCES (cont.)**

9. Absences granted to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.
10. Absences granted, at the Superintendent's discretion, to seventeen (17) year-old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in eleventh grade to complete basic combat training between grades eleven (11) and (12).
11. Absences for students excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak because the student has an immunization wavier or whose immunizations are not up to date.<sup>3</sup>
12. Students who serve as pages for a member of the General Assembly shall be considered on instructional assignment and shall not be considered absent from school for the day the student is serving as a page.<sup>4</sup>

### **Unexcused Absences**

Absences not defined above or not having an accompanying note from the parent or legal guardian, presented in the timeline required by this policy, shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with thirteen (13)<sup>5</sup> unexcused absences in a course in a semester may not receive credit for that course. At the discretion of the principal after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the unexcused absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

When a student has six (6)<sup>5</sup> unexcused absences, his/her parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis shall be notified.<sup>6</sup> Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds twelve (12)<sup>5</sup> unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, guardian, or persons in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly's intention that students having excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Therefore, at any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of unexcused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's unexcused absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the



## 4.7—ABSENCES (cont.)

agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee.<sup>6</sup>

Students who attend in-school suspension shall not be counted absent for those days.<sup>8</sup> Days missed due to expulsion or out-of-school suspension shall be unexcused absences.<sup>8</sup>

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student's operator's license unless he/she meets certain requirements specified in the statute.

Applicants for an instruction permit or for a driver's license by persons less than eighteen (18) years old on October 1 of any year are required to provide proof of a high school diploma or enrollment and regular attendance in an adult education program or a public, private, or parochial school prior to receiving an instruction permit. To be issued a driver's license, a student enrolled in school shall present proof of a "C" average for the previous semester or similar equivalent grading period for which grades are reported as part of the student's permanent record.

Commissioner's Memo 12-013 concludes with, "...a district may distinguish between excused and unexcused absences in its policy for all other purposes. These could include, without limitation, discipline, homework or test makeup, extracurricular participation, etc." While we don't advise incorporating separate "absence" language for these considerations due to the potential for confusing students, parents, teachers, and bookkeepers, it is certainly true that language could be added to the policy to address discipline, homework or test makeup. Make sure to align any language you add to this policy with Policy 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK. The first sentence in "Additional Absences" covers extra-curricular participation so unless you choose to make eligibility for such participation contingent upon "absences" in general, we don't think it applies to this policy. If you do choose to tie extracurricular eligibility to absences, be sure to align policies 5.19 and 5.19.1 to the language you insert in this policy.

A.C.A. § 6-18-222(a)(1)(i) **requires** you choose a number, but states that the number **may** be used to determine denial of course credit, promotion, or graduation. This is a fine line within the statute that gives you the option to personalize. Since absences are often not for an entire day, we chose to make it apply to individual courses and then use multiple denials as a possible denial of promotion or graduation. Any changes you choose to make to this paragraph should align with the first sentence of the policy's following paragraph which is specific statutory language.

You can choose to amend #5 or #6 and/or you can add additional entries that could serve to expand the school administration's powers to deal with individual absences. For example, the principal or designee could have the power to determine whether an absence counts as an "additional" absence or toward the permitted number of absences.

#### 4.7—ABSENCES (cont.)

Cross References:

- 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK
- 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS
- 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES
- 5.19—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS
- 5.19.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - ELEMENTARY

Legal References:

- A.C.A. § 6-4-302
- A.C.A. § 6-18-209
- A.C.A. § 6-18-220
- A.C.A. § 6-18-222
- A.C.A. § 6-18-229
- A.C.A. § 6-18-231
- A.C.A. § 6-18-507(g)
- A.C.A. § 6-18-702
- A.C.A. § 7-4-116
- A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f)
- A.C.A. § 27-16-701

Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing  
Distance and Digital Learning

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 10/27/2008; 11/23/2009; 4/26/2010; 2/25/2011; 06/27/2011; 07/27/2012;  
6/17/2013; 6/24/2013; 1/26/2015; 5/13/2015; 4/25/2016

## 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK

Students who miss school due to an excused absence shall be allowed to make up the work they missed during their absence under the following rules.

1. Students are responsible for asking the teachers of the classes they missed what assignments they need to make up.
2. Teachers are responsible for providing the missed assignments when asked by a returning student.
3. Students are required to ask for their assignments on their first day back at school or their first class day after their return.
4. Make up tests are to be rescheduled at the discretion of the teacher, but must be aligned with the schedule of the missed work to be made up.
5. Students shall have one class day to make up their work for each class day they are absent.<sup>1</sup>
6. Make up work which is not turned in within the make up schedule for that assignment shall receive a zero.<sup>2</sup>
7. Students are responsible for turning in their make up work without the teacher having to ask for it.
8. Students who are absent on the day their make up work is due must turn in their work the day they return to school whether or not the class for which the work is due meets the day of their return.
9. As required/permitted by the student's Individual Education Program or 504 Plan.

Work may not be made up for credit for unexcused absences **unless** the unexcused absences are part of a signed agreement as permitted by policy 4.7—ABSENCES.<sup>5</sup> Out-of-school suspensions are unexcused absences.<sup>6</sup>

Work missed while a student is expelled from school may not be made up for credit and students shall receive a zero for missed assignments.<sup>7</sup>

In lieu of the timeline above, assignments for students who are excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak are to be made up as set forth in Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS.

Cross References: 4.7—ABSENCES  
4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005  
Last Revised: 06/27/2011; 1/26/2015

## **4.9—TARDIES**

Promptness is an important character trait that District staff is to encouraged to model and help develop in our schools' students. At the same time, promptness is the responsibility of each student. Students who are late to class show a disregard for both the teacher and their classmates which compromises potential student achievement.

Refer to student handbook for each respective school.

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

## **4.10—CLOSED CAMPUS**

All schools in the District shall operate closed campuses with the exception of students participating in the Arkansas Department of Education School of Innovation. Students are required to stay on campus from their arrival until dismissal at the end of the regular school day unless given permission to leave the campus by a school official. Students must sign out in the office upon their departure.

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 07/27/2012; 6/28/2014

## 4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

No student in the Flippin School District shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District.

The District has a limited open forum granting equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other youth groups.<sup>1</sup>

Inquiries on non-discrimination may be directed to Superintendent<sup>2</sup>, who may be reached at 210 Alford St., Flippin, AR 72634, or 870-453-2270<sup>3</sup>.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination or to file a complaint, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm>; for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

Notes: A copy of this non discrimination notification should be included in all district publications to students and parents.

<sup>1</sup> A.C.A. § 6-10-130 requires that youth patriotic societies, such as the Boy Scouts of America, be provided access to students during the school day; as a result, all districts now have a limited open forum and are required to provide the same access to groups who follow the procedure set forth in the statute to request access to students regardless of the groups viewpoint.

<sup>2</sup> Insert the position(s) designated to be contacted on discrimination inquiries. If you have different positions designated to answer questions on disability discrimination (504 coordinator) and sex discrimination (Title IX coordinator), then you will need to include the position responsible for each area. Do not include the name(s) of the person(s) to be contacted in the policy; changing the name of the person (due to a staffing change) would necessitate amending the policy, which would require it to go through the entire adoption process.

<sup>3</sup> Insert the office address, phone number, and email address to be used to contact the designated position. If you have more than one position designated as set forth in footnote 3, you will need to include a contact number, email address, and office address for each position. The contact number and office address may be the school/district address and phone number. We recommend making the email address specific to the position, such as [titleix@districtdomain.org](mailto:titleix@districtdomain.org), and having the emails sent to the coordinator's inbox to prevent having to amend the policy due to staff changes.

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-10-132  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-514  
                          28 C.F.R. § 35.106  
                          34 C.F.R. § 100.6  
                          34 C.F.R. § 104.8  
                          34 C.F.R. § 106.9  
                          34 C.F.R. § 108.9  
                          34 C.F.R. § 110.25

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005; 1/26/2015; 1/8/2016; 5/23/2017; 6/25/2018

4.11

## **4.12—STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS**

Non-curriculum-related secondary school student organizations wishing to conduct meetings on school premises during non-instructional time shall not be denied equal access on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must meet the following criteria.

1. The meeting is to be voluntary and student initiated;
2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;
3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time;
4. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

All meetings held on school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal. The school, its agents, and employees retain the authority to maintain order and discipline, to protect the well-being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

Fraternities, sororities, and secret societies are forbidden in the District's schools. Membership to student organizations shall not be by a vote of the organization's members, nor be restricted by the student's race, religion, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. Hazing, as defined by law, is forbidden in connection with initiation into, or affiliation with, any student organization, extracurricular activity or sport program. Students who are convicted of participation in hazing or the failure to report hazing shall be expelled.<sup>1</sup>

Note: <sup>1</sup> A.C.A. § 6-5-20 2 requires the automatic expulsion of a student who is convicted of hazing.

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-5-201 et seq.  
                          A.C.A. § 6-10-132  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-601 et seq  
                          A.C.A. § 6-21-201 et seq.  
                          20 U.S.C. 4071 Equal Access Act  
                          Board of Education of the Westside Community Schools v.  
                          Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990)

Date Adopted: 7/05/2005

Last Revised: 4/26/2010; 6/27/2011; 4/17/2015; 1/8/2016; 5/23/2017; 6/25/2018

#### **4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students' education records are available for inspection and copying by the parents of any student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18), the right to inspect and copy a student's records transfers to the student. A student's parent or the student, if over the age of 18, requesting to review the student's education records will be allowed to do so within no more than forty five (45) days<sup>1</sup> of the request. The district forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll , or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The district shall receive written permission before releasing education records to any agency or individual not authorized by law to receive and/or view the education records without prior parental permission. The District shall maintain a record of such agencies or individuals for access to, and each disclosure of, personally identifiable information (hereinafter "PII") from the education records of each student. Disclosure of education records is authorized by law to school officials with legitimate educational interests.

A personal record kept by a school staff member is **not** considered an education record if it meets the following tests:

- it is in the sole possession of the individual who made it;
- it is used only as a personal memory aid; and
- information contained in it has never been revealed or made available to any other person, except the maker's temporary substitute.

For the purposes of this policy a school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent 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.

For the purposes of this policy 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, contracted duty, or duty of elected office.

In addition to releasing PII to school officials without permission, the District may disclose PII from the education records of students in foster care placement to the student's caseworker or to the caseworker's representative without getting prior consent of the parent (or the student if the student is over eighteen (18)). For the District to release the student's PII without getting permission:

#### **4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION (cont.)**

- The student must be in foster care;
- The individual to whom the PII will be released must have legal access to the student's case plan; and
- The Arkansas Department of Human Services, or a sub-agency of the Department, must be legally responsible for the care and protection of the student.

The District discloses PII from an education record to appropriate parties, including parents, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. The superintendent or designee shall determine who will have access to and the responsibility for disclosing information in emergency situations.

When deciding whether to release PII in a health or safety emergency, the District may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. If the District determines that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, it may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.<sup>2</sup>

For purposes of this policy, the Flippin School District does not distinguish between a custodial and non-custodial parent, or a non-parent such as a person acting in loco parentis or a foster parent with respect to gaining access to a student's records. Unless a court order restricting such access has been presented to the district to the contrary, the fact of a person's status as parent or guardian, alone, enables that parent or guardian to review and copy his child's records.

If there exists a court order which directs that a parent not have access to a student or his records, the parent or guardian, person acting in loco parentis, or an agent of the Department of Human Services must present a file-marked copy of such order to the building principal and the superintendent. The school will make good-faith efforts to act in accordance with such court order, but the failure to do so does not impose legal liability upon the school. The actual responsibility for enforcement of such court orders rests with the parents or guardians, their attorneys and the court which issued the order.

A parent or guardian does not have the right to remove any material from a student's records, but such parent or guardian may challenge the accuracy of a record. The right to challenge the accuracy of a record does not include the right to dispute a grade, disciplinary rulings, disability placements, or other such determinations, which must be done only through the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, the decision of whom is final.



#### **4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION (cont.)**

A challenge to the accuracy of material contained in a student's file must be initiated with the building principal, with an appeal available to the Superintendent or his designee. The challenge shall clearly identify the part of the student's record the parent wants changed and specify why he/she believes it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school determines not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the requesting parent or student of the decision and inform them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amending the record. The parent or eligible student will be provided information regarding the hearing procedure when notified of the right to a hearing.

Unless the parent or guardian of a student (or student, if above the age of eighteen [18]) objects, directory information about a student may be made available to the public, military recruiters, post secondary educational institutions, prospective employers of those students, as well as school publications such as annual yearbooks and graduation announcements.

"Directory information" includes, but is not limited to, a student's name, address, telephone number, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, his/her placement on the honor role (or the receipt of other types of honors), as well as his/her participation in school clubs and extracurricular activities, among others.

If the student participates in inherently public activities (for example, basketball, football, or other interscholastic activities), the publication of such information will be beyond the control of the District. "Directory information" also includes a student identification (ID) number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems and a student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student's ID badge, provided the ID cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

A student's name and photograph will only be displayed on the district or school's web page(s) after receiving written permission from the student's parent or student if over the age of 18.

The form for objecting to making directory information available is located in the back of the student handbook and must be completed and signed by the parent or age-eligible student and filed with the building principal's office no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of each school year or the date the student is enrolled for school. Failure to file an objection by that time is considered a specific grant of permission.

#### 4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION (cont.)

The district is required to continue to honor any signed-opt out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

The right to opt out of the disclosure of directory information under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) does not prevent the District from disclosing or requiring a student to disclose the student's name, identifier, or institutional email address in a class in which the student is enrolled.<sup>6</sup>

Parents and students over the age of 18 who believe the district has failed to comply with the requirements for the lawful release of student records may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education at

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

Notes: With very few exceptions; Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy requirements don't apply to public K-12 schools and, for that reason, ASBA has no model policy addressing HIPAA. An excellent explanation of the relation between FERPA and HIPAA is available at <http://arsba.org/policy-resources>

Districts must annually notify parents or students if over the age of 18 of the provisions of this policy and "...shall effectively notify parents who have a primary or home language other than English." (34 CFR 99.7(b)(2))

Districts may release directory information (DI) (as presently defined by the district) of former students to the extent there is not a signed prohibition against such release. So as the definition of DI changes over time (for example, the addition of email addresses to the definition of DI), districts may release DI according to the current definition. It also applies to the release of information that is now defined as DI for students who left the district prior to 1974, when there was no such thing as DI.

As stated in this policy, once a student turns 18, the rights to his/her educational records transfers to the student. The release of educational records to a parent becomes permissive and not a right. At that point, the school gets to decide if it wants to release educational records to parents. The student, however, doesn't have the right to object one way or the other. If the parents don't establish dependency, once the student turns 18, the parents don't have an absolute **right** to see their student's educational records. "Dependency" in this regard is defined according to the IRS; if the student is claimed by either of their parents (regardless of custody issues, or filing jointly or separately) as a dependent, then the rights of the parent once the student turns 18 is as described. Without dependency, the parents have no right to see their student's educational records once the student turns 18.

#### **4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION (cont.)**

There are several areas of permissible release of students' PII that are not mentioned in this policy (it's not required and would make the policy very long), but that are listed in 34 CFR 99.31. One of the areas that has been greatly elaborated on in the DOE Rules, released 12/2/11, relates to the district's release of PII to an "authorized representative" for the purpose conducting an audit or evaluation of federal or state education programs. This new area is covered in 34 CFR 99.35. Both documents are available by calling the ASBA office and requesting a copy. They could come in handy when answering parents' questions regarding the release of PII.

The Arkansas Supreme Court, Arkansas Department of Education, and ASBA collaborated in the creation of a form in an effort to aid juvenile intake and probation officers in acquiring necessary information for the officer to make more knowledgeable decisions/recommendations on a course of action for each juvenile's case. The Form allows for parents to authorize the officer to access certain portions of the student's education records and the parent's ESchool PLUS Home Access Center. The form, when completed by the parent and probation officer, will be sent to the district by the officer. A copy of the form, along with a background letter, may be found at <http://arsba.org/policy-resources>

Cross References: Policy 4.34—Communicable Diseases and Parasites  
Policy 5.20—District Web Site  
Policy 5.20.1—Web Site Privacy Policy  
Policy 5.20F1—Permission to Display Photo of Student on Web Site

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 9-28-113(b)(6)  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g  
20 U.S.C. § 7908  
34 CFR 99.3, 99.7, 99.31, 99.21, 99.22, 99.30, 99.31, 99.32, 99.33, 99.34, 99.35, 99.36, 99.37, 99.63, 99.64

Date Adopted: 07/25/5005

Last Revised: 07/24/2006; 11/23/2009; 6/27/2011; 07/27/2012; 1/26/2015;  
01/8/2016

## 4.13F—OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

(Not to be filed if the parent/student has no objection)

I, the undersigned, being a parent of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the disclosure or publication by the Flippin School District of directory information, as defined in Policy No. 4.13 (Privacy of Students' Records), concerning the student named below. The district is required to continue to honor any signed opt-out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

I understand that the participation by the below-named student in any inter-scholastic activity, including athletics and school clubs, may make the publication of some directory information unavoidable, and the publication of such information in other forms, such as telephone directories, church directories, *etc.*, is not within the control of the District.

I understand that this form must be filed with the office of the appropriate building principal within ten (10) school days from the beginning of the current school year or the date the student is enrolled for school in order for the District to be bound by this objection. Failure to file this form within that time is a specific grant of permission to publish such information.

I object and wish to deny the disclosure or publication of directory information as follows:

- Deny disclosure to military recruiters \_\_\_\_\_
- Deny disclosure to Institutions of postsecondary education \_\_\_\_\_
- Deny disclosure to Potential employers \_\_\_\_\_
- Deny disclosure to all public and school sources \_\_\_\_\_

*Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), **AND** result in the student's directory information **not** being included in the school's yearbook and other school publications.*

Deny disclosure to all public sources \_\_\_\_\_

*Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the first three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), but permit the student's directory information **to be included** in the school's yearbook and other school publications.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of student (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

## **4.14—STUDENT PUBLICATIONS AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE**

### **Student Publications**

All publications that are supported financially by the school or by use of school facilities, or are produced in conjunction with a class shall be considered school-sponsored publications. School publications do not provide a forum for public expression. Such publications, as well as the content of student expression in school-sponsored activities, shall be subject to the editorial control of the District's administration whose actions shall be reasonably related to legitimate pedagogical concerns and adhere to the following limitations.

1. Advertising may be accepted for publications that does not condone or promote products that are inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience or that endorse such things as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
2. Publications may be regulated to prohibit writings which are, in the opinion of the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, ungrammatical, poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced, vulgar or profane, or unsuitable for immature audiences.
3. Publications may be regulated to refuse to publish material which might reasonably be perceived to advocate drug or alcohol use, irresponsible sex, or conduct otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order, or to associate the school with any position other than neutrality on matters of political controversy.
4. Prohibited publications include:
  - a. Those that are obscene as to minors;
  - b. Those that are libelous or slanderous, including material containing defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials, which are made with knowledge of their falsity or reckless disregard of the truth;
  - c. Those that constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy as defined by state law,
  - d. Publications that suggest or urge the commission of unlawful acts on the school premises;
  - e. Publications which suggest or urge the violation of lawful school regulations;
  - f. Hate literature that scurrilously attacks ethnic, religious, or racial groups.

### **Student Publications on School Web Pages**

Student publications that are displayed on school web pages shall follow the same guidelines as listed above plus they shall

- 1 Not contain any non-educational advertisements. Additionally, student web publications shall:
2. Adhere to the restrictions regarding use of Directory Information as prescribed in Policy 4.13 including not using a student's photograph when associated with the student's name unless written permissions has been received from the student's parent or student if over the age of 18.

#### **4.14—STUDENT PUBLICATIONS AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE (cont.)**

3. State that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the School Board or the employees of the district.

##### **Non-school Publications**

School authorities shall review non-school publications prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those materials that are obscene, libelous, pervasively indecent, or advertise unlawful products or services. Material may also be barred from distribution if there is evidence that reasonably supports a forecast that disruption will likely result from the distribution.

##### **Distribution of Literature**

The school principal or designee shall establish reasonable regulations governing the time, place, and manner of student distribution of literature.

The regulations shall:

1. Be narrowly drawn to promote orderly administration of school activities by preventing disruption and may not be designed to stifle expression;
2. Be uniformly applied to all forms of literature;
3. Allow no interference with classes or school activities;
4. Specify times and places where distribution may and may not occur; and
5. Not inhibit a person's right to accept or reject any literature distributed in accordance with the regulations.

The Superintendent, along with the student publications advisors, shall develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy. The regulations shall include definitions of terms and timelines for the review of materials.

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-18-1202, 1203, & 1204;  
                          *Tinker v. Des Moines ISD*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969)  
                          *Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser*, 478 U.S. 675 (1986)  
                          *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 10/27/2008

## **4.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL**

### **CONTACT BY PARENTS**

Parents wishing to speak to their children during the school day shall register first with the office.

### **CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS**

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or the principal's designee establishing the parent's custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered "no contact" or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with the principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting unsupervised visitation may eat lunch, volunteer in their child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy 4.16, Policy 6.5, and any other policies that may apply.

Arkansas law provides that, In order to avoid continuing child custody controversies from involving school personnel and to avoid disruptions to the educational atmosphere in the District's schools that the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation. The custodial or non-custodial parent may send to/drop off the student at school to be sent to/picked up by the other parent on predetermined days in accordance with any court order provided by the custodial parent or by a signed agreement between both the custodial and non-custodial parents that was witnessed by the student's building principal.<sup>1</sup> Unless a valid no-contact order has been filed with the student's principal or the principal's designee, district employees shall not become involved in disputes concerning whether or not that parent was supposed to pick up the student on any given day.

### **CONTACT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT, SOCIAL SERVICES, OR BY COURT ORDER**

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold" without first obtaining a court order. Except as provided below, other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to

#### **4.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL (cont.)**

contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis identified on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after hours telephone number.

##### **Contact by Professional Licensure Standards Board Investigators**

Investigators for the Professional Licensure Standards Board may meet with students during the school day to carry out the investigation of an ethics complaint.

Note: <sup>1</sup> This sentence is based on language in A.C.A. § 9-13-104 (b) and is **NOT** required. School administration should ALWAYS decline any involvement in the fight between parents over whose day it is to pick up the student. The school's interest is that A PARENT or an individual authorized by a PARENT checks the child out or picks the child up, not that the "right" parent checks the child out on the "right" day.

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-18-513;  
                          A.C.A. § 9-13-104;  
                          A.C.A. § 12-18-609, 610, 613  
                          A.C.A. § 12-18-1001, 1005

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 06/27/2011; 1/26/2015; 4/25/2016; 1/9/2017



## **4.16—STUDENT VISITORS**

The board strongly believes that the purpose of school is for learning. Social visitors, generally, disrupt the classroom and interfere with learning that should be taking place. Student visitation is not allowed at the high school level.

Cross References: For adult visits see Policies 4.15 & 6.5

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

## **4.17—STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

The Flippin Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the District's students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs: at any time on the school grounds; off school grounds at a school sponsored function, activity, or event; going to and from school or a school activity.

The Flippin School Board has adopted as policy the Assertive Discipline Program. The School District believes in providing "Discipline with Dignity" and supports positive consequences that encourage improved behavior.

The Assertive Discipline program promotes informing students and parents of rules and regulations in general and the consequences if they choose to disregard the rules. See individual school sections as to consequences per grade level.

Students will be encouraged to display appropriate behavior through praise, individual recognition, and small rewards. The Assertive Discipline Program encourages staff members to concentrate on positive behavior in all aspects of the educational process.

School staff accepts the responsibility for incorporating a discipline plan based upon identified consequences, forgiveness that allows for rewarding positive behavior, and flexibility.

The main idea of the Assertive Discipline Program is to give the teacher more time to teach without the interruption for discipline and to place the burden of correction on the student. The parents will also play a large role in the discipline of the student, since one of the consequences includes parent contact at a certain point in each teacher's discipline plan. See respective handbooks pertaining to individual school procedures. Individual building may exercise flexibility in the enforcement of the board's and district discipline policy. Disciplinary consequences range from a minimum of student conference to a maximum of expulsion from School for students enrolled in Flippin Elementary School. Disciplinary consequences for students enrolled in Flippin Middle School and Flippin High School range from a minimum of a student conference to the maximum of expulsion from school.

## **4.17—STUDENT DISCIPLINE (cont.)**

The District's administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to a felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult, an assault or battery, drug law violations, or sexual misconduct of a serious nature. Any disciplinary action pursued by the District shall be in accordance with the student's appropriate due process rights.

The District's licensed personnel policy committee shall review the student discipline policies annually and may recommend changes in the policies to the Flippin School Board. The Board has the responsibility of determining whether to approve any recommended changes to student discipline policies.

The District's licensed student discipline policies shall be distributed to each student either electronically or hard copy during the first week of school each year and to new students upon their enrollment. Each student's parent or legal guardian shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

It is required by law that the principal, or the person in charge, report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a person has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence or any crime involving a deadly weapon on school property or while under school supervision. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident. Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement.

### **REMOVAL BY A TEACHER**

A teacher may remove a student from class and send that student to the principal. If a teacher removes a student from class twice in any nine week grading period, the principal may not return the student to the teacher's class until a parent conference has been held. (Act 1281 of 1999, 6-18-511).

Legal Reference:     A.C.A. § 6-18-502  
                          A.C.A. § 6-17-113

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005;  
Last Revised: 07/27/2012; 1/24/2013; 7/28/2014; 6/22/2015

## **4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

Students and staff require a safe and orderly learning environment that is conducive to high student achievement. Certain student behaviors are unacceptable in such an environment and are hereby prohibited by the Board. Prohibited behaviors include, but shall not be limited to the following.

1. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;
2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;
3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;
4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;
5. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;
6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;
7. Any misuse of an electronic device will result in disciplinary actions;
8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;
9. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
10. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
11. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
12. Gambling;
13. Inappropriate student dress;
14. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;
15. Truancy;
16. Excessive tardiness;
17. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability;
18. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;
19. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
20. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, "throwing signs" or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;
21. Sexual harassment;
22. Bullying;
23. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using a wireless communication device; and
24. Theft of another individual's personal property.

The Board directs each school in the District to develop implementation regulations for prohibited student conduct consistent with applicable Board policy, State and Federal laws, and judicial decisions.

## **4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT (cont.)**

### **DRUG SCREENING** *(For students who participate in affected interscholastic activities)*

#### **PURPOSE**

- a. Emphasize concerns for the health of students in areas of safety while participating in activities and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.
- b. Work with the parents to assist in keeping their children free of mood-altering chemicals.
- c. Promote a sense of order and discipline among students.
- d. Confirm and support existing state laws which restrain the use of such mood-altering chemicals.
- e. Establish standards of conduct for those students who are leaders and standard-bearers among their peers.
- f. Assist students who desire to resist peer pressure that directs them toward the use of mood-altering chemicals.
- g. Assist students who should be referred for assistance or evaluation regarding their use of mood-altering chemicals.

#### **CONSEQUENCES FOR A POSITIVE TEST**

1. Results will be sent to the school principal. The principal will share the results with the superintendent and appropriate sponsors. The parent and student will be notified of a positive test by the principal and sponsor.
2. The sponsor and principal will communicate with the parents and counsel with the student.
3. Recommended drug counseling.
4. A 20 day probationary period, no participation in any co-curricular activity.
5. Re-test at the end of 20 days at the student's expense.
6. Notification of local police authorities of a positive drug test
7. At the end of the 20 day probation if the re-test is positive or if a second positive test occurs during the school year:
  - a. Three (3) day out of school suspension.
  - b. Possible recommendation for an alternative setting.
  - c. Elimination from all co-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

**Exception:** Steroids or similar chemicals could take more than twenty days to leave a student's system. In this case a doctor's written opinion is requested and is at the student's expense.

#### **SUBSTANCES SCREENED**

1. Amphetamines
2. Barbiturates
3. Benzodiazepines
4. Cocaine
5. Methaqualone
6. Opiates
7. PCP
8. THC (Cannabinoids)
9. Ethyl Alcohol

## **4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT (cont.)**

### **SELECTION METHOD**

1. At the beginning of the school year and to be completed prior to the end of the first quarter, twenty percent of the affected students will be randomly chosen for drug screening. Sampling will be done each quarter of the school year. Twenty percent of the affected students will be tested each quarter unless there are no positive tests the prior quarter and the percentage will be reduced by five percent for the next quarter. Each school year this procedure will begin at the twenty percent level.
2. The random selection process is done by the drug testing company.
3. Exception: A single test can be requested by a group sponsor for reasonable suspicion.

### **PROCESSING TESTS**

1. Random sampling of urine will be taken and tested by a contracted company.
2. Exception: A collection of urine will be taken by the school nurse and tested by a contracted company.

### **GROUPS TO BE TESTED GRADES 7-12**

1. Basketball players
2. Baseball players
3. Softball players
4. Golf team players
5. Band members
6. Cheerleaders
7. Volleyball players
8. Track team members
9. Soccer players
10. Bowling team members

Cross-References: Prohibited Conduct #1—Policy # 3.17  
Prohibited Conduct #2— Policy # 4.20  
Prohibited Conduct #3— Policy # 4.21, 4.26  
Prohibited Conduct #4— Policy # 4.22  
Prohibited Conduct #5— Policy # 4.23  
Prohibited Conduct #8— Policy # 4.24  
Prohibited Conduct # 13— Policy # 4.25  
Prohibited Conduct # 14— Policy # 4.21  
Prohibited Conduct # 15— Policy # 4.7  
Prohibited Conduct # 16 — Policy # 4.9  
Prohibited Conduct # 17— Policy # 4.43  
Prohibited Conduct #19— Policy # 4.12

## **4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT (cont.)**

Prohibited Conduct #20— Policy # 4.26  
Prohibited Conduct # 21—Policy # 4.27  
Prohibited Conduct # 22— Policy # 4.43  
Prohibited Conduct # 23— Policy # 4.47

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502  
A.C.A. § 6-18-707  
A.C.A. § 6-15-1005  
A.C.A. § 6-21-609  
A.C.A. § 6-18-506  
A.C.A. § 6-18-222  
A.C.A. § 6-5-201  
A.C.A. § 6-18-514  
A.C.A. § 27-51-1602  
A.C.A. § 27-51-1603  
A.C.A. § 27-51-1609

Date Adopted: 07/25/05

Date Revised: 07/24/06; 11/23/09; 04-26-2010; 07/27/12; 7/28/2014; 1/26/2015; 6/25/2018

#### **4.19—CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY**

Students are subject to the same rules of conduct while traveling to and from school as they are while on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate student code of conduct rules.

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. Disciplinary measures for problems related to bus behavior shall include suspension or expulsion from school, or suspending or terminating the student's bus transportation privileges. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their bus transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student's parent or legal guardian.

Students are eligible to receive district bus transportation if they live too great a distance to walk.

Legal Reference:     A.C.A. § 6-19-119 (b)  
                           Ark. Division of Academic facilities and Transportation Rules Governing  
                           Maintenance and Operations of Ark. Public School Buses and Physical  
                           Examinations of School Bus Drivers 4.0

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Date Revised: 07/24/2006

#### **4.20—DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL**

No student shall by the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function. Nor shall any student encourage any other student to engage in such activities.

Disorderly activities by any student or group of students that adversely affect the school's orderly educational environment shall not be tolerated at any time on school grounds. Teachers may remove from class and send to the principal or principal's designee office a student whose behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach the students, the class, or with the ability of the student's classmates to learn. Students who refuse to leave the classroom voluntarily will be escorted from the classroom by the school administration.

Legal Reference:     A.C.A. § 6-18-511

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 07/24/2006

**4.19 & 4.20**

## **4.21—STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY**

A student shall not threaten, physically abuse, or attempt to physically abuse, or behave in such a way as to be perceived to threaten bodily harm to any other person (student, school employee, or school visitor). Any gestures, vulgar, abusive or insulting language, taunting, threatening, harassing, or intimidating remarks by a student toward another person that threatens their well-being is strictly forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, fighting, racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual slurs.

Furthermore, it is unlawful, during regular school hours, and in a place where a public school employee is required to be in the course of his or her duties, for any person to address a public school employee using language which, in its common understanding, is calculated to:

- a) cause a breach of the peace;
- b) materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school;
- c) arouse the person to whom it is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation. Students guilty of such an offense may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-106 (a)

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005



## **4.22—WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS**

No student shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon while in school, on or about school property, before or after school, in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity, en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity, off the school grounds at any school bus stop, or at any school sponsored activity or event. Military personnel, such as ROTC cadets, acting in the course of their official duties are exempted.

A weapon is defined as any firearm; knife; razor; ice pick; dirk; box cutter; numchucks; pepper spray, mace, or other noxious spray; explosive; Taser or other instrument that uses electrical current to cause neuromuscular incapacitation; or any other instrument or substance capable of causing bodily harm. For the purposes of this policy, "firearm" means any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use.

Possession means having a weapon, as defined in this policy, on the student's body or in an area under his/her control. If, a student discovers prior to any questioning or search by any school personnel that he/she has accidentally brought a weapon, other than a firearm, to school on his/her person, in a book bag/purse, or in his/her vehicle on school grounds, and the student informs the principal or a staff person immediately, the student will not be considered to be in possession of a weapon unless it is a firearm. The weapon shall be confiscated and held in the office until such time as the student's parent/legal guardian shall pick up the weapon from the school's office. Repeated offenses are unacceptable and shall be grounds for disciplinary action against the student as otherwise provided for in this policy.

Except as permitted in this policy, students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm<sup>1</sup> shall be recommended for expulsion for a period of not less than one year. The superintendent shall have the discretion to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis.<sup>1</sup> Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property.<sup>2</sup> Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The mandatory expulsion requirement for possession of a firearm does not apply to a firearm brought to school for the purpose of participating in activities approved and authorized by the district that include the use of firearms. Such activities may include ROTC programs, hunting safety or military education, or before or after-school hunting or rifle clubs.

## 4.22—WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

Firearms brought to school for such purposes shall be brought to the school employee designated to receive such firearms. The designated employee shall store the firearms in a secure location until they are removed for use in the approved activity.

The district shall report any student who brings a firearm to school to the criminal justice system or juvenile delinquency system by notifying local law enforcement.

Notes: A.C.A. § 5-73-119 trumps the more lenient US DOE Guidelines relating to a student's accidental possession of a firearm on campus. Consequently, the leniency provisions of the policy for students who inadvertently bring a weapon to school cannot be extended to a firearm.

<sup>1</sup> The exemption is for IDEA purposes where the possession can reasonably be associated with the student's disability. To be eligible for ESEA funds, the federal Department of Education requires an assurance that the district

- (1) is in compliance with the State law requiring the one-year expulsion; and
- (2) a description of the circumstances surrounding expulsions imposed under the one-year expulsion requirement, including:

- (A) the name of the school concerned;
- (B) the number of students expelled from the school; and
- (C) the type of firearms concerned.

This requirement applies even in the instances where the district exercised its option to modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. The DOE Guidance on the Gun Free Schools Act prohibits the use of the case-by-case option to avoid “over-all compliance with the one-year expulsion requirement.”

<sup>2</sup> The statute that specifies the parents' penalties is A.C.A. § 5-27- 210, but it is also helpful to have A.C.A. § 5-4-201 and A.C.A. § 5-4-401 available which spell out the fines and possible imprisonment for a class B misdemeanor offense.

Cross Reference: Policy 4.31—EXPULSION

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502 (c) (2)(A)(B)  
A.C.A. § 6-18-507 (e) (1)(2)  
A.C.A. § 6-21-608  
A.C.A. § 5-4-201  
A.C.A. § 5-4-401  
A.C.A. § 5-27-210  
A.C.A. § 5-73-119(b)(e)(8)(9)(10)  
A.C.A. § 5-73-133  
20 USCS § 7151

Date Adopted: 7/25/2005

Last Revised: 4/26/2010; 1/24/2013; 6/17/2013; 1/26/2015

## **5-27-210. Parental responsibility for student's firearm possession.**

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Firearm" means:

(A) Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use, including such a device that is not loaded or lacks a clip or other component to render it immediately operable; or

(B) Components that can readily be assembled into a device described in subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section; and

(2) "Parent" means a parent, stepparent, legal guardian, or person in loco parentis or who has legal custody of a student pursuant to a court order and with whom the student resides.

(b) A parent of a minor is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor if:

(1) The parent knows that the minor is in illegal possession of a firearm in or upon:

(A) The premises of a public or private school;

(B) A public or private school's athletic stadium or other facility or building in which school-sponsored events are conducted; or

(C) A public park, playground, or civic center; and

(2) The parent fails to:

(A) Prevent the illegal possession; or

(B) Report the illegal possession to an appropriate school or law enforcement official.

**History.** Acts 1999, No. 1149, §§ 1, 2.

## **4.23—TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

Smoking or use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and snuff) in or on any real property owned or leased by a District school, including school buses owned or leased by the District, is prohibited. Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pips, or under any other name or descriptor.

**Note:** The statute requires the statute's posting "...in a conspicuous location at every entrance to each building owned or leased by a public school district and every school bus used to transport students"

**Legal Reference:** A.C.A. § 6-21-609

**Date Adopted:** 07/25/2005; 2/25/2011; 06/27/2011; 6/17/2013

**4.23**

## **4.24—DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the deleterious effects of alcohol and drugs. Their use is illegal, disruptive to the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our schools.

Therefore, no student in the Flippin School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy. This policy applies to any student who; is on or about school property; is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity; has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; is en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.

Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to, alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage, inhalants or any ingestible matter that alter a student's ability to act, think, or respond, LSD, or any other hallucinogen, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug, PCP, amphetamines, steroids, "designer drugs," look-alike drugs, or any controlled substance.

Selling, distributing, or attempting to sell or distribute, or using over-the-counter or prescription drugs not in accordance with the recommended dosage is prohibited.

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005; 07/27/2012

## **4.25—STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING**

The Flippin Board of Education recognizes that dress can be a matter of personal taste and preference. At the same time, the District has a responsibility to promote an environment conducive to student learning. This requires limitations to student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process because they are immodest, disruptive, unsanitary, unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency.

Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the school grounds during the school day and at school-sponsored events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female. This prohibition does not apply, however to a costume or uniform worn by a student while participating in a school-sponsored activity or event.

The Superintendent shall establish student dress codes for the District's schools, to be included in the student handbook, and are consistent with the above criteria.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502(c)(1); A.C.A. § 6-18-503(c)

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005; 06/27/2011

**4.24 & 4.25**

## **4.26—GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY**

The Board is committed to ensuring a safe school environment conducive to promoting a learning environment where students and staff can excel. An orderly environment cannot exist where unlawful acts occur causing fear, intimidation, or physical harm to students or school staff. Gangs and their activities create such an atmosphere and shall not be allowed on school grounds or at school functions.

The following actions are prohibited by students on school property or at school functions:

1. Wearing or possessing any clothing, bandanas, jewelry, symbol, or other sign associated with membership in, or representative of, any gang;
2. Engaging in any verbal or nonverbal act such as throwing signs, gestures, or handshakes representative of membership in any gang;
3. Recruiting, soliciting, or encouraging any person through duress or intimidation to become or remain a member of any gang; and/or
4. Extorting payment from any individual in return for protection from harm from any gang.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Students arrested for gang related activities occurring off school grounds shall be subject to the same disciplinary actions as if they had occurred on school grounds.

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-15-1005(b)(2)  
                          A.C.A. § 5-74-201

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005; 4/26/2010; 6/27/2011  
Last Revised: 2/25/2011

## 4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Flippin School District is committed to having an academic environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere of equal educational opportunity that is free of discrimination. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational environment and will not be tolerated.

The District believes the best policy to create an educational environment free from sexual harassment is prevention; therefore, the District shall provide informational materials and training to students, parents/legal guardians/other responsible adults, and employees on sexual harassment. The informational materials and training on sexual harassment shall be age appropriate and, when necessary, provided in a language other than English or in an accessible format. The informational materials and training shall include, but are not limited to: the nature of sexual harassment; the District's written grievance procedures for complaints of sexual harassment;<sup>1</sup> that the district does not tolerate sexual harassment; that students can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences; the redress that is available to the victim of sexual harassment;<sup>2</sup> and the potential discipline for perpetrating sexual harassment.

"Sexual harassment" means conduct that is:

1. Of a sexual nature, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Sexual advances;
  - b. Requests for sexual favors;
  - c. Sexual violence; or
  - d. Other personally offensive verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature;
2. Unwelcome; and
3. denies or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from any of the District's educational programs or activities through any or all of the following methods:
  - a. Submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's education;
  - b. Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual; and/or
  - c. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic environment

The terms "intimidating," "hostile," and "offensive" include conduct of a sexual nature which has the effect of humiliation or embarrassment and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it limits the student's ability to participate in, or benefit from, an educational program or activity.

## **4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT (cont.)**

Within the educational environment, sexual harassment is prohibited between any of the following: students; employees and students; and non-employees and students.

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances. Depending upon such circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- Unwelcome touching;
- Writing graffiti of a sexual nature;
- Displaying or distributing sexually explicit drawings, pictures, or written materials;
- Performing sexual gestures or touching oneself sexually in front of others;
- Telling sexual or crude jokes;
- Spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities;
- Discussions of sexual experiences;
- Rating other students as to sexual activity or performance;
- Circulating or showing e-mails or Web sites of a sexual nature;
- Intimidation by words, actions, insults, or name calling; and
- Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether or not the student self-identifies as homosexual or transgender.

Students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment, or parents of a student who believes their child has been subjected to sexual harassment, are encouraged to file a complaint by contacting a counselor, teacher, Title IX coordinator, or administrator who will assist them in the complaint process. Under no circumstances shall a student be required to first report allegations of sexual harassment to a school contact person if that person is the individual who is accused of the harassment.

Complaints will be treated in a confidential manner to the extent possible. Limited disclosure may be provided to: individuals who are responsible for handling the District's investigation to the extent necessary to complete a thorough investigation; the extent necessary to submit a report to the child maltreatment hotline; the Professional Licensure Standards Board for complaints alleging sexual harassment by an employee towards a student; or the extent necessary to provide the individual accused in the complaint due process during the investigation and disciplinary processes. Individuals who file a complaint have the right to request that the individual accused of sexual harassment not be informed of the name of the accuser; however, individuals should be aware that making such a request may substantially limit the District's

## **4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT (cont.)**

ability to investigate the complaint and may make it impossible for the District to discipline the accused.<sup>3</sup>

Students, or the parents/legal guardians/ other responsible adult of a student, who file a complaint of sexual harassment shall not be subjected to retaliation or reprisal in any form, including threats, intimidation, coercion, or discrimination. The District shall take steps to prevent retaliation and shall take immediate action if any form of retaliation occurs regardless of whether the retaliatory acts are by District officials, students, or third parties.

Following the completion of an investigation of a complaint, the District will inform the parents/legal guardian/other responsible adult of the student, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), who filed the complaint:

- The final determination of the investigation;
- Remedies the District will make available to the student; and
- The sanctions, if any, imposed on the alleged harasser relevant to the student.

Following the completion of an investigation of a complaint, the District will inform the parents/legal guardian/other responsible adult of the student, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), who was accused of sexual harassment in the complaint:

- The final determination of the investigation; and
- The sanctions, if any, the District intends to impose on the student.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment. Following an investigation, any student who is found by the evidence to more likely than not have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion.

Students who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Individuals who withhold information, purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Notes: <sup>1</sup> The U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights requires that there are separate written grievance procedures in addition to the written policy. The grievance procedures should include the following:

- A statement of the school's jurisdiction over Title IX complaints;
- Adequate definitions of sexual harassment (which includes sexual violence) and an explanation as to when such conduct creates a hostile environment;
- Notice of where complaints may be filed;



## 4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT (cont.)

- Reporting policies and protocols, including provisions for confidential reporting;
- Identification of the employee or employees responsible for evaluating requests for confidentiality;
- Provisions for adequate, reliable, and impartial investigation of complaints, including the opportunity for both the complainant and alleged perpetrator to present witnesses and evidence;
- Designated and reasonably prompt time frames for the major stages of the complaint process;
- Written notice to the complainant and alleged perpetrator of the outcome of the complaint;
- Notice that Title IX prohibits retaliation;
- Notice of a student's right to file a criminal complaint and a Title IX complaint simultaneously;
- Notice of available interim measures that may be taken to protect the student in the educational setting;
- The evidentiary standard that must be used (preponderance of the evidence) (i.e., more likely than not that sexual harassment occurred) in resolving a complaint;
- Notice of potential remedies for students;
- Notice of potential sanctions against perpetrators;
- Sources of counseling, advocacy, and support; and
- Assurance that the school will take steps to prevent recurrence of any sexual harassment and remedy discriminatory effects on the complainant and others, if appropriate.

<sup>2</sup> Depending on the specific nature of the problem, remedies for the complainant might include, but are not limited to:

- Providing an escort to ensure that the complainant can move safely between classes and activities;
- Ensuring that the complainant and alleged perpetrator do not attend the same classes;
- Moving the complainant or alleged perpetrator to another school within the district;
- Providing counseling services (which must be free of charge to the student);
- Providing medical services;
- Providing academic support services, such as tutoring
- arranging for the complainant to re-take a course or withdraw from a class without penalty, including ensuring that any changes do not adversely affect the complainant's academic record; and
- reviewing any disciplinary actions taken against the complainant to see if there is a causal connection between the harassment and the misconduct that may have resulted in the complainant being disciplined.

<sup>3</sup> Factors to be considered when a complainant requests no investigation or no disciplinary action be taken include:

- Circumstances that suggest there is an increased risk of the alleged perpetrator committing additional acts of sexual harassment or other violence, which include:

## **4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT (cont.)**

- Whether there have been other sexual harassment complaints about the same alleged perpetrator;
- Whether the alleged perpetrator has a history of arrests or records from a prior school indicating a history of violence;
- Whether the alleged perpetrator threatened further sexual harassment or other violence against the student or others; and
- Whether the sexual harassment was committed by multiple perpetrators;
- Whether the student's report reveals a pattern of perpetration, such as illicit use of drugs or alcohol, at a given location or by a particular group that suggests there is an increased risk of future acts of sexual harassment under similar circumstances;
- Whether the sexual harassment was perpetrated with a weapon;
- The age of the student subjected to the sexual harassment; and
- Whether the school possesses other means to obtain relevant evidence, such as through security cameras, eye witness accounts, or physical evidence.

Legal References: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 1681, et seq.  
34 CFR part 106  
A.C.A. § 6-15-1005 (b) (1)

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Date Revised: 05/13/2011; 6/27/2011; 1/31/2018

## **4.28—LASER POINTERS**

Students shall not possess any hand held laser pointer while in school; on or about school property, before or after school; in attendance at school or any school-sponsored activity; en route to or from school or any school-sponsored activity; off the school grounds at any school bus stop or at any school-sponsored activity or event. School personnel shall seize any laser pointer from the student possessing it and the student may reclaim it at the close of the school year, or when the student is no longer enrolled in the District.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-512  
A.C.A. § 5-60-122

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

## **4.29—INTERNET SAFETY and ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY**

### **Definition**

For the purposes of this policy, "electronic device" means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

The District makes electronic device(s) and/or electronic device Internet access available to students, to permit students to perform research and to allow students to learn how to use electronic device technology. Use of district electronic devices is for educational and/or instructional purposes only. Student use of electronic device(s) shall only be as directed or assigned by staff or teachers; students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their electronic device use, including email, and that monitoring of student electronic device use is continuous.

No student will be granted Internet access until and unless an Internet and electronic device use agreement, signed by both the student and the parent or legal guardian (if the student is under the age of eighteen [18]) is on file. The current version of the Internet and electronic device use agreement is incorporated by reference into board policy and is considered part of the student handbook.

### **Technology Protection Measures**

The District is dedicated to protecting students from materials on the Internet or world wide web that are inappropriate, obscene, or otherwise harmful to minors; therefore, it is the policy of the District to protect each electronic device with Internet filtering software that is designed to prevent students from accessing such materials. For purposes of this policy, "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

- (A) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
- (B) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
- (C) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

### **Internet Use and Safety**

The District is dedicated to ensuring that students are capable of using the Internet in a safe and responsible manner. The District uses technology protection measures to aid in student safety and shall also educate students on appropriate online behavior and Internet use including, but not limited to:

- interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms;
- Cyberbullying awareness; and
- Cyberbullying response.

## **4.29— INTERNET SAFETY and ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY (cont.)**

### **Misuse of Internet**

The opportunity to use the District's technology to access the Internet is a privilege and not a right. Students who misuse electronic devices or Internet access in any way will face disciplinary action, as specified in the student handbook and/or Internet safety and electronic device use agreement. Misuse of the Internet includes:

- The disabling or bypassing of security procedures, compromising, attempting to compromise, or defeating the district's technology network security or Internet filtering software;
- The altering of data without authorization;
- Disclosing, using, or disseminating passwords, whether the passwords are the student's own or those of another student/faculty/community member, to other students;
- Divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student's academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, addresses, and phone numbers.
- Using electronic devices for any illegal activity, including electronic device hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
- Using electronic devices to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics;
- Using electronic devices to violate any other policy or is contrary to the Internet safety and electronic device use agreement.

Notes: <sup>1</sup>The FCC's Rules have been amended to align with the statute's provision which allow local determination of what material is harmful to minors. 47 CFR 54.520(c)(4) states: "Local determination of content. A determination regarding matter inappropriate for minors shall be made by the school board, local educational agency, library, or other authority responsible for making the determination. No agency or instrumentality of the United States Government may establish criteria for making such determination; review the determination made by the certifying school, school board, school district, local educational agency, library, or other authority; or consider the criteria employed by the certifying school, school board, school district, local educational agency, library, or other authority in the administration of the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism." Therefore, districts must decide on their definition of "harmful to minors." The definition included in the policy is that which is used in the law and Code of Regulations. You may, but you do not have to, change it.

<sup>2</sup> The designated District Technology Administrator or designee may authorize the disabling of the filter to enable access by an adult for a bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

## **4.29— INTERNET SAFETY and ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY (cont.)**

<sup>3</sup> It is important for future Tech Plan approval by the ADE that you have and retain documented proof of such education such as time, place, and materials presented.

<sup>4</sup> For your student handbook, add progressive discipline – first offense consequence, second offense consequence, etc.

Legal References: Children's Internet Protection Act; PL 106-554  
FCC Final Rules 11-125 August 11, 2011  
20 USC 6777  
47 USC 254(h)(l)  
47 CFR 54.520  
47 CFR 520(c)(4)  
A.C.A. § 6-21-107  
A.C.A. § 6-21-111

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 11/23/2009; 07/27/2012; 7/28/2014

# **FLIPPIN SCHOOL DISTRICT iPad USER ACCEPTANCE POLICY**

## **Requirements**

### **Required Personal Email and Apple ID**

In order to use the iPad to its full potential, students will need to create a personal email account, if they do not already have an existing email account, such as gmail, yahoo, and/or hotmail. Once the personal e-mail is set up, it must be binded with an Apple ID. The Apple ID can be setup without a credit card. Once the email is established, students can begin to download free applications, personal paid applications, and school provided applications.

Setting up a personal email account and Apple ID prior to the new school year will allow students to begin using their device on the first day of the new school year.

### **Receiving the Device**

Devices will be distributed once the parent and student have both reviewed and signed the Flippin School District iPad Acceptance Use Policy and Optional Insurance Coverage Form.

### **Returning the Device**

Devices will be returned during the final week of school. Seniors will return their device the week prior to graduation. In the event a student graduates early, withdraws, or is expelled from Flippin School District before the end of the school year, the device will be returned at that time.

### **Failing to Return Device**

Devices and accessories must be returned at the end of each school year. A student failing to return the device and accessories at the end of the year, or prior to his/her departure from Flippin School District, may be subjected to criminal prosecution or civil liability. A theft report will be filed with the local authorities if a school owned device is not returned.

### **Device Identification**

Devices provided by Flippin School District are uniquely identified, labeled, and case protected. Devices issued to each student will be assigned a unique identification for administrative purposes.

### **Device Inspection**

Flippin School District will respect the privacy of the student's use of the device and will not track daily use at school or home unless deemed necessary. Students will make the device and device accessories available to Flippin School District faculty for necessary inspection, physical maintenance, and software maintenance.

## Device Care and Responsibilities

- Do not remove the school provided case
- Handle the device with care while using the device in the classroom and transporting device between the school and home
- Insert charging cables carefully to avoid damage
- Clean device with a soft cloth to prevent scratches and damages
- Do not clean the device with cleansing liquids
- Do not leave the device in any unsupervised area
- Fully charge the device before arriving to Flippin School District each school day
- Students who fail to bring device to school will be required to complete class assignments without the device

## General Precautions

- To avoid pressure damaging, do not lean on device
- Do not place heavy objects on the device
- Do not leave your device in a dirty area. Dirt and dust can accumulate on and underneath the device, causing damage.
- 

## School Provided Software and Content

Flippin School District will provide the necessary applications for students to create, edit, and publish content for course materials and assignments.

## Personal Software and Content

Flippin School District allows students to download personal software and content via the portal provided on the device. Flippin School District does not allow students to Alter the integrity of the school provided device with illegal software. Downloading Illegal software to the device, also referred to as "Jailbreaking" or hacking, will result in disciplinary action.

## Repairs

Students and parents are responsible for any damages incurred on the school provided device. Flippin School District's Technology Department will perform repairs on the school provided device.

## Loss/Theft/Criminal Acts

Parents and students are required to file a police report in the event that a school provided device is stolen or vandalized. Copies of this report must also be provided to Flippin School District. Once a copy of the report has been given to Flippin School District, a student may be issued another device.

## 4.29F—STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE and INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

Student's Name (Please Print)\_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level\_\_\_\_\_

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

The \_\_\_\_\_ School District agrees to allow the student identified above ("Student") to use the district's technology to access the Internet under the following terms and conditions which apply whether the access is through a District or student owned electronic device (as used in this Agreement, "electronic device" means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data):

1. Conditional Privilege: The Student's use of the district's access to the Internet is a privilege conditioned on the Student's abiding to this agreement. No student may use the district's access to the Internet whether through a District or student owned electronic device unless the Student and his/her parent or guardian have read and signed this agreement.

2. Acceptable Use: The Student agrees that he/she will use the District's Internet access for educational purposes only. In using the Internet, the Student agrees to obey all federal and state laws and regulations. The Student also agrees to abide by any Internet use rules instituted at the Student's school or class, whether those rules are written or oral.

3. Penalties for Improper Use: If the Student violates this agreement and misuses the Internet, the Student shall be subject to disciplinary action. **[Note: A.C.A. § 6-21-107 requires the district to have "...provisions for administration of punishment of students for violations of the policy with stiffer penalties for repeat offenders, and the same shall be incorporated into the district's written student discipline policy." You may choose to tailor your punishments to be appropriate to the school's grade levels.]**

4. "Misuse of the District's access to the Internet" includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. using the Internet for other than educational purposes;
- b. gaining intentional access or maintaining access to materials which are "harmful to minors" as defined by Arkansas law;
- c. using the Internet for any illegal activity, including computer hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
- d. making unauthorized copies of computer software;
- e. accessing "chat lines" unless authorized by the instructor for a class activity directly supervised by a staff member;



#### **4.29F—STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE and INTERNET USE AGREEMENT (cont.)**

- f. using abusive or profane language in private messages on the system; or using the system to harass, insult, or verbally attack others;
- g. posting anonymous messages on the system;
- h. using encryption software;
- i. wasteful use of limited resources provided by the school including paper;
- j. causing congestion of the network through lengthy downloads of files;
- k. vandalizing data of another user;
- l. devices such as guns, weapons, bombs, explosives, or fireworks;
- m. gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to resources or files;
- n. identifying oneself with another person's name or password or using an account or password of another user without proper authorization;
- o. invading the privacy of individuals;
- p. divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student's academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, address, and phone number.
- q. using the network for financial or commercial gain without district permission;
- r. theft or vandalism of data, equipment, or intellectual property;
- s. attempting to gain access or gaining access to student records, grades, or files;
- t. introducing a virus to, or otherwise improperly tampering with the system;
- u. degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance;
- v. creating a web page or associating a web page with the school or school district without proper authorization;
- w. providing access to the District's Internet Access to unauthorized individuals;
- x. failing to obey school or classroom Internet use rules; or
- y. taking part in any activity related to Internet use which creates a clear and present danger of the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the district or any of its schools.
- z. Installing or downloading software on district computers without prior approval of the technology director or his/her designee.

5. Liability for debts: Students and their cosigners shall be liable for any and all costs (debts) incurred through the student's use of the computers or access to the Internet including penalties for copyright violations.

6. No Expectation of Privacy: The Student and parent/guardian signing below agree that if the Student uses the Internet through the District's access, that the Student waives any right to privacy the Student may have for such use.

#### **4.29F—STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE and INTERNET USE AGREEMENT (cont.)**

The Student and the parent/guardian agree that the district may monitor the Student's use of the District's Internet Access and may also examine all system activities the Student participates in, including but not limited to e-mail, voice, and video transmissions, to ensure proper use of the system. The District may share such transmissions with the Student's parents/guardians.

7. No Guarantees: The District will make good faith efforts to protect children from improper or harmful matter which may be on the Internet. At the same time, in signing this agreement, the parent and Student recognize that the District makes no guarantees about preventing improper access to such materials on the part of the Student.

8. Signatures: We, the persons who have signed below, have read this agreement and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Students who are not present at school cannot benefit from the educational opportunities the school environment affords. Administrators, therefore, shall strive to find ways to keep students in school as participants in the educational process. There are instances, however, when the needs of the other students or the interests of the orderly learning environment require the removal of a student from school. The Board authorizes school principals or their designees to suspend students for disciplinary reasons for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) school days, including the day upon which the suspension is imposed. The suspension may be in school or out of school. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

- At any time on the school grounds;
- Off school grounds at a school-sponsored function, activity, or event; and
- Going to and from school or a school activity.

A student may be suspended for behavior including, but not limited to, that:

1. Is in violation of school policies, rules, or regulations;
2. Substantially interferes with the safe and orderly educational environment;
3. School administrators believe will result in the substantial interference with the safe and orderly educational environment; and/or
4. Is insubordinate, incorrigible, violent, or involves moral turpitude.

Out-of-school suspension (OSS) shall not be used to discipline a student in kindergarten through fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) grade unless the student's behavior:

- a. Poses a physical risk to himself or herself or to others;
- b. Causes a serious disruption that cannot be addressed through other means;  
or
- c. Is the act of bringing a firearm on school campus.

OSS shall not be used to discipline a student for skipping class, excessive absences, or other forms of truancy.

The school principal or designee shall proceed as follows in deciding whether or not to suspend a student.

1. the student shall be given written notice or advised orally of the charges against him/her;
2. if the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an explanation of the evidence against him/her and be allowed to present his/her version of the facts; and
3. if the principal finds the student guilty of the misconduct, he/she may be suspended.

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student's re-admittance to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older prior to the suspension.

#### **4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL (cont.)**

Such notice shall be handed to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older or mailed to the last address reflected in the records of the school district.

Generally, notice and hearing should precede the student's removal from school, but if prior notice and hearing are not feasible, as where the student's presence endangers persons or property or threatens disruption of the academic process, thus justifying immediate removal from school, the necessary notice and hearing should follow as soon as practicable.

It is the parents' or legal guardians' responsibility to provide current contact information to the district which the school shall use to immediately notify the parent or legal guardian upon the suspension of a student.

The notification shall be by one of the following means, listed in order of priority:

- A primary call number
  - o The contact may be by voice, voice mail, or text message
- An email address
- A regular first class letter to the last known mailing address

The district shall keep a log of contacts attempted and made to the parent or legal guardian.

During the period of their suspension, students serving OSS are not be permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference.<sup>3</sup>

During the period of their suspension, students serving in-school suspension shall not attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities during the imposed suspension.<sup>3</sup>

Suspensions initiated by the principal or his/her designee may be appealed to the Superintendent, but not to the Board.

Suspensions initiated by the Superintendent may be appealed to the Board.

Note: A.C.A. § 6-18-507(f)(3) requires attempts at contacting parents be made first by phone. If such contact fails, then contact may be by email, and if that is unsuccessful, contact may be by regular first class mail.<sup>2w</sup>

Notes: <sup>2</sup> A.C.A. § 6-18-507(f)(3) requires attempts at contacting parents be made first by phone. If such contact fails, then contact may be by email, and if that is unsuccessful, contact may be by regular first class mail.

## **4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL (cont.)**

Cross Reference: 4.7—ABSENCES

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-507  
*Goss v Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565 (1975)

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 04/07/2008; 6/25/2012; 1/8/2016; 6/6/2016; 5/23/2017

## 4.31—EXPULSION

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District's written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct:

- Deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate;
- Where the student's continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment; or
- Would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

Expulsion shall not be used to discipline a student in kindergarten through fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) grade unless the student's behavior:

- a. Poses a physical risk to himself or herself or to others;
- b. Causes a serious disruption that cannot be addressed through other means;  
or
- c. Is the act of bringing a firearm on school campus.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents or legal guardians (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records) that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

The hearing shall be conducted not later than ten (10) school days\* following the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.

The President of the Board, Board Attorney, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing. The student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. Both the district administration and School Board also may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent, or student if age eighteen (18) or older, requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

During the hearing, the Superintendent, or designee, or representative, will present evidence, including the calling of witnesses, that gave rise to the recommendation of expulsion. The student, or his/her representative, may then present evidence including statements from persons with personal knowledge of the events or circumstances relevant to the charges against the student. Formal cross-examination will not be permitted, however, any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or designee, the student, or his/her representative may question anyone making a statement and/or the student. The presiding officer shall decide questions concerning the appropriateness or relevance of any questions asked during the hearing.

#### 4.31—EXPULSION (cont.)

Except as permitted by policy 4.22, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis.

Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The Superintendent and the Board of Education shall complete the expulsion process of any student that was initiated because the student possessed a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property regardless of the enrollment status of the student.

Notes: <sup>1</sup> The ten (10) school days are on a traditional school calendar. If your district uses a 4x4 block schedule, the number of days of suspension will need to be modified accordingly.

#### **MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM -- Policy 4.35F2**

Student's Name (Please Print)

---

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The following must be provided for the student to be eligible to self-administer ~~asthma~~ rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine. Eligibility is **only** valid for this school for the current academic year.

- a written statement from licensed a health-care provider who has prescriptive privileges that he//she has prescribed the rescue inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for the student and that the student needs to carry the medication on his/her person due to a medical condition;
- the specific medications prescribed for the student;
- an individualized health care plan developed by the prescribing health-care provider containing the treatment plan for managing asthma and/or anaphylaxis episodes of the student and for medication use by the student during school hours; and
- a statement from the prescribing health-care provider that the student possesses the skill and responsibility necessary to use and administer the asthma inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate his/her skill level in using the rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine to the nurse.

Rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for a student's self-administration shall be supplied by the student's parent or guardian and be in the original container properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Students who self-carry a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector shall also provide the school nurse with a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector to be used in emergency situations.

My signature below is an acknowledgment that I understand that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for injury resulting from the self-administration of medications by the student named above.

Parent or legal guardian signature

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Adopted: 06/24/13

Last Revised:

<sup>2</sup> The current law governing parental responsibility is A.C.A. § 5-27-210

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-507

The current law governing parental responsibility is A.C.A. § 5-27-210

Cross Reference: Policy 4.22 – WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 10/27/2008; 5/23/2017



## **4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS**

The District respects the rights of its students against arbitrary intrusion of their person and property. At the same time, it is the responsibility of school officials to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all students enrolled in the District in order to promote an environment conducive to student learning. The superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right to inspect and search school property and equipment. They may also search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, when there is reasonable and individualized suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community.<sup>1</sup> School authorities may seize evidence found in the search and disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence found which appears to be in violation of the law shall be reported to the appropriate authority.

School property shall include, but not be limited to, lockers, desks, and parking lots, as well as personal effects left there by students. When possible, prior notice will be given and the student will be allowed to be present along with an adult witness, however, searches may be done at any time with or without notice or the student's consent. A personal search must not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

The Superintendent, principals, and their designees may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to help conduct searches. Such searches may include the use of specially trained dogs.

A school official of the same sex shall conduct personal searches with an adult witness of the same sex present.

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law Enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Dept. of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold" without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis on student enrollment forms.

#### 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS (cont.)

The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after hours telephone number.

Note: <sup>1</sup> Staff are strongly cautioned and advised that to search a student requires **individualized** suspicion, which requires the staff member(s) involved to have:

1. A good reason to believe that a specific student likely possesses an illegal or forbidden item in violation of Board policy; and
2. The belief that the student possesses the item exists both prior to and at the time of the search.

Searches lacking such good faith belief about a particular student are not permitted; this includes routine suspicionless personal searches of all students and random suspicionless personal searches of students or groups of students. (This is distinct and different from random, suspicionless drug testing of students who participate in extracurricular or athletic events, which the United States Supreme Court permits.) Using a metal detector or "wandering" a student constitutes a search. Extraordinary circumstances must exist for a large group of students to be justifiably subjected to a personal or electronic search, such as a credible belief that any one of a number of students might possess something very dangerous (e.g. a gun or a knife). Searching all students to ensure that non-lethal contraband, such as an electronic device, is not possessed would certainly not pass legal muster; this is true regardless of whether or not testing is occurring. Failure to meet these constitutional requirements could lead to serious legal liability on the part of the district.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-513  
A.C.A. § 9-13-104

#### **4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS (cont.)**

A.C.A. § 12-18-609, 610, 613

A.C.A. § 12-18-1001, 1005

Date Adopted: 9/6/2006

Last Revised: 7/24/2006; 06/27/2011

#### **4.33—STUDENTS' VEHICLES**

A student who has presented a valid driver's license and proof of insurance to the appropriate office personnel, may drive his/her vehicle to school. Vehicles driven to school shall be parked in the area designated for student parking. . Parking on school property is a privilege which may be denied to a student for any disciplinary violation, at the discretion of the student's building principal.

Students are not permitted to loiter in parking areas and are not to return to their vehicles during the school day for any reason unless given permission to do so by school personnel.

It is understood that there is no expectation of privacy in vehicles in parking areas. Drivers of vehicles parked on a school campus will be held accountable for illegal substances or any other item prohibited by District policy found in their vehicle. The act of a student parking a vehicle on campus is a grant of permission for school or law enforcement authorities to search that vehicle.

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 10/27/2008; 07/27/2012

#### **4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES**

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell or unfit for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up by their parent or guardian. Specific examples include, but are not limited to: Varicella (chicken pox), measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo/MRSA (Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis B or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 F when taken orally). A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the discretion of the school nurse, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

To help control the possible spread of communicable diseases, school personnel shall follow the District's exposure control plan when dealing with any bloodborne, foodborne, and airborne pathogens exposures. Standard precautions shall be followed relating to the handling, disposal, and cleanup of blood and other potentially infectious materials such as all body fluids, secretions and excretions (except sweat).

In accordance with 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS, the District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records as defined in policy 4.13. That policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated. The student may not return to the school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment will be asked to pick their child up at the end of the school day. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites. A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined the student no longer has live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment.

Each school may conduct screenings of students for human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

#### **4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES (cont.)**

Cross References: 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS  
4.7--ABENCES  
4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/  
DIRECTORY INFORMATION  
4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-702  
Arkansas State Board of Health Rules and Regulations  
Pertaining To Immunization Requirements  
Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing  
Kindergarten Through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Immunization  
Requirements

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005; 07/27/2012; 1/24/2013; 1/8/2016

## **4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS**

Prior to the administration of any medication, including any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, to any student under the age of eighteen (18), written parental consent is required. The consent form shall include authorization to administer the medication and relieve the Board and its employees of civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to students in accordance with this policy. All signed medication consent forms are to be maintained by the school nurse.

Unless authorized to self-administer, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter (OTC) medications or any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student's medication to the school nurse. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity of the medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify, in the presence of the student, the quantity of the medication(s). Each person present shall sign a form verifying the quantity of the medication(s).

Medications, including those for self-administration, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering health care provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings. Schedule II medications that are permitted by this policy to be brought to school shall be stored in a double locked cabinet.

Students with an individualized health plan (IHP) may be given OTC medications to the extent giving such medications are included in the student's IHP.

The only Schedule II medications that shall be allowed to be brought to the school are methylphenidate (e.g. Ritalin or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), and amphetamine sulfate (e.g. Adderall or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse).

For the student's safety, no student will be allowed to attend school if the student is currently taking any other Schedule II medication than permitted by this policy. Students who are taking Schedule II medications which are not allowed to be brought to school shall be eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP and 504 plans.<sup>2</sup>

#### **4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS (cont.)**

The district's supervising registered nurse shall be responsible for creating both on campus and off campus procedures for administering medications.

Students who have written permission from their parent or guardian and a licensed health care practitioner on file with the District may:

1. Self-administer either a rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine;
2. Perform his/her own blood glucose checks;
3. Administer insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
4. Treat the student's own hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia; or
5. Possess on his or her person:
  - a) A rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine; or
  - b) the necessary supplies and equipment to perform his/her own diabetes monitoring and treatment functions.

Students who have a current consent form on file shall be allowed to carry and self-administer such medication while:

- In school;
- At an on-site school sponsored activity;
- While traveling to or from school; or
- At an off-site school sponsored activity.

A student is prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any way diverting his/her medications to any other person. The fact that a student with a completed consent form on file is allowed to carry a rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, diabetes medication, or combination does not require him/her to have such on his/her person. The parent or guardian of a student who qualifies under this policy to self-carry a rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, diabetes medication, or any combination on his/her person shall provide the school with the appropriate medication, which shall be immediately available to the student in an emergency.

Students may be administered Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations by the school nurse or, in the absence of the school nurse, a trained volunteer school employee designated as a care provider, provided the student has:

1. an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides for the administration of Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations; and
2. a current, valid consent form on file from their parent or guardian.

When the nurse is unavailable, the trained volunteer school employee who is responsible for a student shall be released from other duties during:

- A. The time scheduled for a dose of insulin in the student's IHP; and

#### **4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS (cont.)**

- B. Glucagon or non-scheduled insulin administration once other staff have relieved him/her from other duties until a parent, guardian, other responsible adult, or medical personnel has arrived.

A student shall have access to a private area to perform diabetes monitoring and treatment functions as outlined in the student's IHP.

##### **Emergency Administration of Epinephrine**

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained<sup>1</sup> and certified by a licensed physician may

administer an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations to students who have an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine to the student when the employee believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

Students with an order from a licensed health care provider to self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine and who have written permission from their parent or guardian shall provide the school nurse an epinephrine auto-injector. This epinephrine will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction and the student is either not self-carrying his/her epinephrine auto-injector or the nurse is unable to locate it.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep epinephrine auto-injectors on hand that are suitable for the students the school serves. The school nurse or other school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained<sup>1</sup> and certified by a licensed physician may administer auto-injector epinephrine to those students who the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medications past the end of the school year. By this policy, parents are notified that ten (10) days after the last day of school, all medications will be disposed of that are left at the school. Medications not picked up by the parents or legal guardians within the ten (10) day period shall be disposed of by the school nurse in accordance with current law and regulations <sup>2</sup>



## 4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS (cont.)

Act 1204 of 2011 created the provisions for Glucagon administration to students suffering from Type I diabetes. It deals solely with the administration of Glucagon by school nurses, the training requirements for “volunteer school personnel,” and the exemption from liability of the nurses or trained volunteer school personnel resulting from his or her actions or inactions. Districts are not under any obligation to “recruit” volunteers and 4.06 of the Rules explicitly states that no employee shall be pressured into volunteering

Note: A.C.A. § 17-87-103 (11) provides for the administration of Glucagon, insulin, or both to students suffering from diabetes.

Districts are not under any obligation to “recruit” volunteers and 4.11 of the Rules explicitly states that no employee shall be pressured into volunteering.

<sup>1</sup> Arkansas Children's Hospital, The University of Arkansas Medical System, the Department of Health, and ADE have developed a training that would meet the statute's and this policy's certification requirements.

<sup>2</sup> The time frame in this paragraph is not statutorily mandated and may be changed to better suit your district and the employment contract of the school nurse. Any changes you make, however, need to address the need for students to have their medications through the last day of school and the reality of parent's work schedules.

This policy offers two different options regarding permissibility of students attending and participating in classes while taking Schedule II medications. Be sure only one option is included in the adopted policy and delete the heading "Option One" or "Option Two" in the final version. The footnote numbers relate to the language contained within the specific option.

### Option One

<sup>1</sup> Here is a helpful, but not all-inclusive, list of prohibited Schedule II medications. Opium, morphine, codeine, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), methadone, meperidine (Demerol), cocaine, oxycodone (Percodan), amobarbital, pentobarbital, sufentanil, etorphine hydrochloride, phenylactone, dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), dronabinol, secobarbital, and fentanyl.

<sup>2</sup> If a student has surgery or is in an accident resulting in the student needing to take Schedule II medication, a 504 plan can be developed to last for the duration of the student's recovery. The plan could include homebound instruction.

### Option Two

<sup>1</sup> A partial, but not all-inclusive listing of Schedule II medications not specifically permitted includes Opium, morphine, codeine, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), methadone, meperidine (Demerol), cocaine, oxycodone (Percodan), amobarbital, pentobarbital, sufentanil, etorphine hydrochloride, phenylactone, dronabinol, secobarbital, and fentanyl.

## 4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS (cont.)

<sup>2</sup>The specific authorization should be provided on the doctor's letterhead along with the completed Medication Administration Consent Form (4.35F) .

<sup>3</sup>A student who had surgery or was in an accident and is taking a Schedule II medication may be told by his/her doctor to not attend class. In such a case, a 504 plan can be developed to cover the duration of the student's recovery. The plan could include homebound instruction.

Legal References: Ark. State Board of Nursing: School Nurse Roles and Responsibilities  
Arkansas Department of Education and Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules Governing the Administration of Insulin and Glucagon to Arkansas Public School Students With Diabetes  
A.C.A. § 6-18-707  
A.C.A. § 6-18-711

A.C.A. § 6-18-1005(a)(6)  
A.C.A. § 17-87-103 (11)  
A.C.A. § 20-13-405

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Date Revised: 07/24/2006; 6/27/2011; 07/27/2012; 1/24/2013; 6/24/2013; 1/23/2015;  
4/17/2015; 6/6/2016;1/31/2018

## 4.35F—MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

Medications, including those for self-administration, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

I hereby authorize the school nurse or his/her designee to administer the following medications to my child.

Name(s) of medication(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of physician or dentist (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Dosage: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions for administering the medication: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of medications in accordance with this consent form.

Parent or legal guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 6/17/2013

## 4.35F2--MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The following must be provided for the student to be eligible to self-administer rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine. Eligibility is **only** valid for this school for the current academic year.

- a written statement from licensed a health-care provider who has prescriptive privileges that he//she has prescribed the rescue inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for the student and that the student needs to carry the medication on his/her person due to a medical condition;
- the specific medications prescribed for the student;
- an individualized health care plan developed by the prescribing health-care provider containing the treatment plan for managing asthma and/or anaphylaxis episodes of the student and for medication use by the student during school hours; and
- a statement from the prescribing health-care provider that the student possesses the skill and responsibility necessary to use and administer the asthma inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate his/her skill level in using the rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine to the nurse.

Rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for a student's self-administration shall be supplied by the student's parent or guardian and be in the original container properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Students who self-carry a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector shall also provide the school nurse with a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector to be used in emergency situations.

My signature below is an acknowledgment that I understand that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for injury resulting from the self-administration of medications by the student named above.

Parent or legal guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Adopted: 06/24/13 Last Revised:

#### **4.35F3—GLUCAGON AND/OR INSULIN ADMINISTRATION AND CARRY CONSENT FORM**

Student's Name (Please Print)

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This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The school has developed an individual health plan (IHP) acknowledging that my child has been diagnosed as suffering from Type I diabetes. The IHP authorizes the school nurse to administer Glucagon or insulin to my child in an emergency situation.

In the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel may administer to my child in an emergency situation:

Glucagon \_\_\_\_\_

Insulin \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize the school nurse to administer Glucagon and insulin to my child or, in the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel designated as care providers, to administer the medication(s) I selected above to my child in an emergency situation to the school nurse in the original container properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, its employees, or an agent of the District, including a healthcare professional who trained volunteer school personnel designated as care providers shall not be liable for any damages resulting from his/her actions or inactions in the administration of Glucagon or insulin in accordance with this consent form and the IHP.

Parent or legal guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Adopted:

Last Revised: 07/27/2012; 6/17/2013

## 4.35F4—EPINEPHRINE EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

This form is good for school year \_\_\_\_\_. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

My child has an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides for the administration of epinephrine in emergency situations. I hereby authorize the school nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injectable epinephrine in emergency situations when he/she believes my child is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

The medication must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Date of physician's order \_\_\_\_\_

Circumstances under which Epinephrine may be administered \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other instructions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of auto-injector epinephrine in accordance with this consent form, District policy, and Arkansas law.

Parent or legal guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Adopted: 6/24/2013

Last Revised

#### **4.36—STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT**

If a student becomes too ill to remain in class and/or could be contagious to other students, the principal or designee will attempt to notify the student's parent or legal guardian. The student will remain in the school's health room or a place where he/she can be supervised until the end of the school day or until the parent/legal guardian can check the student out of school.<sup>1</sup>

If a student becomes seriously ill or is injured while at school and the parent/legal guardian cannot be contacted, the failure to make such contact shall not unreasonably delay the school's expeditious transport of the student to an appropriate medical care facility. The school assumes no responsibility for treatment of the student. When available, current, and applicable, the student's emergency contact numbers and medical information will be utilized. Parents are strongly encouraged to keep this information up to date.

**Note:** <sup>1</sup> Students who are eighteen (18) years of age or older are considered to be legal adults, and as such have the right to check themselves out of school.

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

#### **4.37—EMERGENCY DRILLS**

All schools in the District shall conduct fire drills at least monthly. Tornado drills shall also be conducted not fewer than three (3) times per year with at least one each in the months of September, January, and February. Students, who ride school buses,<sup>1</sup> shall also participate in emergency evacuation drills at least twice each school year.

Flippin School District shall annually conduct an active shooter drill and school safety assessment for all District schools in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel. The training will include a lockdown exercise with panic button alert system training.<sup>2,3</sup> Students will be included in the drills to the extent that is appropriate to the age of the student and grade configuration of the school.<sup>4</sup>

Drills may be conducted during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods.

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted to test the implementation of the District's emergency plans in the event of violence, terrorist attack, natural disaster, other emergency, or the District's Panic Button Alert System. Students shall be included in the drills to the extent practicable.<sup>4</sup>

**Note:** <sup>1</sup> Students who only ride buses occasionally, such as to go to and/or from a field trip will also have to participate in the evacuation drills.

## 4.37—EMERGENCY DRILLS (cont.)

<sup>2</sup> A.C.A. § 6-15-1302 requires that the district's Panic Button Alert System meet the following requirements:

- a) Connect the caller with 911 while simultaneously notifying designated on-site personnel;
- b) Directly integrate into the existing statewide Smart911 system.
- c) Be available for use as a smartphone application and have a mechanism for panic notifications to be triggered by non-smartphone wireless callers and landline callers; and
- d) Be limited to users designated, approved, and confirmed by school administrators.

Smart911 is required to provide a way for schools to geo-fence the school campus and provide and manage floor plans and other documents to assist emergency responders when they automatically display during a 911 call. Districts are responsible for keeping the floor plans and pertinent emergency contact information for the statewide Smart911 system up to date.

<sup>3</sup> The purpose of the training is to allow participants to:

- Discuss simulated emergency situations in a low-stress environment;
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of individuals and the logistics of handling an emergency on the school campus; and
- Identify areas in which the school safety plan should be modified.

<sup>4</sup> Student involvement will need to be worked out school by school and determined relative to grade and age considerations in conjunction with the actual content of the drill. There may be a drill conducted that don't include any students due to the explicit nature of the drill and the age of the students while a drill in another school would include students. There are so many facets of responding to a school intruder/shooting incident that it's difficult to know when your planning has dealt with all the contingencies. A good resource on active shooter drills is the "I Love You Guys" Foundation, which was created by the parents of the victim of the school shooting at Platte Canyon High School in Colorado to develop a protocol to advance school safety. The Foundation has **free** materials for districts that can be a big help when developing protocols and training for both personnel and students. A description of the Foundation's recommended protocol and the materials can be found at <http://iloveguys.org/srp.html>. Some of this site's information could also be applied to the emergency plans required by statute and this policy.

Legal Reference:     A.C.A. § 12-13-109  
                          A.C.A. § 6-10-110  
                          A.C.A. § 6-10-121  
                          A.C.A. § 6-15-1302  
                          A.C.A. § 6-15-1303

Ark. Division of Academic Facilitates and Transportation Rules Governing Maintenance and Operations of Ark Public School Buses and Physical Examination of School Bus Drivers 4.03.1

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Date Revised: 07/24/2006; 04/07/2008; 1/24/2013; 6/17/2013; 5/16/2014;  
7/28/2014; 01/23/2015; 4/17/2015; 1/8/2016



## **CRISIS SITUATIONS AT SCHOOL**

The Flippin Public Schools, in conjunction with the city police, city officials, and Marion county officials, has implemented a school board adopted "Crisis Plan" to address immediate needs for the safety and welfare of all students, staff, and visitors on campus. Each staff member has in their possession a written plan to be implemented in case of an emergency situation. The students will practice evacuations, taking shelter, etc., frequently, to keep them aware of safe procedures in case of any crisis situation.

In the event of a crisis situation, school personnel are trained along with city officials, law enforcement and emergency personnel to take charge and implement immediate safety procedures. Parents will be kept informed and students will be released to the parent when the situation is safe. Parents will be informed of crisis situation through local media disbursement and/or school spokesperson. Staging areas will be announced for parents to receive information or retrieve their child. Prospective staging areas will be the Flippin First Baptist Church, Ranger Boats, or Hickey Park in Flippin. Other areas may be necessary and will be announced as needed.

## **STORM DRILLS**

**ALARM:** Continuous ring of the bell system

Storm drills will be conducted two times during each year. Students have been instructed on plans for these drills.

If there is no tone, notification will be by runner.

1. When alarm is sounded, students move quietly into interior hallways or designated areas.
2. Students are to kneel on floor with head on knees and hands on back of neck. (Quietness is important.)
3. Check student roll.
4. Remain in this position until an all-clear bell sounds. This will be two short rings.

## **FIRE DRILLS**

In accordance with state regulations, a fire drill will be conducted each month. The plans for leaving each building are posted in all classrooms and the students have been instructed on plans.

- **Signal:** distinct intermittent horn.
- If there is no horn notification will be by runner.

**ALARM:** Several broken blasts on the bell system

- Fire Drills are necessary for two reasons:
  1. They are required by law
  2. The student must know how to
- leave the building quickly,
- quietly, and safely.

During fire drills, the student will **WALK** as fast as traffic will allow, but he/she will never run; and he/she will remain silent.

The student can expect at least one fire drill each month. The teacher will leave the classroom last, having determined that:

- 1. All students have left the classroom.
- 2. Windows are all closed.
- 3. The lights are turned out.
- 4. The door is closed.
- 5. In addition, he/she will carry the roll book to call roll if necessary.

**FIRE MARSHALS:** Fire Marshals are chosen by the fifth grade teachers based on their responsibility, dependability, and willingness to serve the school. Nine Marshals are chosen each year from the fifth grade to perform those duties as prescribed by the principal. Fire Marshals within Flippin Middle School and High School will be selected by the respective principals from a submitted list.

#### **4.38—PERMANENT RECORDS**

Permanent school records, as required by the Arkansas Department of Education, shall be maintained for each student enrolled in the District until the student receives a high school diploma or its equivalent or is beyond the age of compulsory school attendance. A copy of the student's permanent record shall be provided to the receiving school district within ten (10) school days after the date a request from the receiving school district is received. \*

\*The law prohibits districts from refusing to provide the records to receiving schools due to a student owing money to the district.

Legal References:     A.C.A. § 6-18-901  
                              ADE Rule Student Permanent Records

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005  
Last Revised: 10/27/2008

#### **4.39—CORPORAL PUNISHMENT**

The Flippin School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment to be administered in accordance with this policy by the Superintendent or his/her designated staff members who are required to have a state-issued license as a condition of their employment.

Prior to the administration of corporal punishment, the student receiving the corporal punishment shall be given an explanation of the reasons for the punishment and be given an opportunity to refute the charges.

All corporal punishment shall be administered privately, i.e. out of the sight and hearing of other students, shall not be excessive, or administered with malice, shall be administered in the presence of another licensed staff member employed by the District

Legal Reference:     A.C.A. § 6-18-505 (c) (1)  
                              A.C.A. § 6-18-503 (b)

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005  
Last Revised: 6/25/2012

#### **4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS**

The Flippin School District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to homeless children as are afforded to non-homeless children. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational agency (LEA) liaison for homeless children and youth whose responsibilities shall include , but are not limited to:

- Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;
- Coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services to homeless children and youths;
- Ensure that school personnel receive Professional development and other support regarding their duties and responsibilities for homeless youths;
- Ensure that unaccompanied homeless youths:
  - Are enrolled in school;
  - Have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths; and
  - Are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that they may obtain assistance from the LEA liaison to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid;
- Ensure that public notice of the educational rights of the homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such youth, and unaccompanied homeless youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form that is easily understandable

To the extent possible, the LEA liaison and the building principal shall work together to ensure no homeless child or youth is harmed due to conflicts with District policies solely because of the homeless child or youth's living situation; this is especially true for District policies governing fees, fines, and absences.<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding Policy 4.1, homeless students living in the district are entitled to enroll in the district's school that non-homeless students who live in the same attendance area are eligible to attend. If there is a question concerning the enrollment of a homeless child due to a conflict with Policy 4.1 or 4.2, the child shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought pending resolution of the dispute. It is the responsibility of the District's local educational liaison for homeless children and youth to carry out the dispute resolution process.

The District shall do one of the following according to what is in the best interests of a homeless child:

- Continue the child's or youth's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness:
  - In any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; and

- For the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or
- Enroll the child or youth in any public school that nonhomeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

In determining the best interest of the child or youth, the District shall:

- Presume that keeping the child or youth in the school of origin is in the child's or youth's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth;
- Consider student-centered factors related to the child's or youth's best interest, including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth, giving priority to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth.

If the District determines that it is not in the child's or youth's best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth, the District shall provide the child's or youth's parent or guardian or the unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of the reasons for its determination, in a manner and form understandable to such parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth, including information regarding the right to appeal. For an unaccompanied youth, the District shall ensure that the LEA liaison assists in placement or enrollment decisions, gives priority to the views of such unaccompanied youth, and provides notice to such youth of the right to appeal.

The homeless child or youth must be immediately enrolled in the selected school regardless of whether application or enrollment deadlines were missed during the period of homelessness.

The District shall be responsible for providing transportation for a homeless child, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the LEA Liaison), to and from the child's school of origin.<sup>2</sup>

For the purposes of this policy, students shall be considered homeless if they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and

1. Are:
  - Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
  - Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
  - Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
  - Abandoned in hospitals; or
2. Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

#### **4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS (cont.)**

3. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and includes
4. Are migratory children who are living in circumstances described in clauses a) through (c).

In accordance with Federal law, information on a homeless child or youth's living situation is part of the student's education record and shall not be considered, or added, to the list of directory information in Policy 4.13.<sup>3</sup>

Legal References\*\*: 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.  
42 U.S.C. § 11431 (2)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(H)(I)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(1)(J)(i), (ii), (iii), (iii)(I), (iii)(II)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(A), (A)(i), (A)(i)(I), (A)(i)(II), (A)(ii)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(B)(i), (ii), (iii)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(C)(i), (ii), (iii)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(E)(i), (ii), (iii)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(3)(G)  
42 U.S.C. § 11432 (g)(4) (A), (B), (C), (D), (E)  
42 U.S.C. § 11434a  
Commissioner's Memo COM-18-044

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Date Last Revised: 07/27/2012; 1/8/2016: 6/6/2016

## 4.41—PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

The Flippin School District may provide from time to time for the administration of physical exams or screenings of its students. The intent of the exams or screenings shall be to detect contagious or infectious diseases or defects in hearing, vision, or other elements of health that would adversely affect the student's ability to achieve to their full potential.

The rights provided to parents under this policy transfer to the student when he/she turns eighteen (18) years old.

Except in instances where a student is suspected of having a contagious or infectious disease, parents shall have the right to opt their student out of the exams or screenings by using form 4.41F or by providing certification from a physician that he/she has recently examined the student.

**Note:** This policy is not intended to and does not cover invasive physical examinations. "Invasive Physical Examinations" is defined in federal law as any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body. It is our understanding that most students who would receive an invasive physical examination would do so as part of the student's individual health plan (IHP) or while at a school based health clinic; neither situation is intended to be covered by this policy.

In the event a student did not fall under one of the above situations, districts should be aware that an invasive physical examination requires that the student's parent/legal guardian be "directly" notified of the specific or approximate dates (to the extent known) during the school year when the invasive physical examination is scheduled within a reasonable period of time that would provide the parent and opportunity to object. Parents of a student whose IHP covers an invasive physical examination have granted permission for that specific type of exam as part of the establishment of the IHP.

"Directly notified" means by mail or email; inclusion in the student handbook does not meet the law's requirements.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-701 (b), (c), (f)  
20 USC § 1232h (c) [NCLB Act of 2001, Part F, Section 1061 (c) (1)(D), (2)(A)(i)(ii)(B)(C)(iii)(I)(II)(III), (4)(B)(ii), (5)(B), (6)(B)(C)]

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last revised : 11/23/2009; 1/8/2016

#### **4.41F—OBJECTION TO PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS**

I, the undersigned, being a parent or guardian of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the physical examination or screening of the student named below.

Physical examination or screening being objected to:

\_\_\_\_ Vision test

\_\_\_\_ Hearing test

\_\_\_\_ Scoliosis test

\_\_\_\_ Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of student (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date form was filed  
(To be filled in by office personnel)

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005  
Last revised: 11/23/2009



## **4.42—STUDENT HANDBOOK**

It shall be the policy of the Flippin School District that the most recently adopted version of the Student Handbook be incorporated by reference into the policies of this district. In the event that there is a conflict between the student handbook and a general board policy or policies, the more recently adopted language will be considered binding and controlling on the matter provided the parent(s) of the student, or the student if 18 years of age or older have acknowledged receipt of the controlling language.

Principals shall review all changes to student policies and ensure that such changes are provided to students and parents, either in the Handbook or, if changes are made after the handbook is printed, as an addendum to the handbook.

Principals and counselors shall also review Policies 4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS and the current ADE Standards for Accreditation Rules to ensure that there is no conflict. If a conflict exists, the Principal and/or Counselor shall notify the Superintendent and Curriculum Coordinator immediately, so that corrections may be made and notice of the requirements given to students and parents.

**Notes:** ASBA recommends making this page a “pocket” page and inserting your student handbook into the pocket.

The ADE Standards Assurance unit has said there has been a problem with some committees making changes out of alignment with board policy which can make them out of alignment with statutory and/or ADE Rule which creates a probationary cite in a Standards review. They suggest districts should make sure Handbook Committees' changes align with the student board policy changes. We have not changed the policy regarding the resolution of a conflict between a policy and the handbook because that is accepted legal prioritization.

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

Last Revised: 04/07/2008; 6/17/2013

## 4.43—BULLYING

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors. Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

A school principal, or designee, who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

### **Definitions:**

**Attribute** means an actual or perceived personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, health condition, or sexual orientation;

**Bullying** means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student may address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated and that causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable:

- Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;
- Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education;
- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment. Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose;

## 4.43—BULLYING (cont.)

**Harassment** means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment; and

**Substantial disruption** means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

**Cyberbullying of School Employees** is expressly prohibited and includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Building a fake profile or website of the employee;
- b. Posting or encouraging others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a school employee;
- c. Posting an original or edited image of the school employee on the Internet;
- d. Accessing, altering, or erasing any computer network, computer data program, or computer software, including breaking into a password-protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords of a school employee; making repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or transmission, to a school employee;
- e. Making, or causing to be made, and disseminating an unauthorized copy of data pertaining to a school employee in any form, including without limitation the printed or electronic form of computer data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network;
- f. Signing up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site; or
- g. Without authorization of the school employee, signing up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages.

**Examples of "Bullying"** may also include but are not limited to **a repetitive pattern of behavior** involving one or more of the following:

- 1 Sarcastic comments "compliments" about another student's personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes,
- 2 Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate,

#### **4.43—BULLYING (cont.)**

- 3 Mocking, taunting or belittling,
- 4 Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as “fronting” or “chesting” a person,
- 5 Demeaning humor relating to a student’s actual or perceived attributes,
- 6 Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans,
- 7 Blocking access to school property or facilities,
- 8 Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property,
- 9 Stealing or hiding books or belongings, and/or
- 10 Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others,
- 11 Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 4.27, is also a form of bullying,
- 12 Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual or transgender (Examples: “Slut”, “You are so gay”, “Fag”, “Queer”).

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the principal, or designee. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the principal, or designee. The principal shall be responsible for investigating the incident(s) to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred. In addition to any disciplinary actions, the District shall take appropriate steps to remedy the effects resulting from bullying.

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District’s prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice.

Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.<sup>1</sup>

## 4.43—BULLYING (cont.)

**Notes:** Different consequences are permitted depending on the age or grade of the bullying student.

<sup>1</sup> There should be a statement in the Student Handbook to this effect. Suggestion for the posted notice: Create a circle with a line through it over the word Bullying (similar to a non-smoking logo). Beside the logo write: Mean talk or hurting other people is called bullying. Bullying is against the rules and can get you in trouble, suspended, or expelled. If someone bullies you, or you see someone being bullied, get help by telling an adult.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-514  
A.C.A. § 5-71-217

Date Adopted: 07/25/2005  
Last Revised: 07/24/2006; 04/07/2008; 2/25/2011; 06/27/2011; 6/17/2013;  
7/28/2014

#### **4.44—POLICY DELETED**

#### **4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, AND 2020**

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are eighteen (18) years of age or older, sign a *Smart Core Waiver Form* to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, both a *Smart Core Informed Consent Form* and a *Smart Core Waiver Form* will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade, or when a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time and there is not a signed form in the student's permanent record. Parents must sign one of the forms and return it to the school so it can be placed in the students' permanent record.<sup>1</sup> This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades six (6) through – twelve (12) and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the requirements of their IEP (when applicable) to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the time they are required to sign the consent forms.

While there are similarities between the two curriculums, following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. Students initially choosing the Core curriculum may subsequently change to the Smart Core curriculum **providing** they would be able to complete the required course of study by the end of their senior year.<sup>2</sup> Students wishing to change their choice of curriculums must consult with their counselor to determine the feasibility of changing paths.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents as part of the annual school district support plan development process<sup>3</sup> to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each. This may be accomplished through any or all of the following means:<sup>4</sup>

- Inclusion in the student handbook of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements;
- Discussion of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter;
- Discussions held by the school's counselors with students and their parents; and/or

#### **4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, AND 2020 (cont.)**

- Distribution of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's students.

Administrators, or their designees, shall train newly hired employees, required to be licensed as a condition of their employment, regarding this policy. The district's annual professional development shall include the training required by this paragraph.<sup>5</sup>

To the best of its ability, the District shall follow the requirements covering the transfer of course credit and graduation set forth in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children for all students who meet the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS.

#### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. In addition to the twenty-two (22) units required for graduation by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), the district requires an additional \_\_\_ units to graduate for a total of \_\_\_ units. The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district.<sup>6</sup> There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

All students must receive a passing score on the Arkansas Civics Exam in order to graduate.

#### **Digital Learning Courses**

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format.<sup>7</sup> In addition to the other graduation requirements contained in this policy, students are required to take at least one (1) digital learning course for credit while in high school.

#### **SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units**

English: four (4) units – 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

#### **4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, AND 2020 (cont.)**

- 1) Algebra I or Algebra A & B\* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9;
  - 2) Geometry or Geometry A & B\* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10;
- \*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the **graduation** requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the **Smart Core** requirement.
- 3) Algebra II; and
  - 4) The fourth unit may be either:
    - A math unit approved by ADE beyond Algebra II: or
    - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a fourth math credit.

Natural Science: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from One unit of Biology; and either:

Two units chosen from the following three categories (there are acceptable options listed by the ADE for each):

- Physical Science;
- Chemistry;
- Physics; or

One unit from the three categories above and a computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit
- Other social studies – one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) Unit

Physical Education: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

**Note:** While one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Economics – one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.<sup>8</sup>

Fine Arts: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

#### **CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units**

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations.



#### **4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, AND 2020 (cont.)**

Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

a student who completes at least seventy-five (75) clock hours of documented community service in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at any certified service agency or a part of a service-learning school program shall receive one (1) Career Focus credit.<sup>9</sup>

#### **CORE: Sixteen (16) units**

English: four (4) units – 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent\* - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent\* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)
- A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry

\*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent; and
- Two units chosen from the following three categories:
- Physical Science;
  - Chemistry;
  - Physics; or

One unit from the three categories above and a computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

## 4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, AND 2020 (cont.)

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit
- Other social studies – one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Physical Education: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

**Note:** While one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Economics – one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.<sup>8</sup>

Fine Arts: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

### **CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units**

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

a student who completes at least seventy-five (75) clock hours of documented community service in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at any certified service agency or a part of a service-learning school program shall receive one (1) Career Focus credit.<sup>9</sup>

Notes: <sup>1</sup> New Smart Core Consent and Smart Core Waiver Forms are available at <http://arsba.org/policy-resources> and on the ADE website. While 9.03.1.8 of the Standards and the Smart Core Guidance both require parents to sign one of the forms, there's not much you can do if they don't. Either way, the default option is Smart Core.

## **4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, AND 2020 (cont.)**

<sup>2</sup> The Department's Guidelines stipulate completion by the end of the senior year. We believe this is not in agreement with ~~Arkansas code~~ A.C.A. § 6-18-202(b)(1), which requires public schools to be open through the completion of the secondary program to students between the ages of five (5) and twenty-one (21). Therefore, we suggest that students be allowed to switch from Core to Smart Core if they could successfully complete its requirements by the time they attained their twenty first (21st) birthday. Acceptance of a diploma negates a student's right to switch programs.

<sup>3</sup> We recommend including the review of this policy in the school district support plan process so that the resources intended to be provided from the district level are in alignment with your graduation requirements (including any changes to the state level graduation requirements).

<sup>4</sup> Schools are required to retain documentation procedures and methods used.

<sup>5</sup> The Guidelines require the policy to include the training "procedure." If you prefer a different procedure than inclusion in your district's annual professional development process, change this sentence accordingly.

<sup>6</sup> This sentence is necessary if your district requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate; without the sentence and you substitute a number greater than twenty-two (22) , it appears that the ADE requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate. If you have specific requirements for the additional units, change the sentence's wording to reflect those requirements.

<sup>7</sup> For a detailed explanation/discussion of district options for digital learning courses see policy 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES.

<sup>8</sup> The Rules specify the option is dependent upon the licensure of the teacher. Specifically, if the course is taught by a licensed social studies teacher, both options exist. If the course is taught by a licensed business education teacher, the credit must be applied toward the career focus requirement.

<sup>9</sup> In order for students to receive the community service learning (CLS) credit, the district must have completed and submitted a CLS plan to ADE. In addition, a partner site application must be approved by both the district's board of directors and by the State Board if an organization the District has partnered with, rather than a District employee, is responsible for certifying a student's hours of service. Districts who do not intend to submit a CLS plan should not include this language.

Cross References: 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION  
5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT  
5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES  
5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND  
INDEPENDENT STUDIES

## **4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2019, AND 2020 (cont.)**

### **5.16—COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE PREREQUISITES AND PROGRESSION**

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-C.2, 1-C.2.1, 1-C.2.2,  
1-C.2.3  
ADE Guidelines for the Development of Smart Core  
Curriculum Policy  
ADE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning  
Smart Core Informed Consent Form 2018  
Smart Core Waiver Form 2016  
Commissioner's Memo LS-18-082  
A.C.A. § 6-4-302  
A.C.A. § 6-16-149  
A.C.A. § 6-16-150  
A.C.A. § 6-16-1406

Date Adopted: 6/28/2014  
Last Revised: 5/23/2017; 6/25/2018

#### **4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021 AND THEREAFTER**

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are eighteen (18) years of age or older, sign a *Smart Core Waiver Form* to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, both a *Smart Core Informed Consent Form* and a *Smart Core Waiver Form* will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade, or when a seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) through twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time and there is not a signed form in the student's permanent record. Parents must sign one of the forms and return it to the school so it can be placed in the students' permanent record<sup>1</sup>. This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades six (6) through twelve (12) and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the requirements of their IEP (when applicable) to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the time they are required to sign the consent forms.

While there are similarities between the two curriculums, following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. Students initially choosing the Core curriculum may subsequently change to the Smart Core curriculum **providing** they would be able to complete the required course of study by the end of their senior year<sup>2</sup>. Students wishing to change their choice of curriculums must consult with their counselor to determine the feasibility of changing paths.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents as part of the annual school district support plan development process<sup>3</sup> to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each. This may be accomplished through any or all of the following means<sup>4</sup>

- Inclusion in the student handbook of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements;
- Discussion of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter;
- Discussions held by the school's counselors with students and their parents; and/or
- Distribution of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's student.

#### **4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021 AND THEREAFTER (cont.)**

Administrators, or their designees, shall train newly hired employees, required to be licensed as a condition of their employment, regarding this policy. The district's annual professional development shall include the training required by this paragraph<sup>5</sup>.

To the best of its ability, the District shall follow the requirements covering the transfer of course credit and graduation set forth in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children for all students who meet the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS.

#### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. In addition to the twenty-two (22) units required for graduation by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), the district requires an additional \_\_\_ units to graduate for a total of \_\_\_ units. The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district. There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

All students must receive a passing score on the Arkansas Civics Exam in order to graduate.

#### **Digital Learning Courses**

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format<sup>7</sup>. In addition to the other graduation requirements contained in this policy, students are required to take at least one (1) digital learning course for credit while in high school.

#### **Personal and Family Finance**

In tenth (10th), eleventh (11th), or twelfth (12th) grade, all students shall receive credit in a course covering the Personal and Family Finance Standards:

#### **SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units**

English: four (4) units – 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

#### 4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021 AND THEREAFTER (cont.)

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

- 1) Algebra I or Algebra A & B\* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9;
- 2) Geometry or Geometry A & B\* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10;

\*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the **graduation** requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the **Smart Core** requirement.

- 3) Algebra II; and
- 4) The fourth unit may be either:
  - A math unit approved by ADE beyond Algebra II: or
  - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a fourth math credit.

Natural Science: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from

- One unit of Biology; and either:
- Two units chosen from the following three categories (there are acceptable options listed by the ADE for each):
  - Physical Science;
  - Chemistry;
  - Physics; or
- One unit from the three categories above and a computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit
- Other social studies- one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Physical Education: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

**Note:** While one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Economics – one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits<sup>8</sup>.

Fine Arts: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

#### **4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021 AND THEREAFTER (cont.)**

##### **CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units**

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

a student who completes at least seventy-five (75) clock hours of documented community service in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at any certified service agency or a part of a service-learning school program shall receive one (1) Career Focus credit.<sup>9</sup>

##### **CORE: Sixteen (16) units**

English: four (4) units – 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent\* - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent\* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)
- A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry

\*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.



#### **4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021 AND THEREAFTER (cont.)**

Science: three (3) units

- at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent; and

Two units chosen from the following three categories:

- Physical Science;
- Chemistry;
- Physics; or

One unit from the three categories above and a computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit
- Other social studies – one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Physical Education: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

**Note:** While one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

Economics – one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.<sup>8</sup>

Fine Arts: one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) unit

#### **CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units**

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

#### **4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021 AND THEREAFTER (cont.)**

a student who completes at least seventy-five (75) clock hours of documented community service in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at any certified service agency or a part of a service-learning school program shall receive one (1) Career Focus credit.<sup>9</sup>

Notes: <sup>1</sup> New Smart Core Consent and Smart Core Waiver Forms are available at <http://arsba.org/policy-resources> and on the ADE website. While 9.03.1.8 of the Standards and the Smart Core Guidance both require parents to sign one of the forms, there's not much you can do if they don't. Either way, the default option is Smart Core.

<sup>2</sup> The Department's Guidelines stipulate completion by the end of the senior year. We believe this is not in agreement with A.C.A. § 6-18-202(b)(1), which requires public schools to be open through the completion of the secondary program to students between the ages of five (5) and twenty-one (21). Therefore, we suggest that students be allowed to switch from Core to Smart Core if they could successfully complete its requirements by the time they attained their twenty first (21st) birthday. Acceptance of a diploma negates a student's right to switch programs.

<sup>3</sup> We recommend including the review of this policy in the school district support plan process so that the resources intended to be provided from the district level are in alignment with your graduation requirements (including any changes to the state level graduation requirements).

<sup>4</sup> Schools are required to retain documentation procedures and methods used.

<sup>5</sup> The Guidelines require the policy to include the training "procedure." If you prefer a different procedure than inclusion in your district's annual professional development process, change this sentence accordingly.

<sup>6</sup> This sentence is necessary if your district requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate; without the sentence and you substitute a number greater than twenty-two (22) , it appears that the ADE requires more than twenty-two (22) units to graduate. If you have specific requirements for the additional units, change the sentence's wording to reflect those requirements.

<sup>7</sup> For a detailed explanation/discussion of district options for digital learning courses see policy 5.11—DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES.

<sup>8</sup> The Rules specify the option is dependent upon the licensure of the teacher. Specifically, if the course is taught by a licensed social studies teacher, both options exist. If the course is taught by a licensed business education teacher, the credit must be applied toward the career focus requirement.

#### **4.45.1—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2021 AND THEREAFTER (cont.)**

<sup>9</sup> In order for students to receive the community service learning (CLS) credit, the district must have completed and submitted a CLS plan to ADE. In addition, a partner site application must be approved by both the district's board of directors and by the State Board if an organization the District has partnered with, rather than a District employee, is responsible for certifying a student's hours of service. Districts who do not intend to submit a CLS plan should not include this language.

Cross References: 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION  
5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT  
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5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND  
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AND PROGRESSION

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 1-C.2, 1-C.2.1, 1-C.2.2, 1-C.2.3  
ADE Guidelines for the Development of Smart Core Curriculum  
Policy  
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Smart Core Informed Consent Form 2018  
Smart Core Waiver Form 2016  
Commissioner's Memo LS-18-082  
A.C.A. § 6-4-302  
A.C.A. § 6-16-149  
A.C.A. § 6-16-150  
A.C.A. § 6-16-1406

Date Adopted: 6/28/2014

Last Revised: 6/22/2015; 6/20/2016; 5/23/2017; 6/25/2018

#### **4.46—PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited during the first class period of each school day. Those students choosing to participate shall do so by facing the flag with their right hands over their hearts, or in an appropriate salute if in uniform, while reciting the Pledge. Students choosing not to participate shall be quiet while either standing or sitting at their desks.

Students shall not be compelled to recite the Pledge, but students who choose not to recite the Pledge shall not disrupt those students choosing to recite the Pledge.

Students choosing not to recite the Pledge shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-16-108  
Date Adopted: 07/25/2005

#### **4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES, BEEPERS, ETC.**

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Possession and use of any electronic device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment does not respect the rights of others and is expressly forbidden.

To protect the security of statewide assessments no electronic device, as defined in this policy, shall be accessible by a student at any time during assessment administration unless specifically permitted by a student's individualized education program (IEP) or individual health plan;<sup>1</sup> this means that when a student is taking an AESAA assessment, the student shall not have his/her electronic device in his/her possession. Any student violating this provision shall be subject to this policy's disciplinary provisions.

As used in this policy, "electronic devices" means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

Misuse of electronic devices includes, but is not limited to:

1. Using electronic devices during class time in any manner other than specifically permitted by the classroom instructor;
2. Permitting any audible sound to come from the device when not being used for reason #1 above;
3. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores;
4. Using the device to take photographs in areas where a general expectation of personal privacy exists, including but not limited to locker rooms and bathrooms;
5. Creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person.

Use of an electronic device is permitted to the extent it is approved in a student's (IEP) or it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Before and after normal school hours, possession of electronic devices is permitted on the school campus. The use of such devices at school sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.

#### **4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES, BEEPERS, ETC. (cont.)**

A parent shall obtain approval from the student's building principal before operating a student-tracking safety device at school or at a school-sponsored event if the device has recording or listen-in capability. The District requires the device's recording and listen-in technology to be disabled while the device is on the campus or at the school-sponsored event because of student privacy concerns. The District prohibits unauthorized audio or visual recordings or transmission of audio or images of other students. The student's parent shall agree in writing to the requirement for the device's recording and listening-in technology to be disabled and that the District may prohibit future use of the device on campus or at a school-sponsored activity if it is determined that the device's recording or listening-in capabilities were used in violation of this policy before the student safety tracking device may be on campus or at a school-sponsored event.

The student and/or the student's parents or guardians expressly assume any risk associated with students owning or possessing electronic devices. Students misusing electronic devices shall have them confiscated. Confiscated devices may be picked up at the school's administration office by the student's parents or guardians.<sup>2</sup> Students have no right of privacy as to the content contained on any electronic devices that have been confiscated.<sup>3</sup>

A search of a confiscated device shall meet the reasonable individualized suspicion requirements of Policy 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS.

Students who use school issued cell phones and/or computers for non-school purposes, except as permitted by the district's Internet/computer use policy, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students are forbidden from using school issued cell phones while driving any vehicle at any time. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.<sup>4</sup>

No student shall use any wireless communication device for the purposes of browsing the internet; composing or reading emails and text messages; or making or answering phone calls while driving a motor vehicle that is in motion and on school property. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension.<sup>5</sup>

## **4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES, BEEPERS, ETC. (cont.)**

Notes: As districts move toward one-to-one computing and other options for integrating technology into classroom instruction and student learning, ASBA advises that in changing this policy (or any other locally generated policy), districts be mindful of the potential concerns relating to equitable access to the technology. When classroom instruction involves technology devices, it is important to make sure all students have reasonably the same access and are not hampered by their socio-economic status. Permitting or requiring students who own laptops, iPads or any other such device to use them as part of the instructional/learning environment without providing similar devices to those who don't own or have access to such devices is unfair to those students.

<sup>1</sup> The ADE Testing Administration Manual requires this language. Our interpretation is that on testing days students will not be allowed to have their cell phones in their possession during any test they take.

<sup>2</sup> ASBA suggests adding another sentence that specifies the increasing severity of the penalty for repeat offenders. Given the severity of a breach of assessment security, you might consider separate penalties for such action. If you choose to do so, don't forget to amend the last sentence of the second paragraph.

<sup>3</sup>To perform a search of an electronic device, an administrator would have to possess individualized suspicion that an examination of the device would reveal evidence of student misconduct, **and** the search itself would have to be tailored to the suspicion. For instance, if there were an allegation that harassing text messages had been sent from Student A to Student B during lunch, individualized suspicion would exist as to the text message history contained on Student A's phone; however, viewing pictures or files unrelated to the suspected misconduct would be inappropriate and a violation of the student's rights under the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the US Constitution. Merely confiscating a cell phone because the student received a call on it, does not give individualized suspicion to justify a search.

<sup>4</sup> This sentence is included because insurance companies have ruled that injuries occurring while driving and talking on school issued cell phones are subject to workers comp awards.

<sup>5</sup> A.C.A. § 27-51-1603 makes it illegal for anyone under the age of eighteen (18) to use a wireless communication device for any purpose while operating a motor vehicle. Additionally, A.C.A. § 27-51-1609 prohibits the use of a "wireless handheld telephone" while in a school zone for any purpose when that use is not hands free. While the policy language exceeds the statutory prohibitions, we believe the language is important for the protection of students, employees, and the public.

#### **4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES, BEEPERS, ETC. (cont.)**

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-15-2907  
A.C.A. § 6-18-515  
A.C.A. § 27-51-1602  
A.C.A. § 27-51-1603  
A.C.A. § 27-51-1609

Date Adopted: 09/06/2005

Last Revised: 07/24/2006; 04/07/2008; 11/23/2009; 06/27/2011; 07/27/2012;  
1/24/13; 6/17/2013; 1/23/2015; 6/20/2016; 5/23/2017; 6/25/2018



# **Flippin School District**

## **Policy Regarding Prohibition of Cell Phones and Electronic Devices During Arkansas Assessments**

Students are prohibited from possessing a cell phone or any other electronic device in a classroom or other location where any Arkansas assessment is being administered. Arkansas assessments include, but are not limited to The ACT, IOWA at 1st and 2nd, 3rd – 10th grade ACT Aspire, ELPA21, and Advanced Placement exams.

Flippin School District will clearly inform students that:

- Possessing an electronic device in a testing area violates school and state policy.
- Violation of this policy is grounds for confiscation and search of the device.

Test administrators, test proctors, and any school official will have the right to collect all electronic devices prior to the start of the test and to hold those devices during all scheduled test administration times, including snack break time. Any student that refuses to relinquish a prohibited device will be denied admission to the testing area. The following procedures will be implemented when students enter a testing area:

- Electronic devices must be turned completely off. They may not be on “silent” or “vibrate” mode.
- Electronic devices may not be on a student’s body or in their possession. This includes being stored in clothing, pockets, purses, backpacks, etc.
- When a student enters a testing site, students will be directed to turn in all electronic devices to the test administrator or test proctor.
- All devices will be stored in a container during testing – away from the students. At the end of the testing period, devices will be returned to the students. If an electronic device is found in the possession of a student during testing, the following procedures will be followed:
- Confiscate the electronic device.
- Check the device for pictures, texts, transmissions by applications (Facebook, Twitter, SnapChat, Instagram, etc.) and any other recent use.
- Devices will be turned into the school office.
- If possible, run a data recovery program that is compatible with the device’s operating system.
- Continue testing the student.
- Contact the School Test Coordinator and District Test Coordinator for Instructions.
- Notify the principal.
- Contact ADE if it is determined that any information has been transmitted.
- At the completion of the testing session, interview the student regarding use of the device.
- If necessary, complete a Testing Impropriety Form and submit to ADE
- Disciplinary Action could include:
  - o Confiscation of phone
  - o Principal referral after testing
  - o Parent conference and appropriate handbook discipline

Prohibited electronic devices that will be collected include, but are not limited to:

- Cell phones
- iPads or any electronic tablet or eReader
- Laptops, notebooks, or any personal computing device
- iPods, MP3 players
- Blackberry devices or any other PDA

- Cameras
- Smart Watches/Apple Watches
- Any electronic device capable of recording audio, photographic, or video content
- Any electronic device capable of playing audio or visual content

In case of an emergency where parents or family members need to contact a student during testing times, they may call the school office.

Date Adopted: 03/24/2014; 6/20/2016

## **4.48—VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDEN MONITORING**

The board has a responsibility to maintain discipline, protect the safety, security, and welfare of its students, staff, and visitors while at the same time safeguarding district facilities, vehicles, and equipment. As part of fulfilling this responsibility, the board authorizes the use of video/audio surveillance cameras. The placement of video/audio surveillance cameras shall be based on the presumption and belief that students, staff and visitors have no reasonable expectation of privacy anywhere on or near school property, facilities, vehicles, or equipment, with the exception of places such as rest rooms or dressing areas where an expectation of privacy is reasonable and customary.

Signs shall be posted on campus buildings and in district vehicles to notify students, staff, and visitors that video cameras may be in use. Parents and students shall also be notified through the student handbook that cameras may be in use in school buildings, on school grounds and in school vehicles. Students will be held responsible for any violations of school discipline rules caught by the cameras.

The district shall retain copies of video recordings for a minimum of two (2) weeks before they are erased which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording. Parents wishing to view a video recording need to be aware that it may not be available after the two week period unless the video contains evidence of misconduct.

Video recordings shall be considered student education records and any release or viewing of such records shall be in accordance with current law. Videos containing evidence of a violation of student conduct rules and/or state or federal law shall be retained until the issue of the misconduct has been settled.<sup>2</sup>

Students who vandalize, damage, disable, or render inoperable (temporarily or permanently) surveillance cameras and equipment shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Notes: This policy is similar to policies 3.41 and 8.29. If you change this policy, review 3.41 and 8.29 at the same time to ensure applicable consistency between the policies.

While 34 CFR 99.3 exempts records of law enforcement units (which for the purposes of this policy would include School Resource Officers (SROs), 34 CFR 99.8(b) effectively negates that exemption in relation to this policy with the following language.

*(2) Records of a law enforcement unit does not mean--*

#### 4.48—VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDEN MONITORING (cont.)

*(i) Records created by a law enforcement unit for a law enforcement purpose that are maintained by a component of the educational agency or institution other than the law enforcement unit; or*

*(ii) Records created and maintained by a law enforcement unit exclusively for a non-law enforcement purpose, such as a disciplinary action or proceeding conducted by the educational agency or institution.*

The law goes on to say that education records retain their status as such even when in the possession of a law enforcement unit and thus remain subject to the restrictions on the release of education records contained in FERPA. In short, you cannot deny access to the video recordings that may be used for student or staff disciplinary purposes by “hiding” them in your school’s law enforcement unit.

<sup>1</sup> You may recycle your videos on whatever schedule works for your district, 30 days but you may not destroy any recordings as long as there is an outstanding request to inspect and review them (34 CFR 99.10). The right to inspect is triggered only for those parents whose students are the cause for the retention of the video recordings. Parents of students “inadvertently” caught in the video do not have the right to inspect then. **Please note, however**, that if a student was not “involved” in the altercation prompting the disciplinary action, but happened to get pushed by one of the students in the fight, the pushed student’s parents have the right to review the video. You must permit viewing of education records within a “reasonable” period of time, but in no case may it be longer than 45 days. (34 CFR 99.10)

<sup>2</sup> The issues involved in parental rights to viewing videos are complicated, but the Family Policy Compliance Office (FPCO) of the Family Educational and Right Act (FERPA), has recently simplified the matter. A video of, for example, a fight between two (or even several) students in which other students happen to have been incidentally included in the background of the video generates the following viewing conditions.

- a. Either or both of the students’ parents may view the video **without** first having to receive permission from the other student’s parent(s). None of the parents of the “incidental” students have to give their permission for the viewing of the video by the “involved” students’ parents.
- b. If a student’s parent lives beyond a reasonable distance to physically come to view the video, the your district may mail the video to a “receiving” school near to the parent, where the parent may view the video and then the receiving school will mail the video back to your district.
- c. The personnel at the receiving school should not view the video, but merely arrange for the parent to view it by himself/herself.

#### **4.48—VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDEN MONITORING (cont.)**

- d. The district is **not** obligated to give a copy of the video to the parent or their lawyer. If, however, you choose to give the parent a video, you are obligated to go through all of the hoops that used to be the case for simple viewing of the video. Specifically, faces of the “involved” students other than that of the parent’s student must be redacted or else you will have to receive written permission from the parents of the other involved students.
- e. Remember that the rights of the parents transfer to the students once the student turns 18.
- f. Once the video has been viewed by the parties requesting to view it, the law does not require you to keep the video. Common sense would suggest, however, retaining the video at least until the disciplinary process is completed.

Legal References: 20 USC 1232(g)  
34 CFR 99.3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 31

Date Adopted: 04//7/2008  
Date Updated: 06/27/2011

## **4.49—SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The district shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Arkansas Statutes.

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 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the state and federal statutes governing special education. Implementation of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in accordance with the IDEA satisfies the district's obligation to provide a free and appropriate education under Section 504.

The Board directs the superintendent to ensure procedures are in place for the implementation of special education services and that programs are developed to conform to the requirements of state and federal legislation. The superintendent is responsible for appointing a district coordinator for overseeing district fulfillment of its responsibilities regarding students with disabilities.<sup>1</sup> Among the coordinator's responsibilities shall be ensuring district enforcement of the due process rights of students with disabilities and their parents.

Note: <sup>1</sup> The Office of Civil Rights prefers that the name of the coordinator, or at least a contact person or phone number to call to get the name of the coordinator, is made readily available to the public. 34CFR104.32 stipulates that as part of “child find” responsibilities, districts take appropriate steps to notify individuals with disabilities and their parents or guardians of the district's child find duty.

Legal References: 34 C.F.R. 300 et seq.  
42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq. American with Disabilities Act  
29 U.S.C. § 794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504,  
20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq. Individuals with Disabilities  
Education Act,  
P.L. 108-446 The 2004 Reauthorization of the Individuals  
with Disabilities Act  
A.C.A. § 6-41-102  
A.C.A. § 6-41-103  
A.C.A. § 6-41-201 et seq.

Date Adopted: 10/27/2008; 5/23/2017

## 4.50—SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS

The district only provides modified meal components on menus to accommodate students with a disability. A parent/guardian wishing to request such a dietary accommodations for their student with a disability must submit to the district's Director of Child Nutrition<sup>1</sup> a medical statement completed by a State licensed healthcare professional, which includes: <sup>2</sup>

- Physicians, including those licensed by:
  - The Arkansas State Medical Board;
  - The Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Chiropractors);
  - The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine (Podiatrists);
- Nurse Practitioners (APRNs in family or pediatric practice with prescriptive authority);
- Physician Assistants (PAs who work in collaborative practice with a physician); and
- Dentists.

The medical statement should include:

1. A description of the student's disability that is sufficient to understand how the disability restricts the student's diet;
2. An explanation of what must be done to accommodate the disability, which may include:
  - a. Food(s) to avoid or restrict;
  - b. Food(s) to substitute;
  - c. Caloric modifications; or
  - d. The substitution of a liquid nutritive formula.

If the information provided in the medical statement is unclear, or lacks sufficient detail, the district's Director of Child Nutrition<sup>1</sup> shall request additional information so that a proper and safe meal can be provided.

When choosing an appropriate approach to accommodate a student's disability, the District will consider the expense and efficiency of the requested accommodations. The District will offer a reasonable modification that effectively accommodates the child's disability and provides equal opportunity to participate in or benefit from the program, which may include a generic version of a product.

Parents may file a grievance regarding the request for accommodations with the District's 504 Coordinator<sup>3</sup>, who will schedule a hearing on the grievance to be held as soon as possible. The 504 coordinator shall provide a copy of the procedures governing the hearing, including that the parent has the right to be accompanied by counsel, and the appeal process upon request.

The district will not prepare meals outside the normal menu to accommodate a family's religious or personal health beliefs.

## **4.50—SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS (cont.)**

Note: <sup>2</sup> A Registered Dietitian Nutritionist may make recommendations for alternate foods for children whose disability restricts their diet, but the medical statement must be signed by one of the professionals listed in this policy.

<sup>3</sup> You are not required to have parents file grievances directly to the 504 coordinator, but we believe the 504 coordinator would be the most knowledgeable about the process and in the best position to handle any grievances.

Legal References:    Commissioner's Memo FIN-09-044  
                              Commissioner's Memo FIN-15-122  
                              Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-051  
                              Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-008  
                              Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-023  
                              Commissioner's Memo CNU-18-025  
                              7 CFR 210.10(g)

Date Adopted: 11/23/2009

Last Revised: 1/8/2016; 5/23/2017



## **4.51— FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT**

### **Meal Charges**

The district does not provide credit for students to charge for meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items available for purchase in the school food service areas. Meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items may be purchased by either providing payment for the items at the time of receipt or by having a prepaid account with the District that may be charged for the items. Parents, or students choosing to do so, may pay in advance for meals, a la carte, or other food and beverage items through any of the following methods:

- Submitting cash or check payment at the school's office, District Central Office, or Child Nutrition Office;
- Depositing funds through the District's online service;  
[www.ezschooldpay.com](http://www.ezschooldpay.com)

A student's parents will be contacted by authorized District personnel regarding a student's prepaid account balance at the following times when their account reaches a balance low of \$5; a letter will be sent along with the policy:

### **Alternative Meals**

The District does not provide alternative meals for students.

Legal References: Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-003  
Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-024

Date Adopted:  
Last Revised: 6/26/2017

## **4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN**

The District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to foster children that are afforded other children and youth. The District shall work with the Department of Human Services (“DHS”), the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), and individuals involved with each foster child to ensure that the foster child is able to maintain his/her continuity of educational services to the fullest extent that is practical and reasonable.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational liaison for foster children and youth whose responsibilities shall include ensuring the timely school enrollment of each foster child and assisting foster children who transfer between schools by expediting the transfer of relevant educational records.<sup>1</sup>

The District, working with other individuals and agencies shall, unless the presiding court rules otherwise or DHS grants a request to transfer under Foster Child School Choice, ensure that the foster child remains in his/her school of origin, even if a change in the foster child’s placement results in a residency that is outside the district. In such a situation, the District will work with DHS to arrange for transportation to and from school for the foster child to the extent it is reasonable and practical.<sup>2</sup>

Upon notification to the District’s foster care liaison by a foster child’s caseworker that a foster child’s school enrollment is being changed to one of the District’s schools, the school receiving the child must immediately enroll him/her. Immediate enrollment is required even if a child lacks the required clothing, academic or medical records, or proof of residency.<sup>3</sup>

Any course work completed by the foster child prior to a school enrollment change shall be accepted as academic credit so long as the child has satisfactorily completed the appropriate academic placement assessment.<sup>4</sup>

A foster child’s grades shall not be lowered due to absence from school that is caused by a change in the child’s school enrollment, the child’s attendance at dependency-neglect court proceedings, or other court-ordered counseling or treatment.

If a foster child was enrolled in a District school immediately prior to completing his/her graduation requirements while detained in a juvenile detention facility or while committed to the Division of Youth Services of DHS, the District shall issue the child a diploma.

### **Foster Child School Choice**

If DHS approves a request from a foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, to transfer to another school in the District or

#### **4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN (cont.)**

into the district as being in the best interest of the foster child, the District shall allow the foster child to transfer to another school in the District or into the District if the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, submits a request to transfer on a form approved by ADE that is postmarked by no later than May 1 of the year the student seeks to begin the fall semester at another school in the District or in the District.

By July 1 of the school year in which the student seeks to transfer under this section, the superintendent shall notify the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, in writing whether the application has been accepted or rejected. If the application is accepted, the superintendent shall state in the notification letter a reasonable deadline for the foster child to enroll in the new school or the District and that failure to enroll by the date shall void the school choice acceptance. If the application is rejected, the superintendent shall state in the notification letter the reason for the rejection and that the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may submit a written appeal of the rejection to the State board within ten (10) days of receiving the notification letter.

The District shall only reject a Foster Child School Choice application if:<sup>5</sup>

1. The public school or District has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal law, state law, rules for standards of accreditation, or other applicable rule or regulation; or
2. Approving the transfer would conflict with a provision of an enforceable desegregation court order or a public school district's court-approved desegregation plan regarding the effects of past racial segregation in student assignment.

A foster child whose application is rejected by the District may submit a written request within ten (10) days following the receipt of the rejection letter from the superintendent to the State Board of Education for the State Board to reconsider the transfer.

A Foster Child School Choice transfer shall remain in effect until the foster child:

- Graduates from high school; or
- Transfers to another school or school district under:
  - The Foster Child School Choice Act;
  - Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004;
  - The Public School Choice Act of 2015; or
  - Any other law that allows a transfer.

The District shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by another public school district.

## **4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN (cont.)**

When a foster child transfers from the foster child's school of origin to another school in the District or into the District, the foster child or the foster parent is responsible for the foster child's transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to. The District and the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may enter into a written agreement for the District to provide the transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to.

Notes: <sup>1</sup> The name and contact information of the liaison must be sent to the Special Education Section of the ADE at the beginning of each school year. A.C.A. § 9-28-113(c)(d) specify additional requirements/duties of the liaison.

<sup>2</sup> While 9-28-113(b)(4) encourages districts to "arrange for transportation," there is no explanation of costs or methods.

<sup>3</sup> A.C.A. § 9-28-113 does not address a district's right to refuse enrollment for a student that has been expelled from another school, but we believe that right is retained even in this circumstance.

<sup>4</sup> This language is from A.C.A. § 9-28-113(g). You may add a sentence defining how you interpret its meaning or you may make it a procedural issue which would leave you more latitude for case-by-case implementation.

Cross References: Policies 4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS,  
4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS, 4.7—ABSENCES

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 9-28-113

Date Adopted: 06/27/2011

Last Revised: 4/17/2015; 5/23/2017

#### **4.53— PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS**

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or custody of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6 may request that the multiple birth siblings are placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing not later than the 14<sup>th</sup> calendar day prior to the first day of classes at the beginning of the academic year. The school shall honor the request unless it would require the school to add an additional class to the sibling's grade level. If one parent of multiple birth siblings requests a placement that differs from that of the other parent of the same multiple birth siblings, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the siblings.

The school may change the classroom placement of one or more of the multiple birth siblings if:

- There have been a minimum of 30 instructional days since the start of the school year; and after consulting with each classroom teacher in which the siblings were placed, the school determines the parent's classroom placement request is:
  - Detrimental to the educational achievement of one or more of the siblings;
  - Disruptive to the siblings' assigned classroom learning environment; or
  - Disruptive to the school's educational or disciplinary environment.

If a parent believes the school has not followed the requirements of this policy, the parent may appeal the multiple birth siblings' classroom placement to the Superintendent. The Superintendent's decision regarding the appeal shall be final.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-106

Date Adopted: 06/27/2011

Last Revised: 07/11/2011

## **4.54 - STUDENT ACCELERATION**

The Board believes that acceleration is an effective and research-based intervention for the academic growth of students who are ready for an advanced or faster-paced curriculum. It can allow a student to move through the traditional educational setting more rapidly, based on assessed readiness, capability and motivation. At the same time, the Board understands that acceleration is not a replacement for gifted education services or programs.

Generally, acceleration can occur through one of two broad categories: content based and grade based. Grade based acceleration shortens the number of years a student would otherwise spend in K-12 education, while content based acceleration occurs within the normal K-12 time span. Either form of acceleration can be triggered by either a parent/guardian, student, or community member's request or by the referral of school personnel. In either case, the process of determining the appropriateness of the request shall be under the direction of the district/school<sup>1</sup> Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator who shall convene the individuals necessary to make an informed decision which shall include the student's parents or guardians.

While the needs of the student should dictate when acceleration decisions are considered, the Board believes the optimal time for referrals is in the spring which gives adequate time for working through the determination process and for preparing those concerned for a smooth transition to the acceleration beginning in the following school-year.

The District's Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator<sup>1</sup> will create a written format to govern the referral and determination process which shall be made available to any parent or staff member upon request.

The parents/guardians of any student whose request for acceleration has been denied may appeal the decision, in writing, to the District's GT Coordinator<sup>1</sup>. The District's GT Coordinator<sup>1</sup> and the Acceleration Placement Committee will again thoroughly review the case study that was completed on the student. Upon completion of the review, the Committee will either request additional new testing be conducted to help the Committee make its determination or it will uphold the initial decision. The Committee's decision may not be further appealed.

Note: <sup>1</sup> Choose the appropriate designation/option. In a large district with more than one GT Coordinator responsible for the determination process, insert "school." In districts with only one GT Coordinator insert "district." It is conceivable that in districts with more than one GT Coordinator, the choice of inserting district and school will not always be the same.

Legal Reference: ADE Gifted and Talented Rules

Date adopted: 6/24/2013

Last Revised

## **4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION**

A disservice is done to students through social promotion and is prohibited by state law. The District shall, at a minimum, evaluate each student annually in an effort to help each student who is not performing at grade level. Each school in the Flippin School District shall include in the student handbook, the criteria for promotion of students to the next grade as well as the criteria for being required to retake a course, if applicable. Parents or guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student(s). Notice of a student's possible retention or required retaking of a course shall be included with the student's grades sent home to each parent/guardian or the student if 18 or older. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be held as necessary in an effort to improve a student's academic success.

At least once each semester, the parents and teacher(s) of a student in kindergarten through eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade shall be notified in writing of the student's independent grade-level-equivalency in reading.

Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following criteria<sup>1</sup>. If there is doubt concerning the promotion or retention of a student, or their required retaking of a course, a conference shall be held before a final decision is made that includes the following individuals:

- a) The building principal or designee;
- b) The student's teacher(s);
- c) School counselor
- d) A 504/special education representative (if applicable); and
- e) The student's parents.

The conference shall be held at a time and place that best accommodates those participating in the conference. The school shall document participation or non-participation in required conferences. If the conference attendees fail to agree concerning the student's placement, the final decision to promote or retain shall rest with the principal or his/her designee.

Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, each 8<sup>th</sup> (eighth) grade and beyond students<sup>2</sup> shall have a student success plan (SSP) developed by school personnel in collaboration with the student's parents and the student that is reviewed and updated annually. A student's SSP shall use multiple academic measures to personalize learning in order for students to achieve their grade-level expectations and individual growth. The SSP will identify if the student is in need of additional support or acceleration.

## **4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION (cont.)**

Academic measures to be used in creating and updating a student's SSP shall include, but are not limited to:

- Statewide student assessment results;
- Subject grades;
- Student work samples; and
- Local assessment scores.

By the end of grade eight (8), the student's SSP shall<sup>3</sup>:

- Guide the student along pathways to graduation;
- Address accelerated learning opportunities;
- Address academic deficits and interventions; and
- Include college and career planning components.

Based on a student's score on the college and career assessment:

- The student's SSP will be updated in order to assist the student with college and career readiness skills, course selection in high school, and improved academic achievement; and
- Provide a basis for counseling concerning postsecondary preparatory programs.

An SSP shall be created:

1. By no later than the end of the school year for a student in grade eight (8) or below who enrolls in the District during the school year; or
2. As soon as reasonably possible for a student in grade nine (9) or above who enrolls in the District at the beginning or during the school year.<sup>2</sup>

A student's individualized education program (IEP) may act in the place of the student's SSP if the IEP addresses academic deficits and interventions for the student's failure to meet standards-based academic goals at an expected rate or level and includes a transition plan that addresses college and career planning components. Promotion/retention or graduation of students with an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) shall be based on their successful attainment of the goals set forth in their IEP.

Students who either refuse to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempt to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are originally administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity, including school dances, prom, homecoming, senior events, and may be prevented from walking or participating in graduation exercises. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following Statewide assessment, as applicable.



## 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION (cont.)

The Superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.<sup>4</sup> Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.<sup>5</sup>

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Insert the criteria your district uses for promotion/retention.

<sup>2</sup> ADE will only cite a district if a student does not have an SSP by the end of eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade and beyond.

<sup>3</sup> Subsections 6.05.1 through 6.05.4 of the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act rules include additional recommendations for consideration when creating and updating a student's SSP on each of the items in this list.

<sup>4</sup> This paragraph is optional. The paragraph originated with the movement for students to opt out of state assessments. A.C.A. § 6-15-2907(e) requires all students participate in the statewide assessments and this paragraph is intended to add local incentive for students to participate. While the entire paragraph is optional, the last sentence is important as it would keep the policy from having "zero tolerance" (which we do not support) and give you latitude to accommodate instances beyond the student's control such as a car accident, serious illness, or other acts of God. If you choose to include the sentence, you may change "Superintendent" to "principal" if that would work better for your district. Keep in mind that the decision on who is responsible for deciding whether or not to grant an exception for extraordinary circumstances is a different and separate issue than deciding whether or not to promote or retain a student which is left in the hands of the school principal earlier in the policy. Be sure to align your decision for this footnote with the decision you made concerning footnote #4.

<sup>5</sup> This paragraph is optional. Participation in graduation or extracurricular activities is not a right, and districts may legally place conditions on a public school student's eligibility for participation (such as testing compliance), but districts cannot deny a diploma to an otherwise qualified student or deny a student the ability to attend school. If you choose to include the paragraph, the third to the last sentence may be amended to apply to a timeline of your choice. Be sure to align the staff position responsible for deciding whether or not to grant an exception with the decision you made for footnote #3.

Cross References:    3.30—PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION  
                              4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
                              4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - ELEMENTARY

Legal References:    A.C.A. § 6-15-2001  
                              A.C.A. § 6-15-2005  
                              A.C.A. § 6-15-2006  
                              A.C.A. § 6-15-2907

## **4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION (cont.)**

A.C.A. § 6-15-2911

A.C.A. § 9-28-205

ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act

Murphy v. State of Ark., 852 F.2d 1039 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988)

Date Adopted:

Last Revised: 1/23/2015; 4/17/2015; 5/23/2017; 6/25/2018

## Common Core Assessment Opt Out Response

### Background

It has been brought to our attention that the national movement against the implementation of Common Core has expanded to include form letters being sent to parents for them to use to request their child be exempted from having to take any of the State assessments based on the Common Core State Standards.

### What does this mean for the 2013-2014 school year?

Arkansas is field testing the PARCC assessments this school-year. These assessments have not been adopted by the State Board of Education and, consequently, the statutory support outlined below for denying a parents request to opt their child out of the assessments does not exist. There will be no state imposed consequences for students or districts if some students do not take the assessments, and superintendents can use their own best judgment about how to handle any requests.

There are two main reasons why district need to carefully consider their response **this year** as it relates to future years and issues.

First, students love to complain to each other about having to take tests. When one student informs others that he or she does not have to take an exam, parents will call the school to inquire why their child has to take the assessment when another student does not. There is also the possible media attention that could result from opt out form approval **or** denial.

Second, while the current issue is with Common Core, there is no reason why the same premise used to opt a child out of Common Core assessments cannot be used for a parent to request their child be opted out of any and everything they choose. It's a very slippery slope that could quite literally grind public education to a halt.

We concur with the ADE that for this year's field test, it's totally up to each district whether or not to grant any opt out request, but we suggest districts carefully consider possible future ramifications of granting opt out requests this school year. If you do choose to grant a request, we suggest you do so with a statement that such a request is not allowed for any state mandated test and shall only be effective for the current year.

### What does this mean for the 2014-2015 school year?

Given that the State Board will very likely officially adopt the assessments for the 2014-15 school-year, and the anti-Common Core movement will probably be better developed, some districts will likely receive requests or demands that students be excused from these assessments

If the PARCC assessments are statutorily required for the 2014-2015 school years and beyond, the statutory support to deny opt out requests **will** exist. As you read the

following information, please take note that the basic premise put forth in the opt out form for a parent's "right" to do so is simply incorrect.

#### Arkansas law on state assessments

Currently, **NO** State law or Rule permits the exemption of a student from taking the State assessments, and the **ONLY** students who are provided alternatives to the traditional State assessments are students who have an IEP covering examinations and homeschooled students under certain circumstances.

#### Arkansas Law on state assessment exemptions

**NONE** of the above reasons constitute legal grounds for granting a waiver from the mandatory State assessments. We would like to stress that superintendents are **NOT** required to grant exemptions. In fact, superintendents who do grant such waivers would be in violation of Arkansas law and may lose their license as a result. See A.C.A. § 6-15-2009(e)(2)(B). Also, superintendents are required to inform parents of the consequences of their student failing to take the mandated assessment. No named consequences currently exist in statute or rule because the taking of the State assessments is **mandatory**. See A.C.A. § 6-15-433(c)(7) and A.C.A. § 6-15-2009(a).

#### ASBA's model policy response for exemption requests

Due to a lack of convenient statutory authority or case law on the subject of waivers/exemptions for districts to show to parents, we have chosen to modify existing policy and to create a new, optional policy to assist districts on this issue. With these policies in place, we recommend superintendents inform parents that failure of their child to take the **mandatory** State assessments **SHALL** result in **either** the student **NOT** receiving credit for the course **or** the student being retained in the **CURRENT** grade until the student takes the required assessment. In addition, public school students who refuse to take the assessment or whose parents do not send their student to school on the days the assessment is administered or scheduled for make-up **SHALL** be prohibited from participating in extracurricular activities and **MAY** be prohibited from walking at or otherwise participating in graduation. Participation in graduation or extracurricular activities is not a right, and districts may legally place conditions on a student's eligibility for participation (such as testing compliance), but districts cannot deny a diploma to an otherwise qualified student or deny a student the ability to attend school.

#### Extra information: Examination of arguments made by Common Core opponents

Due to the testing exemption letters being promoted at a national level, many different versions of the letters exist. We expect that superintendents may see exemption requests based on any, or all, of the following assertions:

- The parent's right to guide the upbringing of the child;
- The assessment violates the parent's religious beliefs;
- An assessment based on the Common Core State Standards will harm the child;
- or
- The use of the results of the required assessment violates the student's right to privacy.

At least one version of the exemption request form letters we have come across contains quotations culled from several United States Supreme Court cases. The quotations, which are incredibly out-of-context, state the position that parents have the **absolute** authority to guide the upbringing of their children; this is **NOT** the case.

While we certainly do not expect or encourage administrators to engage in a “war of words” with parents who are frustrated with standards-based education (and while Common Core is new, education in Arkansas has been based on content standards for over 20 years, and this is not new) you may be interested in what a legal response to these arguments would be. The following is a retort to the existence of such an **absolute** right:

While the Supreme Court of the United States has stated that parents have a right to guide the upbringing of their children, The Supreme Court has stated that this right is not absolute and may be infringed upon by the State. “But the family itself is not beyond regulation in the public interest, as against a claim of religious liberty. And neither rights of religion nor rights of parenthood are beyond limitation. Acting to guard the general interest in youth's well being, the state as *parens patriae* may restrict the parent's control by requiring school attendance, regulating or prohibiting the child's labor, and in many other ways. Its authority is not nullified merely because the parent grounds his claim to control the child's course of conduct on religion or conscience. . . [T]he state has a wide range of power for limiting parental freedom and authority in things affecting the child's welfare; and that this includes, to some extent, matters of conscience and religious conviction” *Prince v. Massachusetts*, 321 U.S. 158, 166-167 (1944). In addition, The Supreme Court stated that the state may regulate this right so long as the state does not do so in a manner that is “arbitrary or without reasonable relation to some purpose within the competency of the state to effect” *Meyers v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390, 399-400 (1923). Similarly, the Supreme Court stated “The power of the state to compel attendance at some school and to make reasonable regulations for all schools, including a requirement that they shall give instructions in English, is not questioned” *id.*, at 402. Furthermore, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals has previously held that mandated testing in Arkansas does not violate a parent's rights, including those related to sincerely held religious beliefs, as the state has a compelling interest in the education of all children and that the method for testing the education of all children is the least restrictive means possible *Murphy v. State of Ark.*, 852 F.2d 1039, 1041 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988). The Eighth Circuit had no doubt the government had a compelling interest in educating the state's youths. “The government has a compelling interest in educating all of its citizens. Education of the citizenry is and always has been a preeminent goal of American society” *id.*, at 1042. When addressing whether or not the method for testing was the least restrictive means possible, the

Eighth Circuit stated “[W]e recognize that the state must have a mechanism by which it can confidently and objectively be assured that its citizens are being adequately educated” *id.* Though the testing in question was for homeschooled students, the Eighth Circuit blatantly stated “In the end, we believe that the state has no means less restrictive than its administration of achievement tests to ensure that its citizens are being properly educated” *id.*, at 1043.

## **4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

### **Definitions:**

1. “Academic Courses” are those courses for which class time is scheduled, which can be credited to meet the minimum requirements for graduation, which is taught by a teacher required to have State licensure in the course or is otherwise qualified under Arkansas statute, and has a course content guide which has been approved by the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). Any of the courses for which concurrent high school credit is earned may be from an institution of higher education recognized by ADE. If a student passes an academic course offered on a block schedule, the course can be counted twice toward meeting the requirement for students to pass four (4) academic courses per semester as required by this policy.
2. “Extracurricular activities” are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to, inter/intrascholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.
3. “Field Trips” are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.
4. “Interscholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.<sup>1</sup>
5. “Intrascholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.<sup>1</sup>
6. “Supplemental Improvement Program (SIP)” is an additional instructional opportunity for identified students outside of their regular classroom and meets the criteria outlined in the current Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Handbook.

### **Extracurricular Eligibility**

The Board believes in providing opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student’s educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student’s participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom academic achievement. Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal. Additionally, a student’s participation in, and the District’s operation of, extracurricular activities shall be subject to the following policy. All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy.

#### **4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS (cont.)**

Any student who refuses to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempts to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following statewide assessment, as applicable. The superintendent or designee may wave this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.<sup>3</sup> Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.<sup>4</sup>

A student who enrolls in the district and meets the definition of “eligible child” in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS shall be eligible to tryout for an extracurricular activity regardless of the date the student enrolls in the District so long as the student meets all other eligibility requirements and the extracurricular activity is still ongoing.

A student and the parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt and review of an information sheet regarding signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest before the student may participate in an athletic activity and before each school year the student participates in an athletic activity.

#### **Interscholastic Activities**

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.<sup>5</sup>

#### **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Junior High**

A student promoted from the sixth to the seventh grade automatically meets scholarship requirements. A student promoted from the seventh to the eighth grade automatically meets scholarship requirements for the first semester. The second semester eighth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

The first semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

## **4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS (cont.)**

The second semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed (4) academic courses the previous semester which count toward his/her high school graduation requirements.

Ninth-grade students must meet the requirements of the senior high scholarship rule by the end of the second semester in the ninth grade in order to be eligible to participate the fall semester of their tenth-grade year.

### **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Senior High**

In order to remain eligible for competitive interscholastic activity, a student must have passed (4) academic courses the previous semester and either:

- 1) Have earned a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 from all academic courses the previous semester; or
- 2) If the student has passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester but does not have a 2.0 GPA the student must be enrolled and successfully participating in an SIP to maintain their competitive interscholastic extracurricular eligibility.

### **STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

In order to be considered eligible to participate in competitive interscholastic activities, students with disabilities must pass at least four (4) courses per semester as required by their individual education program (IEP).

### **ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

In addition to the foregoing rules, the district shall abide by the rules and regulations of AAA governing interscholastic activities. AAA provides catastrophic insurance coverage for students participating in AAA governed extracurricular activities who are enrolled in school. As a matter of District policy, no student may participate in a AAA governed extracurricular activity unless he or she is enrolled in a district school, to ensure all students are eligible for AAA catastrophic insurance.<sup>6</sup>

### **Intrascholastic Activities**

#### **AAA Governed Activities**

Students participating in intrascholastic extracurricular activities that would be governed by AAA if they were to occur between students of different schools shall



## 4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS (cont.)

meet all interscholastic activity eligibility requirements to be eligible to participate in the comparable intrascholastic activity. The District will abide by the AAA Handbook for such activities to ensure District students are not disqualified from participating in interscholastic activities.<sup>7</sup>

### Non-AAA Governed Activities

Unless made ineligible by District policies, all students shall be eligible to participate in non-AAA governed intrascholastic extracurricular activities. Intrascholastic activities designed for a particular grade(s) or course(s) shall require the student to be enrolled in the grade(s) or course(s).

**NOTES:** The standards as outlined above are minimum standards and can be raised locally if desired. If your district does not offer a SIP, delete the references to it in your policy.

AAA standards allow a student to participate in an SIP for a maximum of two consecutive semesters and require the student to improve his/her GPA by at least 10% by the end of the first semester to remain eligible for the second semester. By the end of the second semester, the student must have attained a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for competitive interscholastic activities. Following one or more semesters where the student has attained a 2.0 GPA, this cycle may be repeated.

<sup>1</sup> The definition for **interscholastic** activities is effectively taken from the AAA Handbook and is the origin for the extrapolated definition of **intrascholastic** activities. When it comes to implementing this policy, it may be important/helpful to keep in mind that the Handbook also points out the following: Performance activities such as band, speech, drama, etc. may be viewed as competitive arenas both internally (ratings by individual schools) and externally (comparisons of individual or school ratings with a view toward determining an ultimate winner). Additionally, both inter and intra scholastic activities may be curricular if the activity is required as part of the course.

<sup>2</sup> While the Standards for Accreditation no longer expressly requires a policy that "shall limit and control interruptions of instructional time in the classroom and the number of absences for such activities," we believe that restrictions on the interruption of instructional time to be a best practice. You could replace "one per week per extracurricular activity" with a specific number of days per semester that could also allow the student to "bank" or accumulate days in anticipation of a major event.

<sup>3</sup> This sentence is optional but it would keep the policy from having "zero tolerance" (which we do not support) and give you latitude to accommodate instances beyond the student's control such as a car accident, serious illness, or other acts of God. If you choose to include the

## **4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS (cont.)**

sentence, you may change "Superintendent" to "principal" if that would work better in your district. Be sure to align your decision for this footnote with the decision you have made on the same issue that exists in policies 4.55 and 4.56.1.

<sup>4</sup> This paragraph is entirely optional. Participation in extracurricular activities is not a right, and districts may legally place conditions on a public school student's eligibility for participation (such as testing compliance), but districts cannot deny a diploma to an otherwise qualified student or deny a student the ability to attend school. If you choose to include the paragraph, the third to the last sentence may be amended to apply to a timeline of your choice.

<sup>5</sup> This paragraph is not statutorily required, but has been added to align with policy 4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS with the belief that such information will benefit all students.

<sup>6</sup> This also applies to home schooled students and is cleverly accommodated by an adjustment to APSCN reporting outlined in Commissioner's Memo FIN-14-11 or Commissioner's Memo COM-18-009 if the student is also taking courses in accordance with Policy 4.59.

<sup>7</sup> Districts should be aware that the AAA handbook contains rules prohibiting students who participate on school sponsored teams of the various interscholastic activities from being permitted to participate in practices and competitions for the same sport during the same season of the interscholastic activity.

Cross References:   4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION  
                          4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - ELEMENTARY

Legal References:   Arkansas Activities Association Handbook  
                          A.C.A. § 6-4-302  
                          A.C.A. § 6-15-2907  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-713  
                          Commissioner's Memo COM-18-009  
                          Commissioner's Memo LS-18-015

Date Adopted: 7/28/2014

Last Revised: 1/8/2016; 4/25/2016; 5/23/2017; 6/25/2018

## **4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - ELEMENTARY**

### **Definition:**

1. "Extracurricular activities" are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to, inter/intrascholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.
2. "Field Trips" are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.
3. "Interscholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.
4. "Intrascholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.

### **Extracurricular Eligibility**

The Board believes in providing opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student's educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student's participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom academic achievement. Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal<sup>1</sup>. All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy.

A student may lose his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities when, in the opinion of the school's administration, the student's participation in such an activity may adversely jeopardize his/her academic achievement. Students may also be denied permission to participate in extracurricular activities as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the administration for inappropriate behavior.<sup>2</sup>

Any student who refuses to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempts to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity.

## **4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – ELEMENTARY (cont.)**

The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following statewide assessment, as applicable. The superintendent or designee may wave this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.<sup>4</sup> Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.<sup>5</sup>

A student who enrolls in the district and meets the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS shall be eligible to tryout for an extracurricular activity regardless of the date the student enrolls in the District so long as the student meets all other eligibility requirements and the extracurricular activity is still ongoing.

A student and the parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt and review of an information sheet regarding signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest before the student may participate in an athletic activity and before each school year the student participates in an athletic activity.

Notes: <sup>1</sup> While the Standards for Accreditation no longer expressly requires a policy that "shall limit and control interruptions of instructional time in the classroom and the number of absences for such activities," we believe that restrictions on the interruption of instructional time to be a best practice. You could replace "one per week per extracurricular activity" with a specific number of days per semester that could also allow the student to "bank" or accumulate days in anticipation of a major event.

<sup>2</sup> Make sure your student handbook matches this language.

<sup>3</sup> This sentence is optional but it would keep the policy from having "zero tolerance" (which we do not support) and give you latitude to accommodate instances beyond the student's or parent's control such as a car accident, serious illness, or other acts of God. If you choose to include the sentence, you may change "Superintendent" to "principal" if that would work better in your district. Be sure to align your decision for this footnote with the decision you have made on the same issue that exists in policies 4.55 and 4.56.

<sup>4</sup> This paragraph is entirely optional. Participation in extracurricular activities is not a right, and districts may legally place conditions on a public school student's eligibility for participation (such as testing compliance), but districts cannot deny a diploma to an otherwise qualified student or deny a student the ability to attend school. If you choose to include the paragraph, the third to the last sentence may be amended to apply to a timeline of your choice.

Cross References: 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION  
4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

## **4.56.1—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – ELEMENTARY (cont.)**

Legal References:   A.C.A. § 6-4-302  
                          A.C.A. § 6-15-2907  
                          A.C.A. § 6-18-713  
                          Commissioner's Memo LS-18-015

Date Adopted: 6/28/2014  
Last Revised: 1/8/2016; 5/23/2017

## **4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS**

Home-schooled student means a student legally enrolled in an Arkansas home school and who meets or has met the criteria for being a home-schooled student, as established by A.C.A. § 6-15-503.

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools subject to regulations of the Arkansas Activities Association that is outside the regular curriculum of the school district, such as an athletic activity, fine arts program, or a special interest group or club.

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.<sup>1</sup>

Home-schooled students whose parents or guardians are legal residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the student's resident school zone<sup>2</sup> as permitted by this policy.

Home-schooled students whose parent or legal guardian are not residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the District if the superintendent of the student's resident district and the superintendent of the District both agree in writing to allow the student to participate in interscholastic activities at the District.

Although not guaranteed participation in an interscholastic activity, home-school students who meet the provisions of this policy, AAA Rules, and applicable Arkansas statutes shall have an equal opportunity to try out and participate in an interscholastic activities without discrimination. The District shall provide a reasonable alternative to any prerequisite for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity that the home-schooled student is unable to meet because of his or her enrollment in a home school.

To be eligible to try out and participate in interscholastic activities, the student or the parent of a student shall mail or hand deliver the student's request to participate to the student's school's principal before the signup, tryout or participation deadline established for traditional students. Additionally, the student shall demonstrate academic eligibility by obtaining a minimum test score of the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition; another nationally recognized norm-referenced test; or a minimum score on a test approved by the State Board of Education.

A student who meets the requirements for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity is required to register for no more than one course<sup>3</sup> in the District's school where the student is intending to participate in an interscholastic activity.

#### **4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS (cont.)**

The student shall regularly attend the class in which the student is registered beginning no later than the eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) day of the semester in which the student's interscholastic activity participation is desired. The student must attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.

A student and the parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt and review of an information sheet regarding signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest before the student may participate in an athletic activity and before each school year the student participates in an athletic activity.

A home-schooled student who has met the try out criteria; and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

- standards of behavior and codes of conduct;
- attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students;
- required drug testing;<sup>4</sup>
- permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
- participation or activity fees.

A home-schooled student who is not a resident of the District may begin participating in interscholastic activities:

- a. Immediately upon being approved for participation for all interscholastic activities other than athletic activities; and
- b. One (1) calendar year after being approved to participate in interscholastic activities that are athletic activities unless the approval is prior to July 1 of the school year the student would have been enrolled in seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade if the student were enrolled in public school.

A home-schooled student who is not a resident of the District and is prohibited under this policy from participating in an interscholastic activity that is an athletic activity for one (1) calendar year may immediately participate in rehearsals, tryouts, practices, auditions, classes, or other endeavors associated with the interscholastic activity.

Students who participate in extracurricular or athletic activities under this policy will be transported to and from the interscholastic activities on the same basis as other students are transported.

## 4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS (cont.)

A student who withdraws from an Arkansas Activities Association member school to be home-schooled shall not participate in an interscholastic activity in the resident school district for a minimum of three hundred sixty-five days after the student withdraws from the member school.

Notes: <sup>1</sup> This paragraph is not statutorily required, but without advance determination of the timelines, there will be no way for a parent to know when, or even for what semester, they will have to make their application to the district. Such information will benefit all students.

<sup>2</sup> Only include "or their applicable attendance zone's school" if your district has more than one school per grade configuration.

<sup>3</sup> You can only **require** one course, but a district may permit a student to register for more than one course.

<sup>4</sup> Include "drug testing" only if your district conducts such tests.

Cross Reference: 4.59—ACCADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

Legal References:    A.C.A. § 6-15-509  
                              A.C.A. § 6-18-232  
                              A.C.A § 6-18-713  
                              Arkansas Activities Association Handbook  
                              Commissioner's Memo COM-18-009  
                              Commissioner's Memo LS-18-015  
                              Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Home  
                              Schools

Date Adopted: 7/28/2014

Last Revised: 5/23/2017



#### **4.56.2F— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT RESIDENT DISTRICT**

Student's Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Resident Address

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Student's date of birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Last grade level the student completed  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student has demonstrated academic eligibility by obtaining a verifiable minimum test score of the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition, or another nationally recognized norm-referenced test approved by the State Board of Education. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of test, Date taken, and score achieved \_\_\_\_\_

Extracurricular activity(ies) the student requests to participate in  
\_\_\_\_\_

Course(s) the student requests to take at the school \_\_\_\_\_

Proof of identity \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date Adopted:

Last Revised:

## 4.56.2F2— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT NON-RESIDENT DISTRICT

Student's Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Resident Address

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Student's date of birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Last grade level the student completed \_\_\_\_\_

Student has demonstrated academic eligibility by obtaining a verifiable minimum test score of the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition, or another nationally recognized norm-referenced test approved by the State Board of Education. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of test, Date taken, and score achieved \_\_\_\_\_

Extracurricular activity(ies) the student requests to participate in

\_\_\_\_\_

Course(s) the student requests to take at the school \_\_\_\_\_

Proof of identity \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

As the superintendent of the above student's resident district, I agree that the above student may participate in extracurricular activities at \_\_\_\_\_ School District.

Resident Superintendent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

As the superintendent of the \_\_\_\_\_ School district, where the above student desires to participate in extracurricular activities, I agree to allow the student to participate in extracurricular activities at \_\_\_\_\_ School District.

Non-resident Superintendent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Adopted:

Last Revised:

## **4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS**

### **Definitions**

"In process" means the student has received at least one dose of the required immunizations and is waiting the minimum time interval to receive the additional dose(s).

"Serologic testing" refers to a medical procedure used to determine an individual's immunity to Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella.

### **General Requirements**

Unless otherwise provided by law or this policy, no student shall be admitted to attend classes in the District who has not been age appropriately immunized against<sup>1</sup>:

- Poliomyelitis;
- Diphtheria;
- Tetanus;
- Pertussis;
- Red (rubeola) measles;
- Rubella;
- Mumps;
- Hepatitis A;
- Hepatitis B;
- Meningococcal disease;
- Varicella (chickenpox); and
- Any other immunization required by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).

The District administration has the responsibility to evaluate the immunization status of District students. The District shall maintain a list of all students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or who have an exemption provided by ADH to the immunization requirements based on medical, religious, or philosophical grounds. Students who are not fully age appropriately immunized when seeking admittance shall be referred to a medical authority for consultation.

The only types of proof of immunization the District will accept are immunization records provided by a:

- A. Licensed physician;
- B. Health department;
- C. Military service; or
- D. Official record from another educational institution in Arkansas.

The proof of immunization must include the vaccine type and dates of vaccine administration. Documents stating "up-to-date", "complete", "adequate", and the like will not be accepted as proof of immunization. No self or parental history of varicella disease will be accepted. Valid proof of immunization and of immunity based on serological testing shall be entered into the student's record.

## **4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS (cont.)**

In order to continue attending classes in the District, the student must have submitted:

- 1) Proof of immunization showing the student to be fully age appropriately vaccinated;
- 2) Written documentation by a public health nurse or private physician of proof the student is in process of being age appropriately immunized, which includes a schedule of the student's next immunization;
- 3) A copy of a letter from ADH indicating immunity based on serologic testing; and/or
- 4) A copy of the letter from ADH exempting the student from the immunization requirements for the current school year, or a copy of the application for an exemption for the current school year if the exemption letter has not yet arrived.

Students whose immunization records or serology results are lost or unavailable are required to receive all age appropriate vaccinations or submit number 4 above.

### **Temporary Admittance**

While students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or have not yet submitted an immunization waiver may be enrolled to attend school, such students shall be allowed to attend school on a temporary basis only. Students admitted on a temporary basis may be admitted for a maximum of thirty (30) days (or until October 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year for the tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, and meningococcal vaccinations required at ages eleven (11) and sixteen (16) respectively if October 1<sup>st</sup> is later in the current school year than the thirty (30) days following the student's admittance). No student shall be withdrawn and readmitted in order to extend the thirty (30) day period. Students may be allowed to continue attending beyond the thirty (30) day period if the student submits a copy of either number 2 or number 4 above.

Students who are in process shall be required to adhere to the submitted schedule. Failure of the student to submit written documentation from a public health nurse or private physician demonstrating the student received the vaccinations set forth in the schedule may lead to the revocation of the student's temporary admittance; such students shall be excluded from school until the documentation is provided.

The District will not accept copies of applications requesting an exemption for the current school year that are older than two (2) weeks based on the date on the application. Students who submit a copy of an application to receive an exemption from the immunization requirements for the current year to gain temporary admittance have thirty (30) days from the admission date to submit either a letter from ADH granting the exemption or documentation demonstrating the student is in process and a copy of the immunization schedule. Failure to submit the necessary documentation by the close of the thirty (30) days will result in the student being excluded until the documentation is submitted.

## 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS (cont.)

### Exclusion From School

In the event of an outbreak, students who are not fully age appropriately immunized, are in process, or are exempt from the immunization requirements may be required to be excluded from school in order to protect the student. ADH shall determine if it is necessary for students to be excluded in the event of an outbreak. Students may be excluded for twenty-one (21) days or longer depending on the outbreak. No student excluded due to an outbreak shall be allowed to return to school until the District receives approval from ADH.

Students who are excluded from school are not eligible to receive homebound instruction unless the excluded student had a pre-existing IEP or 504 Plan and the IEP/504 team determines homebound instruction to be in the best interest of the student. To the extent possible, the student's teacher(s) shall place in the principal's office a copy of the student's assignments:

- for the remainder of the week by the end of the initial school day of the student's exclusion; and
- by the end of each school's calendar week for the upcoming week until the student returns to school.<sup>2</sup>

It is the responsibility of the student or the student's parent/legal guardian to make sure that the student's assignments are collected.

Students excluded from school shall have five (5) school days from the day the student returns to school to submit any homework and to make up any examinations. State mandated assessments are not included in "examinations" and the District has no control over administering state mandated make-up assessments outside of the state's schedule.

Notes: <sup>1</sup> The table showing the age appropriate immunizations is referred to as "Table I" in the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) rules and as "Table II" in ADH regulations.

<sup>2</sup> You can amend this sentence to reflect your school's practice for when teacher's are required to have their lesson plans ready in advance.

Cross References: 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS  
4.7—ABSENCES  
4.8—MAKE-UP WORK

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-702  
ADE Rules Governing Kindergarten Through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Immunization Requirements In Arkansas Public Schools  
ADH Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Immunization  
Requirements

Date Adopted: 6/22/2015

Last Revised:

## 4.58—FOOD SHARING AND ITS REMOVAL FROM FOOD SERVICE AREA

### Food Sharing Table

In an effort to reduce wasted food and to provide students access to healthy foods when possible, the District shall have in the district cafeteria a food sharing table located at the end of the service line. Prior to leaving the service line, students may place on or retrieve items from the table, at no additional charge, any of the following:

- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten without the peel (e.g. bananas and oranges);
- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten with the peel provided the fruit is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. apples and grapes);
- Raw whole vegetables provided the vegetable is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. carrot sticks);<sup>1</sup>
- Milk; and
- Juice.<sup>2</sup>

Fruit and vegetables to be shared are to be placed into a designated container on the table.<sup>3</sup> Milk and juice to be shared are to be placed in an ice-filled cooler. Milk and juice may not be taken by another student unless the carton is unopened and was completely covered by ice while in the cooler. A student may not return to the table to place an item for sharing after the student has left the service line.

### Removing Food Items From the Food Service Area

Except for food service workers as required by their job duties, District employees may only remove school provided food items from the food service area when required by a 504 plan or a student's IEP.

Except for food service workers as required by their job duties, District employees may only remove school provided food items from the food service area when required by a 504 plan or a student's IEP.

Notes: Whether or not to have a food sharing table or to permit students to remove food items from the cafeteria are two distinct issues. Selecting Option 1 does not mean you are required to select Option A and vice versa; similarly, selecting Option 2 does not mean you have to select Option B or vice versa.

<sup>1</sup> The Arkansas Department of Health requires all manufacturers' instructions on temperature controls be followed. Most vegetables are manufactured in some way and are required to be kept cold. Items required to be kept cold that are allowed to be placed on the sharing table **MUST** be discarded no later than four (4) hours after being served.

<sup>2</sup> While Commissioner's Memo FIN 08-076 specifically applies to milk, similar procedures for juice are necessary. If you do not wish to use a formalized sharing method for juice, remove the uses of "juice" from the policy except for the prohibition on juice being removed from the cafeteria.

## **4.58—FOOD SHARING AND ITS REMOVAL FROM FOOD SERVICE AREA (cont.)**

<sup>3</sup> The container(s) used for food sharing should be able to be washed, rinsed, and sanitized in the kitchen and must be cleaned at least daily, if not following each meal period.

Legal References:    Commissioner's Memo FIN 08-076  
                             Commissioner's Memo FIN 15-052

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#### **4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS**

The District allows private school and home school students whose parents, legal guardians, or other responsible adult with whom the student resides are residents of the District to attend academic courses offered in grades 7-12. The District will place a list of courses that a private school or home school student may request to attend on its website.

A private school or home school student who desires to attend one or more of the available academic courses shall submit a written request to attend the academic course(s) to the superintendent, or designee, no later than:

- a. August 1 for Fall semester courses; or
- b. December 1 for Spring semester courses.

The District may reject a private school or home school student's request for attendance if the District's acceptance would:

- Require the addition of staff or classrooms;
- Exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building;
- Cause the District to provide educational services the District does not currently provide; or
- Cause the District to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Requests to attend an academic course will be granted in the order the requests are received. Upon the receipt of a private or home school student's request to attend academic course(s), the District will date and time stamp the request for attendance. If a private school or home school student is denied attendance based on a lack of capacity and an opening in the requested course occurs prior to the start of the course, the District will use the date and time stamp on the request for attendance to determine the private school or home school student who will be notified of an opening in the requested course.

As part of the request to attend academic courses in the District, a private school or home school student shall:

- Indicate the course(s) the private school or home school student is interested in attending;
- If the course(s) the private school or home school student is interested in attending is being offered by the District in both a physical and a digital format, whether the private school or home school student intends to attend the physical course or the digital course;
- Agree to follow the District's discipline policies; and
- Submit immunization documentation required by Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS. In addition to the documentation methods provided in Policy 4.57, a home school student may submit a letter to the superintendent, or designee, stating an objection to immunizations and listing the immunizations the student has received, if any.



## **4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS (cont.)**

A private school or home school student who fails to attend an academic course by the eleventh (11) day of class shall be dropped from the course.

The responsibility for transportation of any private school or home school student attending academic courses in the District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents.

The opportunity provided to home school students under this policy is in addition to the opportunity provided in Policy 4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS.

Notes: This is an optional policy.

<sup>1</sup> Allowing private school and home school students to attend classes starting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade is intended to match what is allowed for permitting home school students to participate in extracurricular activities. Districts have the option to allow private and home school students to begin attending courses in earlier grades or may restrict attendance to later grades.

<sup>2</sup> The dates provided here are only suggestions and are not set by statute. You may advertise available courses for a shorter or longer period of time; or set the deadline for applications to match the traditional student enrollment deadlines.

<sup>3</sup> Your application of "capacity" should be consistent in order to avoid potential exposure to liability for unlawful discrimination against individuals with disabilities. For example, you should not choose to accept a student who requires no special services, but would require you to add an additional elementary teacher, but refuse to accept a student with a disability because it would require you to add an additional special education teacher. You may refuse to accept the attendance of a student with a disability whose acceptance would necessitate the hiring of an aide, interpreter, or other additional staff member.

Cross References: 4.6—HOMESCHOOLING  
4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY  
FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS  
4.57-- IMMUNIZATIONS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-509  
A.C.A. § 6-18-232  
A.C.A. § 6-18-702  
A.C.A. § 6-47-401 et seq.  
ADE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning  
ADE Rules Governing Kindergarten Through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Immunization Requirements in Arkansas Public Schools

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